



Susan's Circle Nomination FAQs

1. Can I nominate someone from a for-profit entity, rather than a nonprofit organization?

You may nominate an individual from a for-profit entity if you feel they have many of the characteristics listed on the nomination form. The grant committee will decide if they qualify to be a recipient. Note: a grant to a for-profit entity must only be used for charitable and educational activities, and will require a detailed budget and financial report.
2. Can I nominate someone in government?

Given budget constraints, Susan's Circle is not accepting nominations of individuals in government. Nominations of individuals from non-profit organizations & for-profit entities with an annual budget of \$500,000 or less are preferred.
3. What is the selection process?

The nominations must be submitted via the [online form](#). Finalists will be selected by the executive committee of Susan's Circle and notified with a request for a short video or further information. Members of Susan's Circle will vote for the 5 winners, at which time a celebratory salon is expected to take place.
4. What is the size of the grant?

Grants will be awarded in the amount of \$10,000.
5. What can the grant dollars be used for?

Grant funding will be directed to the institution where the individual works to be used for the award recipient to expand their impact and leadership abilities.

Hypothetical examples of uses of the funds include:

 - Tuition for a certification or degree
 - Direct training costs
 - Fees and/or travel costs to attend a leadership institute
 - Fees for an executive coach
6. How many grants will be disbursed?

5 grants of \$10,000 each will be awarded in 2018.
7. Does the nominee have to be the executive director of an organization?

Members should feel free to nominate individuals who are current leaders or who may play important roles on the cusp of leadership (such as directors of a program, a volunteer/community leader, a high school activist, etc)
8. Can the nominee submit the nomination?

Nominations may be submitted only by those who have contributed to Susan's Circle, and by Liberty Hill Foundation. However, we encourage Circle members to work with the nominee for help answering the questions for the nomination as needed.
9. Who is Susan?

Susan's Circle was ignited in 2017 by four families who were inspired by one special person – Susan Watanabe. Susan is a loving mother, wife, writer, and social justice activist who was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. Whether it is in a boardroom or around a kitchen table, Susan recognizes the power of bringing people together from all walks of life. Sharing a steadfast commitment to advancing social change, Susan and her husband, David White, serve as national thought leaders and living testimonies that our democracy is strengthened only by our participation. We created Susan's Circle to build a community of friends who, in the words of President Obama, seek to "Show up. Dive in. Persevere."
10. Whom may I contact for further information?

Please email James Martinez, Philanthropy Advisor, at jmartinez@libertyhill.org with further questions.