

FALL 2022 EDITION – CO-CHAIR LETTER

Dear Tiffany Circle Members,

As Co-Chairs of the Tiffany Circle National Council (TCNC), we have the **incredible** privilege of leading a group of dedicated women leaders who oversee the planning and execution of the Tiffany Circle Strategic Plan, **which focuses our collective efforts** on the growth of women's philanthropy at the American Red Cross. Thanks to your incredible generosity and steadfast commitment to our mission, we are in the midst of the most prosperous period in Tiffany Circle history to date. In Fiscal Year 2022, the Tiffany Circle:

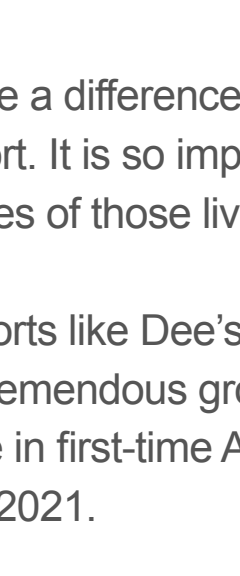
- Contributed \$25.1 million and influenced \$25.8 million in support of the American Red Cross.
- Concluded with 1,144 Tiffany Circle members.
- Volunteered over 29,000 total hours.

While we celebrate these significant achievements, we remain keenly focused on meeting or exceeding our ambitious goals outlined in our Strategic Plan, including 1,200 Tiffany Circle members by June 30, 2023.

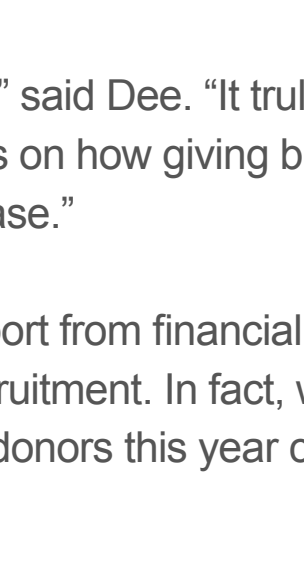
Over the past year, Tiffany Circle members' focus on strengthening the Red Cross mission has shone brightly, and never has this been more vital. The impacts of climate change are being felt by people around the world. As extreme weather disasters increase, they are disrupting lives and causing tremendous harm, resulting in more people—particularly the most vulnerable—needing help. The Red Cross is uniquely positioned to make a significant and lasting impact to combat the largest humanitarian crisis of our time. As a first-hand witness to the suffering of people affected by disaster, we are taking bold actions to adapt our services, grow our capacity and deliver service in a more efficient manner that reduces our environmental footprint. We will continue to learn and share how the Tiffany Circle can support the Red Cross to meet these growing needs.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Red Cross mission and the important role you play encouraging more women to engage in the critical work of the Red Cross.

In service,



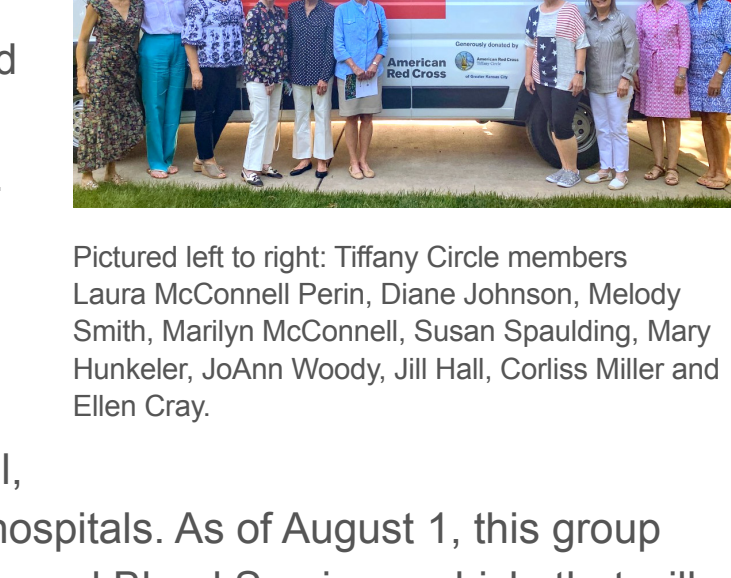
*Sara Horein*  
**Sara Horein**  
Co-Chair, Tiffany Circle  
National Council  
[power.of.reflection@gmail.com](mailto:power.of.reflection@gmail.com)



*Lori O'Flaherty*  
**Lori O'Flaherty**  
Co-Chair, Tiffany Circle  
National Council  
[Loflaherty16@gmail.com](mailto:Loflaherty16@gmail.com)

## SEPTEMBER IS SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH

Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood. For those with sickle cell disease, the right match is essential. Sickle cell disease is the most common genetic blood disease in the U.S., affecting about 100,000 people—primarily Black and African Americans. The disease can cause extreme pain, acute anemia, tissue and organ damage and even strokes. Blood transfusions are often used to treat symptoms, and patients are more likely to find a compatible blood match from a donor of the same race or a similar ethnicity.



Dee Dixon and her daughter, Kyra, after donating blood together for the first time.

In Georgia, Red Cross Regional Executive Director Dee Dixon—who carries the sickle cell trait—has emerged as one of the leaders in our Sickle Cell Initiative, which aims to increase the number of African American blood donors. Dee has encouraged her region's Tiffany Circle to serve as partners in this work, raising awareness about the health disparities associated with the disease and partnering with community organizations to increase blood donations from individuals who are Black.

"We can make a difference just by donating blood," said Dee. "It truly is a lifesaving effort. It is so important to educate others on how giving blood can impact the lives of those living with sickle cell disease."

Thanks to efforts like Dee's and philanthropic support from financial donors, we've seen tremendous growth in blood donor recruitment. In fact, we saw a 60% increase in first-time African American blood donors this year compared to fiscal year 2021.

Learn more about [why blood donations are so important for patients with sickle cell disease](#), work within your local communities to share this critical need and make an appointment to donate blood today!

## REGION SPOTLIGHTS

### Kansas City Tiffany Circle

#### "Wheels In" More Blood

Last Winter, the **Greater Kansas City Tiffany Circle** funded a Blood Services van, which was unveiled at their summer gathering in June. This single addition to the Kansas City fleet has helped increase collection by 75-125 blood units each week in the Kansas City Metro area, delivering more critical, lifesaving blood products to local hospitals. As of August 1, this group of women has already funded a second Blood Services vehicle that will be added to the fleet within a few months. With the addition of these two vehicles, the Greater Kansas City Tiffany Circle will be responsible for funding the transportation of an additional 8,000-12,000 units of blood each year!



Pictured left to right: Tiffany Circle members Laura McConnell Perin, Diane Johnson, Melody Smith, Marilyn McConnell, Susan Spaulding, Mary Hunkeler, JoAnn Woody, Jill Hall, Corliss Miller and Ellen Cray.

### New Tiffany Circle Member in South Carolina!

Longtime Red Cross supporter **Clemence "Keme" Williams** recently increased her generous philanthropic giving in support of the crisis in Ukraine, as well as local communities in South Carolina, qualifying her for the Tiffany Circle. Keme was honored to be invited to join our amazing group of philanthropic women.

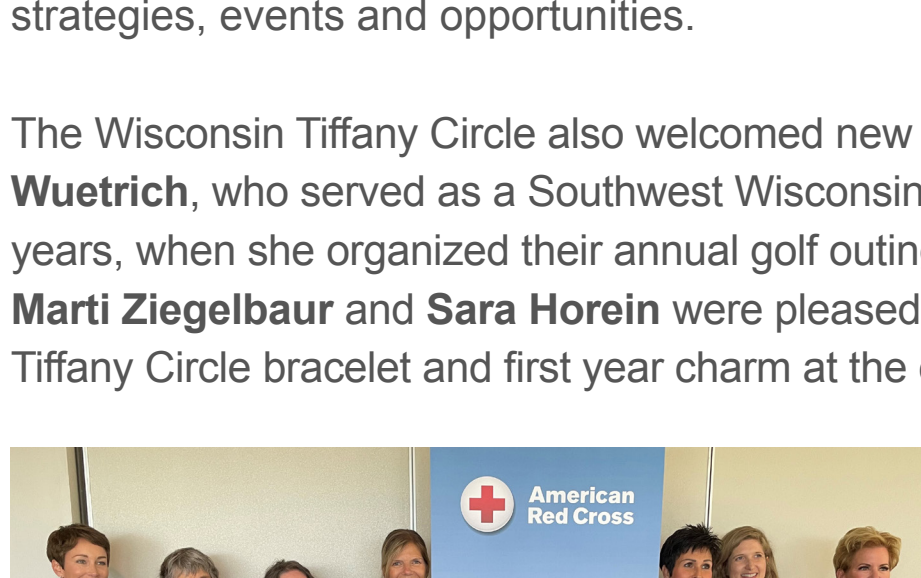
Keme is a retired educator, talented artist, avid reader and recently celebrated her 97th birthday! Unable to get out as much as she would like, financial support is her way of continuing to make a difference in her community. Welcome to the Tiffany Circle, Keme!



New Tiffany Circle member, Keme, showing off her new bracelet and charm!

### Tiffany Circle Member Partners with Red Cross Western North Carolina to Organize Collection for VA Hospital Asheville

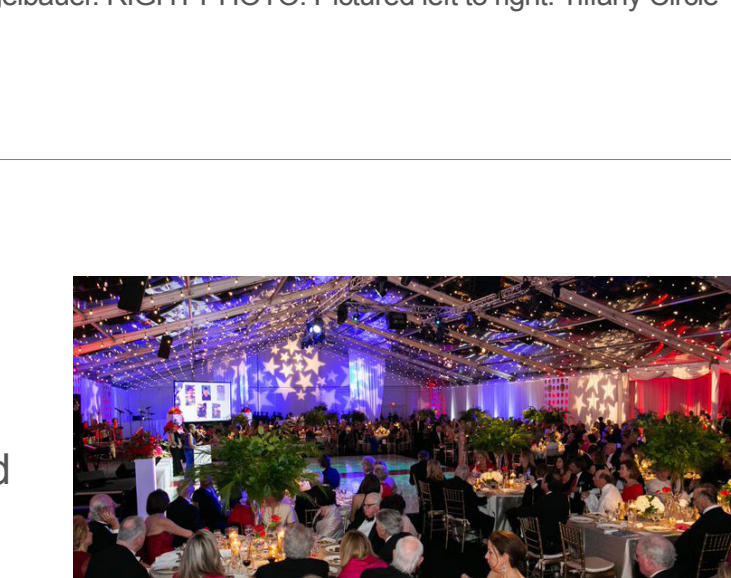
Tiffany Circle member **Donna Richardson** organized a collection of bottled water and supplies for the Charles George Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Asheville at The Ramble Biltmore Carolina Chapter partnered with Donna and other community volunteers to collect and deliver: 11,600 bottles of water, approximately 800 books and activity books, and dozens of markers and coloring pencils to benefit the clients and residents of this local V.A. Medical Center. Donna had the support of her Homeowners Association as well as several Tiffany Circle members, Red Cross staff and Western North Carolina Chapter volunteers in planning and conducting the collection event. We celebrate Donna's successful effort and know the V.A. Medical Center staff is appreciative of this extraordinary community support.



Pictured from left to right: Red Cross staff member Laurel Amabile and Tiffany Circle member Donna Richardson.

### St. Louis Tiffany Circle Supports Women Warriors Baby Shower

The St. Louis Chapter of the Red Cross hosted its 8th Women Warriors Baby Shower on July 24 for enlisted and veteran women who are expecting or have new babies. On the day of the drive-through shower, **St. Louis Tiffany Circle member Jennifer McGrath, Deborah Quinn and Sandy Soll** joined Red Cross and partner volunteers to load the moms' cars with portable cribs, monitors, diapers, wipes, bottles, diaper bags and stuffed animals. All the items were purchased thanks to the generosity of event sponsors and donors. Several women mentioned that the shower was the only one they would have, since many women in the military move often and are oftentimes geographically not close to family or friends.



Red Cross volunteers load baby shower supplies into a service member's car.

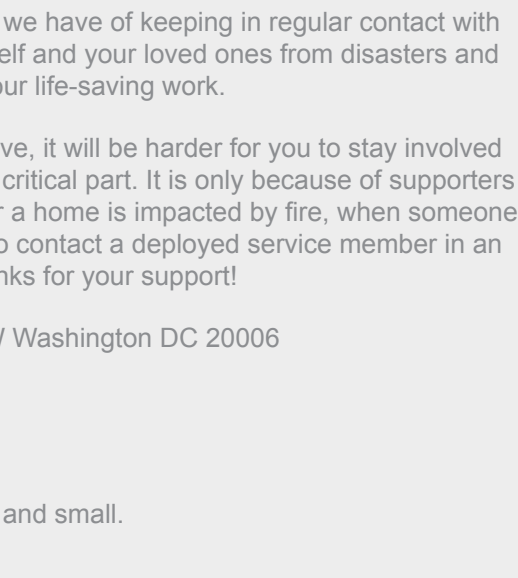
### Illinois Region Tiffany Circle Here to Help

Members from the **Chicago and Northern Illinois Region Tiffany Circle** volunteered at the Family Assistance Center that was set up by the American Red Cross and other agencies supporting those affected by the shooting at the Highland Park 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade. Services offered by the Family Assistance Center included counseling and disaster mental health assistance, spiritual care, health services and other support services. Thank you to Tiffany Circle members **Sue Brenner, Peggy Hardek, Susan Noyes, Kristin Seeger, Jan Tratnik and Joyce Trimuel**, for serving as ambassadors in greeting clients and supporting them as they navigated the available services at the Center.

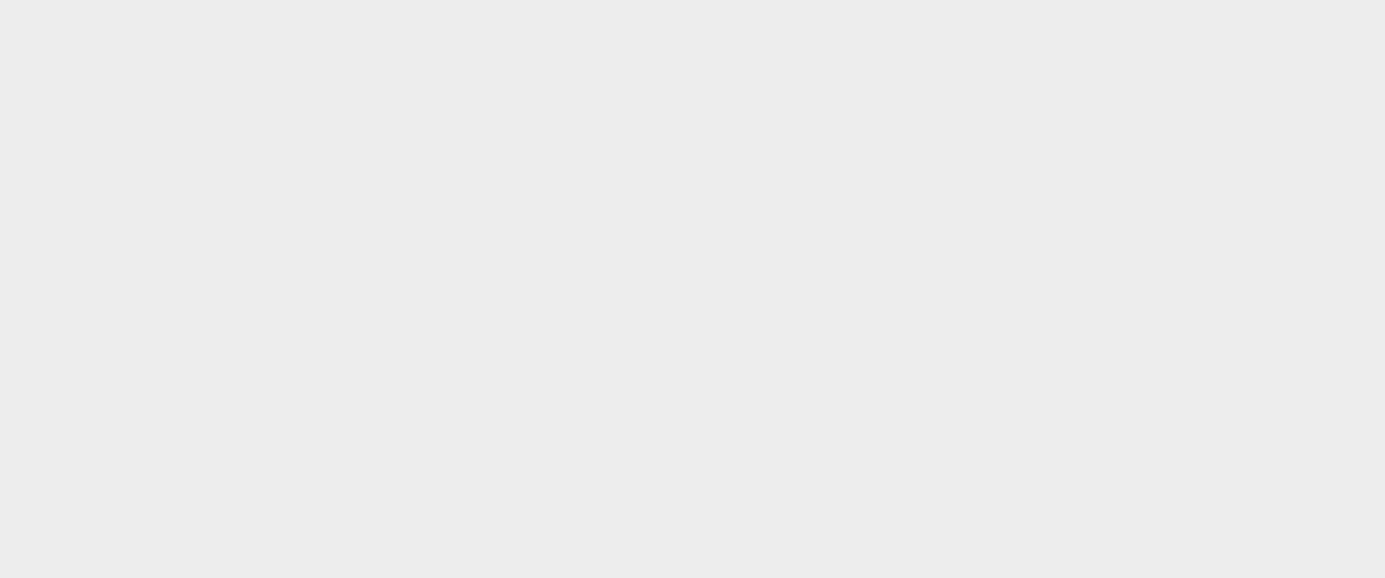
"The Family Service Center was remarkable," said Jan. "I was impressed by the well-organized and efficient partnership between the American Red Cross, government agencies and the local community, focused on serving the needs of so many individuals and families impacted by this tragedy. My fellow Tiffany Circle members and I came away inspired and grateful for the opportunity to support this work. I will never forget the amazing people I worked with and the community members I was able to help."

### Illinois Tiffany Circle Members Reunite

Tiffany Circle and Chairman's Council member **Fran Edwardson** graciously hosted the **Illinois Region Tiffany Circle** annual meeting. This was the first in-person event since the pandemic. The Illinois Region has welcomed 11 new members in the last year, bringing their total to 94 members. The night was filled with members reconnecting and the Red Cross mission was at the center—**Jeff Paddock**, a regional Disaster Program Manager, talked about his deployment to Eastern Europe to assist the Ukraine humanitarian crisis.



New Tiffany Circle members pose on the stairs of Fran Edwardson's home. Left to right (front row): Sara Enlow, Christine Tierney and Ann Kasten; (back row): Caroline Huebner, Heidi Mucha and Kelly Soljaciach.



Illinois Region Tiffany Circle members present at their annual meeting.

### Wisconsin Region Tiffany Circle Holds Annual Luncheon in Madison

The **Wisconsin Region Tiffany Circle** held its annual luncheon in August at the Blackhawk Country Club in Madison. Fourteen members and prospects were joined by regional leaders who provided timely updates on the Fort McCoy Afghanistan Evacuee operation and the Madison Sickle Cell Initiative partnership program, which has become a national best practice in Biomedical Services. **Sara Horein**, National Tiffany Circle co-chair, who serves as chapter chair in Wisconsin, gave an informative and engaging overview of Tiffany Circle including FY23 strategies, events and opportunities.

The Wisconsin Tiffany Circle also welcomed new member **Joyce Wuetrich**, who served as a Southwest Wisconsin board member for many years, when she organized their annual golf outing. Regional co-chairs **Marti Ziegelbauer** and **Sara Horein** were pleased to present her with her Tiffany Circle bracelet and first year charm at the event.



LEFT PHOTO: Pictured left to right: Tiffany Circle members Sara Horein, Mary Voelker, Patty Flowers, Beth Anderson, Jane Nesbitt, Nicole Gulatz and Marti Ziegelbauer. RIGHT PHOTO: Pictured left to right: Tiffany Circle members Marti Ziegelbauer and Joyce Wuetrich.



### South Florida Region

The 62<sup>nd</sup> International Red Cross Ball will make its highly anticipated return as the premier event of the Palm Beach social season on March 18, 2023, at The Breakers Palm Beach. The Ball will celebrate the organization's lifesaving work down the street, across the country and around the world, while proudly highlighting the organization's important and historic partnership with the U.S. Armed Forces.



International Red Cross Ball, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida, 2019

Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Amanda Schumacher are serving as the 2023 Ball chairs, and former Ball Chairwoman and Tiffany Circle Co-Founder, Ambassador **Bonnie McElveen-Hunter**, will be recognized as one of the honorary chairs this year. In addition, the Red Cross Humanitarian Award will be presented to Bill and Marianne Powers, honoring their steadfast support of our mission.

Ambassadors, dignitaries and philanthropic leaders from around the world come together for one night in support of the Red Cross. Please join us. For more information, please contact [Tzaicel Hernandez](#).

## CONNECT WITH US!

Join the [American Red Cross Tiffany Circle Group](#) on LinkedIn to network with other members online and view Tiffany Circle member spotlights. We are also on [Facebook](#)—another great way to meet and stay in touch with other Tiffany Circle members!

## TIFFANY CIRCLE EVENTS CALENDAR

Visit the [Tiffany Circle Calendar](#) on The Source to see the upcoming Tiffany Circle events across the country. Visiting another region? See if there is a Tiffany Circle event in that area to attend!

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Staying in touch via the American Red Cross email list is the best way we have of keeping in regular contact with supporters like you, letting you know about how you can protect yourself and your loved ones from disasters and other emergencies, and how you can support our life-saving work.

[Click here](#) to unsubscribe from our list, but please know that if you leave, it will be harder for you to stay involved with the Red Cross and continue the work of which you've been such a critical part. It is only because of supporters like you that the Red Cross is able to respond when a disaster strikes or a home is impacted by fire, when someone needs CPR or a lifesaving blood transfusion, or when a family needs to contact a deployed service member in an emergency. And we don't want to lose you! Thanks for your support!

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Help people affected by disasters big and small.



The Red Cross is proud that an average of 90 cents of every dollar we spend is invested in delivering care and comfort to those in need.