

July 2012



Making A Difference...We Need You Now More Than Ever! A message from our president Gail Hughes

Since our formation in 2006, the Cullasaja Women's Outreach (CWO) has contributed more than \$427,000 to the Highlands-Cashiers community in the form of CWO-awarded grants and member-directed grants to area not-for-profit organizations. That is an amazing accomplishment for a small grass roots organization that has taken a low-key, down-home approach to friendship building, volunteerism and fund-raising!

Gail Hughes, President

We are hoping to near the \$500,000 mark this year, but to do so we need your continued support. The area's organizations—like so many of us—have felt the pressures of the lackluster economy. In times such as these, needs are great and recipient gratitude is overwhelming.

From the *Literacy Council* to the *Highlands Emergency Fund*, the *Blue Ridge Mountain Healthcare Project* (also known as the Free Dental Clinic) to the *Highlands Community Child Development Center*, from the *Fish and Loaves Food Pantry* to the *Cashiers-Highlands Humane Society*, our grants have touched the lives of the residents, who help make *our* lives here so comfortable. Our efforts have all been aimed at making our mountain community a better place for all. We want to carry on this wonderful new tradition.

Please stay committed to helping our beautiful community, by participating in this year's annual fundraising event, the "dine-around" along Lake Villas Way (see page 3). In advance, many, many thanks. We need you all to continue our impactful outreach.

Together in Friendship, Reaching Out in Love!







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LOOKING FOR A REWARDING EXPERIENCE THE GRANTS COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR YOU!

Co-Chairs Joy Abney and Stevie Hinel have been busy assembling this year's Grants Committee, but still are in need of a few more volunteers. Serving on the Committee is a rewarding experience that takes CWO to the heart of the local community.



Chairs Joy Abney and Stevie Hinel.

"Last year was my first experience on the committee," Joy recalled. "It was exciting to be a part of the process, especially getting exposed to the needs and interests of the broader Highlands-Cashiers community. This year, as co-chairs, Stevie and I want to open the process to more people. We are encouraging ladies with an interest to come along with us on a site visit to better understand how the committee works and the potential impact we can have. If there is a not-for-profit organization you are particularly interested in and would like to participate in the visit, please let us know," Joy added.

The review process used by the CWO is established and effective. Grant proposals are judged on their clarity, feasibility, need and potential outreach to—and impact upon—the community. Past grant effectiveness also is considered. Site visits and evaluations are conducted in August and September, so that funds raised by the CWO in the summer can be awarded in the fall.

Both Joy and Stevie stressed that each member's input is valued...the friendships gained are priceless. To learn more, please contact Joy or Stevie. The first Committee meeting is Tuesday, July 17 at 2pm.

Don 't Forget to Pay Your Dues! Treasurer Frazer McCrorey needs to get the CWO operating fund up and running to cover our overhead costs. *We really need your support!* Please send your \$35 dues—payable to CWO—to: Frazer McCrorey, 100 Bee Tree Lane, Highlands, NC 28741, or simply drop off at the Club Reception Desk.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Upcoming CWO events:

FRIDAY, JULY 27:

CWO Update Luncheon

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12:

Annual Dine-Around Event

Leisurely Afternoons, Knock-out Evenings!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31:

Member Art & Crafts Show

2012 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President: Gail Hughes

Dine Around Chair: Donna Philips

Corresponding Secretary: Judi Davis

Recording Secretary: Ginny May

Treasurer: Frazer McCrorey

Art Chairs: Kathy Bowman & Gail Hughes

Grants Chairs: Joy Abney & Stevie Hinel

New Member Development:

Kathy Bowman & Colleen Flinn

Highlands Co-op Liason: Lana Jordan

PR/Communications: Margaret Eichman

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Annual Dine Around is set for Sunday, August 12th!

Put on your flip-flops, cut-offs and beach hats, and enjoy a fun evening cocktailing and dancing

lakeside! This year's annual fund-raising event is being held along Lake Villas Way for a taste of the beach here in the Blue Ridge! "We've done the mountain and golf course views, now it's time to experience the other aspect of the good life here in our beautiful mountain community," beamed 2012 CWO Dine-around Chair Donna Philips. Step back into your beach days, as you groove to big summer hits of the Fifties, Sixties and Seventies played by the original artists—spun by popular, local deejay, Steve Hott of HOTt Acts!

Tickets for this year's progressive cocktail party are \$125 per person and fully tax-deductible. All proceeds from ticket sales and contributions go to the CWO Charities fund for grants to local Highlands-Cashiers area not-for-profit organizations. Reservation forms are available in the Mail Room and at the Club reception desk.



2012 Fund-raising Chair Donna Philips

Know of a Worthy Local Cause? Connect it with CWO.

The Grants Committee is currently accepting requests from Highlands-Cashiers area 501(c)3 not-for-profit organizations. Eligible organizations can expect to receive amounts ranging from \$1000 to \$5000 after our seasonal fundraising.

If you know of a local organization that you would like to see benefit, grant applications and directions can be downloaded from our website: www.cullasajawomensoutreach.org. Contact Joy Abney or Stevie Hinel for more information. Please note, we do not fund religious, political or capital campaigns. The deadline for applications is July 31, 2012.

READY TO BE SEEN?

Art & Crafts Chairs Kathy Bowman and Gail Hughes invite you to show off your talents at the CWO's annual Art & Crafts Show on Friday, August 31 at a cocktail and reception in the Gathering Room at the Cullasaja Club. Last year's exhibition was one of the hottest art scenes here in Highlands!

Original works by Kathy Bowman, Jim Davis, Colleen Flinn, Maxine Gerber, Jodi Graves, Gail Hughes, Kathy Trice and Jill Wolfe-Hill dazzled the crowd. Works ranged from painted to multimedia canvases, from photography to hand-crafted wood and jewelry. Call Kathy (678) 772-2142, or Gail (404)702-1605 for information.



www.cullasajawomensoutreach.org

CONSIDERING GIVING \$250 or more TO A LOCAL CAUSE?

If you would like to give \$250 or more to your favorite local not-for-profit organization, write your tax-deductible check to: CWO Charities-CFWNC (our donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina), naming your charity as the benefactor. Your charity will receive the funds, along with your name, designating Foundation of Western N.C., or can be given to you as the individual donor and a CWO member.

By donating through the CWO Charities-CFWNC, the CWO is able to track the success of our cumulative efforts, encouraging and inspiring community giving among members. It is such an easy way to make a difference! Donation checks of \$250 or more, can be mailed to The Community Treasurer Frazer McCrorey who will forward them.

CULLASAJA WOMEN'S OUTREACH	
MEMBER-DIRECTED DONATION FORM	
Donor-Advised Fund	
Enclosed is my donation for	
501(c)-3 ORGANIZATION NAME:	DONATION AMOUNT (minimum \$250):
Check total:	
Make your check payable to: CWO Charities/CFWNC Mail to: The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina P.O. Box 1888 Asheville, NC 28802	
Please send my donation receipt to me at:	
Name:	
Street Address:	
City, State Zip Code:	