**Giving Hope, Women’s Giving Circle**

**Signature Event Grant Guidelines**

**What is the mission of Giving Hope, Women’s Giving Circle?**

Giving Hope, Women’s Giving Circle, provides grantmaking initiatives that address the needs of women and their families in the greater Canton and Plymouth area, creates an endowment fund for the future, and builds a community of women philanthropists.

**Grant Making Principles**

* To benefit Canton and Plymouth women and their families
* To encourage programs which are collaborative, comprehensive and have the potential to be continuous
* To encourage leveraging and matching grant opportunities from multiple funders
* To support “seed” money opportunities for innovative projects
* To encourage the self-sufficiency and well-being of women and their families

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**Applicant Organization Criteria**

* Be a non-profit 501(c)(3) with a current State of Michigan License to Solicit, if applicable
* Meet the Giving Hope, Women’s Giving Circle mission
* Have a specific project or program for which funding is being requested
* Have clear objectives.

**What will the group generally not fund?**

While Giving Hope, Women’s Giving Circle remains flexible in trying to meet community needs, the following are areas that will generally not be considered for funding at this time:

* Routine operating expenses
* Travel, tours or trips
* Endowment campaigns
* Special fundraising events and sponsorships
* Organizations that do not provide services to the greater Canton and Plymouth, Michigan area
* Religious organizations for religious purposes or political organizations
* Existing obligations or debts/liabilities
* Individuals
* Issues that divide us, not unite us

Grant applications for Giving Hope, Women's Giving Circle should be sent to:

Giving Hope Grants Committee

C/O Canton Community Foundation

50430 School House Road, Suite 200

Canton, MI 48187

*Updated 7/19/17*