



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 21, 2024

100+ Women Who Care of Will County Donate \$7,650 to Guardian Angel Community Services

On May 21st, members of 100+ Women Who Care of Will County had their “big check” presentation donating \$7,650 to Guardian Angel Community Services.

Ines Kutlesa, Chief Executive Officer of Guardian Angel Community Services and Jane Ukleja, Chief Development Officer, were presented the checks by members of 100+ WWC of Will County. Guardian Angel is the oldest non-profit social service agency in Will County, helping at risk children, adults, and families for 126 years, through 6 programs, and via their mission to provide diverse services that inspire people to improve the quality of their lives in their greatest time of need. They believe in the inalienable human right to live and work safely free from violence, oppression and abuse. Guardian Angel strives to instill hope through client-centered services provided in a safe and confidential environment. In 1983 the organization established the Groundwork domestic violence program, recognizing the crime of domestic violence as a community problem, and successfully coordinated efforts among professional services to build and enhance broad-based support for its program. Groundwork provides comprehensive services for survivors and their families that includes a 24-Hour Emergency Hotline and Emergency Shelter, Crisis Intervention & Safety Planning, Individual and Group Counseling, Legal and Medical Advocacy and Prevention Education and Community Outreach in English and Spanish.

“Last year Groundwork provided 11,971 nights of emergency shelter and 35,193 meals to adults and children fleeing the horrors of domestic violence, while fielding 5,000 calls on our emergency hotline. Central to our philosophy of care is advocacy for peace and justice, and we are so grateful to 100+ Women Who Care of Will County for their generous donation in support of these life-saving efforts to help survivors of domestic violence,” said Ms. Kutlesa.

100+ Women Who Care of Will County is designed to make an immediate and positive impact on the lives of our community. At each of the quarterly meetings 100+ WWC members nominate charities, three are chosen at random, and after a brief presentation, the members vote on which charity to support. Once the winning charity is announced, everyone writes a \$100 check, on the spot directly to that charity. Teams of 2 or 4 are welcome to join. All charities nominated must be located in, and serve, Will County and must have 501(c) (3) non-profit status. 100+ Women of Will County of Will County has raised over \$182,900 for local charities. They include: Taft Foundation, Bags of Hope, Will County Habitat for Humanity, NAMI of Will-Grundy, Navarro Farm, Meals on Wheels, Big Brother/Sisters, Cornerstone Services, and Angels for Hospice to name a few.

100+ Women Who Care of Will County’s next meeting is September 10, 2024 from 6:00-7:00 at Coom’s Corner. For more information, please go to the web site at www.100wwc-will.org or visit us on Facebook.

Photo from left to right:

Melanie Skach, GACS Groundwork Program Manager, Kathy Borello, 100+ Member, Jane Ukleja, GACS Chief Development Officer, Maribeth Carlson, 100+ member, Ines Kutlesa, GACS Chief Executive Officer and Mary McGavin, GACS Chief Operating Officer

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