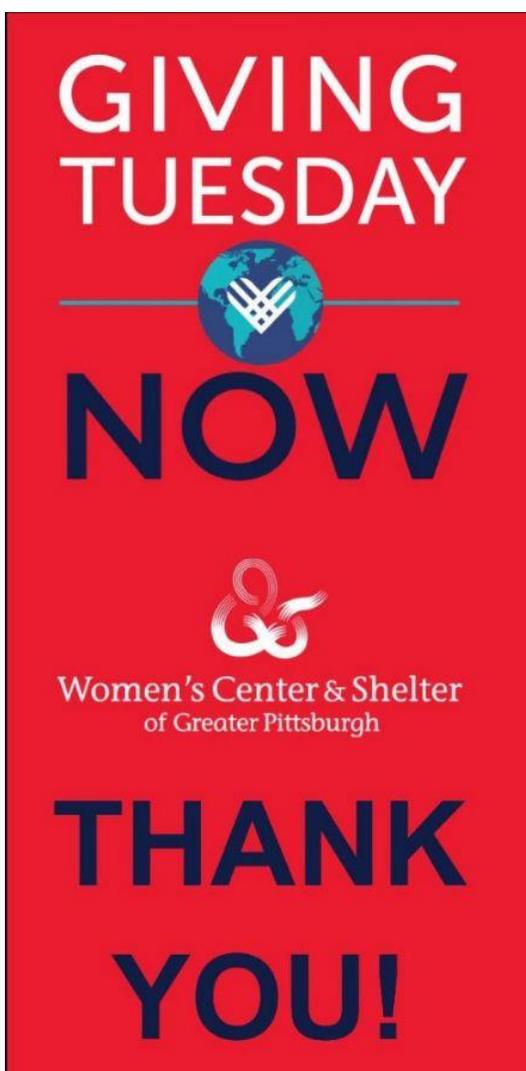


Dear Friends,

This week has been filled with so many exciting developments at Women's Center & Shelter that we couldn't fit them all in this email. But I hope you'll take the time to read about three ways that WC&S, corporate and community partners, and individuals like you are coming together to provide safety and hope to those affected by intimate partner violence (IPV) during the COVID-19 pandemic.



#GivingTuesdayNow

Many thanks to everyone who donated to the [#GivingTuesdayNow](#) campaign through either the [WC&S website](#) or through [Give Big Pittsburgh!](#) We are thrilled to announce that you all helped to raise more than \$44,000 online in one day! Along with the very generous match from the A.J. Sigismunda Palumbo Charitable Trust of \$10,000, our grand total for the campaign is **\$54,000!**

This is truly incredible and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Because of this amazing generosity, we will continue to serve survivors of intimate partner violence and their children during and beyond this time of crisis.

Giant News!

To address the new barriers the pandemic has created for IPV survivors seeking help, **Giant Eagle has teamed up with Women's Center & Shelter, Crisis Center North and the Alle-Kiski Area HOPE Center** to reach survivors during stay-at-home orders. Beginning this week, [postcards](#) (.pdf) with contact information for all three centers have been placed in 42 Giant Eagle locations in Allegheny County. Postcards are available at the end of every register in each store, totaling more than 12,600 postcards. The postcards offer a variety of options for IPV survivors to be in contact, when safe – and many times the critical opportunity is when those affected are out of the home. **THANK YOU** to Giant Eagle for being such an incredible community partner!

Introducing our NEW Text and Chat Features

With IPV on the rise and stay-at-home orders still in place, it has become more necessary than ever to add new ways in which survivors can reach out for help. To address this growing need, Women's Center & Shelter has debuted two new ways to reach out for help; a text line and an online chat feature. These outreach options are in addition to our existing [24-Hour Hotline](#) which will operate as usual.

If someone is not able to talk on the phone, they can now:

- **Text the number (240) 249-7867** and a WC&S Advocate will be standing by to assist.
- **Access the online chat** by visiting the [WC&S website](#), and clicking on the **Chat for Help pop-up button**.

 Chat for Help

The hotline, text feature and online chat are all **available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week!** Communication is free and confidential.

Though what led us to the above efforts were unanticipated, we are so grateful to be able to reach IPV survivors in new and creative ways. We thank you, our WC&S Family, for supporting these efforts now and into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicole".

Nicole Molinaro
President/CEO