



September '25 - January '26

LOOKING BACK

(as we move forward)

## SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Upcoming Event
- Future Meetings
- Rachel's Reflections

### Upcoming Event

**1st Quarterly  
Meeting**

### Future Meetings

**GWC ANNUAL  
CELEBRATION!**  
**Theme: TBA**  
**Monday, April 20**

- **Members' Voices**
- **Gifts and Giving**
- **New Members**
- **ICYMI**
- **Did You Know?**
- **Grantee's Corner**
- **Learn More**
- **Food For Thought**
- **Know Your GWC**
- **Get Involved**



## "Partnerships Helping Students Succeed"

**Tuesday, Feb 17, 2026**  
5:15 pm until 7:00 pm

### **Emerald High School**

**Rooms 719-720**  
**150 Bypass 225**  
**Greenwood, SC**

5:15 - 7:00 pm

Federal Building Courtyard  
Greenwood Community Theatre  
120 Main Street N

### **2nd Quarterly Meeting**

**"A Place for You  
@ Our Farm:  
Good Things Grow  
Here! "**

**Tuesday, May 12**

5:15 – 7:00 pm

**A Place For Us @ Our Farm**

454 Hunter Street Ext,  
Abbeville, SC

***Guests, and guests of guests,  
are  
always welcome!***



GWC Executive Committee



GWC Advisory Board

## **Rachel's Reflections**

**A new year always brings a sense of possibility. A clean page. An invitation to pause, reflect, and think about how we want to show up in the months ahead.**

**As we begin 2026, I find myself thinking about the unique rhythm Greenwood Women Care offers us throughout the year. Our**

quarterly meetings, annual celebration, socials, and the start of another grantmaking season are more than dates on a calendar. They're intentional moments set aside to come together, learn about the needs and strengths of our community, and deepen our connection with one another.

We all arrive carrying full lives. Busy schedules. Competing demands. Constant noise and information that can leave even the most capable among us feeling stretched thin. In the middle of all that, GWC offers something powerful. Time. Space. Presence.

My hope for this year is that each of us might discover a new benefit in our membership by allowing GWC to become a place where we can simply be.

A place to unplug. To listen. To engage thoughtfully. To sit alongside other women who care about our community and about making a difference together.

*Be present.*  
*Be engaged.*  
*Be connected.*



What you choose to carry with you when our scheduled time together ends is entirely your own. Maybe it's a new perspective. A deeper understanding of a local nonprofit. A meaningful conversation. Or maybe it's simply the calm that comes from being fully present, even for a short while.

As we move through this year together, I'm looking forward to what's ahead. To learn. To give. To grow. And to continue building something that matters, not only for Greenwood County, but for each of us as individuals.

Here's to a year of intention, connection and community.

With gratitude,

**Rachel**

Rachel Strayer  
Chair, GWC Advisory Board





There's something about learning that sneaks up on us. We're having a good time socializing when suddenly, we find ourselves pulled in, refocused, and our minds start to churn. Through our quarterly and social gatherings, it is GWC's intention to engage community-minded **Greenwood women** in collective learning, giving, and growing, and it's wonderful to hear the thoughts of our members after learning something new while we share our time together. With that in mind, we are introducing a new section to our newsletter entitled,

## MEMBERS' VOICES

"I am always struck by what a large, vibrant, friendly and beautiful group of women there are in GWC," says **Kathy Magano**. **Donna Foster** notes, "One takeaway I observed this past year is appreciation—appreciation for the talents, time, and resources each woman offers to GWC and to each other."

At our June quarterly meeting covering the often-taboo topics of mental health and taking one's life, **Bev Gebicke** remarked on "how much she had learned" from the discussion of "Breaking the Silence: Together for Suicide Prevention and Awareness." According to **Sandy Tresino**, the August visit to Greenwood Genetic Center was also highly informative. "This national treasure in our city finds health solutions for people all over the world". **Margaret Conrad** noted she learned about the importance of balance for individuals with Parkinson's Disease during our quarterly meeting in November at the YMCA, but then expanded upon what she learned, remarking that balance is important "whether it be physical balance through our terrific kick boxing class, or balance in a wider way through the examples of members I meet leading full and interesting lives." **Carol Harley** added that she "enjoyed seeing up close how grants given by GWC impact people in our community".

Jan Saul is “extremely impressed with the sincerity and gratefulness of the many grant recipients and how our gift of funding will help them enrich their programs”. Furthermore, “I’m so happy to be a part of improving the lives of so many in our community.” [Jeanne White](#) raves about “the nonprofits and their dedication to making a difference in our community”.

Previous year’s learning left a strong impact on member [Debra Moton](#) who says the visit to Pathway House left a significant impression on her. “I appreciated that we were given an explanation regarding the underlying causes of why people face the challenges they do, including trauma experienced from birth or later in life. This perspective has changed how I view individuals I see on the street. Rather than simply thinking they need a job, I now consider the potential brain trauma and history that impacted their mindset.”

The 2024 “Data Matters” meeting at the United Center for Community Care left [Christine Nowowiecki](#) “Shocked! The numbers were an eye opener when it comes to local homelessness, poverty and food insecurity.”

And finally, [Rosemary Bell](#) struck at the core of who we are. “I am certainly honored to be a member of such a great group of women who are compassionate about others and their community! GWC clearly touches the lives of many in our community.”



### *Additional Gifts Increase our Giving*

With every annual contribution for GWC Membership, our Granting Fund grows by \$400 to award in that year's grant cycle, and our Endowment increases by \$100 to ensure our long-term financial stability. In this way, all of our members have an investment in the success of GWC’s purpose to learn, give, and grow.

We are most grateful for every contribution, whether a renewal, new membership, or gift made “over and above” the annual amount! Each one enables us to be more impactful in our home community.

## GIFTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to honor someone with a gift to GWC, please download the form linked [here](#) or contact [gwc@greenwoodcf.org](mailto:gwc@greenwoodcf.org)

If you would like to make an additional contribution, you may do so [here](#).





## New Members!

(Since September 2025)

Rose Amamasor  
Rachel Blair  
Kaye Cook  
Ricque Greer  
Stephanie Lathren  
JulieAnn Mottern  
Judy Reed

Hope Scurry  
Korey Springman  
Kerry Tieman  
Sandra Tresino  
Callie Turner  
Joy Williams





## ICYMI...

December 1, 2025 marked the beginning of renewals for all members. Don't let your voting power go on hiatus -- if you haven't already done so, renew your dues before you miss out on the fun! Imagine your check as a magic wand, turning our pooled funds into grants that spark real change. We're this close to another amazing giving round, and your spot is waiting! Pop that renewal in the mail today -- let's keep the circle strong!



did you know?



...that the HUB Transition Centers in Greenwood is a first-time GWC Grant recipient? Nestled in the heart of Greenwood, HUB Transition Centers offers a beacon of hope for those rebuilding their lives after hardship. Born from compassion and faith, this nonprofit provides structured, supportive housing for men overcoming homelessness and addiction, guiding them toward independence with certified counseling and life skills programs. In just a few years, HUB has become a cornerstone of the community, fostering healing through its SCARR-certified recovery residences. With twenty-one beds for men, they create accountable spaces where residents thrive under the Oxford House Model, blending peer support with professional guidance. Their commitment to reintegration is palpable; residents leave not just stable, but empowered, ready to contribute to Greenwood's vibrant tapestry.



## 2025 Grantee Corner

Greenwood Women Care is pleased to announce our 2025 GWC Grant Awards! Our collective funds received through annual membership and other designated contributions enabled GWC to disburse \$79,825 in total grant funding for eleven nonprofits serving residents of Greenwood County.

In our seven years of offering GWC Grants, we have made 73 grants totaling \$483,799!!





[Learn More](#)

(To See Recent Event Recaps, Click on Titles Below)

[I'VE BEEN "HERON" ABOUT GWC](#)



[MAKING A DIFFERENCE -  
TOGETHER](#)

[STRENGTH IN EVERY STEP](#)



KICK OFF THE VOTE!



CAREY GIVINGS DROPS IN



*And...*

our most popular **#FoodForThoughtFriday** social Media post  
was during AUGUST- it had 1,106 views!



every "like, comment, and share" introduces more people to **gwc** and the impact we are making.

currently, we have 1,158 followers on our facebook page.

**let's set a goal to reach 1,500 followers by the end of 2026!!**

we hope we can count on you to keep our momentum going.  
please **like** our GWC Facebook and Instagram pages and visit them often!

(you can do so from the bottom of this newsletter)







**BET YOU KNOW HOW TO USE THIS --->**

(If not, use your camera on your cell phone  
and aim it at this image...then click on what pops up!)



## Know Your GWC

**Do you ever wonder...**

- who our current Members and Supporters are?
- what programs we've had in the past and what venues we've enjoyed?
- when the next GWC meeting will be held?
- where we'll be meeting in the coming months?
- how a nonprofit could apply for one of our GWC Grants?
- why GWC is "the place to be"?

**Answers to these questions (and so many more!) can be found with a few, simple clicks on our GWC webpages! Here's how to get there....**

Go to the website for Greenwood County Community Foundation ([greenwoodcf.org](http://greenwoodcf.org)) and you'll see our reverse logo on the home page:



**Click on it!**

It's hyperlinked to GWC's home page. Or, go directly to GWC's home page by clicking:  
[greenwoodcf.org/greenwood-women-care](http://greenwoodcf.org/greenwood-women-care)

You'll see this toolbar just below the group photo of many of our Charter Members:



Once you are on GWC's home page, click on any one of the tabs  
and it will lead to a wealth of information about this organization.  
Enjoy browsing and getting to know GWC even better!



Are you interested in being on a committee? We would LOVE to have your talents put to good use with all those currently volunteering! What better way to foster great relationships with all the amazing members of GWC and, at the same time, play a bigger part in GWC's





success? Look at the options and see where you might be able to help. More details can be found [here](#).



**Follow us on Social Media**

\* click to link \*





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