

The American Women's Club of Hamburg (AWCH)

Philanthropic Giving Guidelines

(revised and approved January 2021)

As stated in our constitution, the goals of our club are to promote international understanding, the general welfare, cultural education and to provide support to the needy. Toward these goals, we are committed to supporting other non-profit and charitable organizations that share one or more of these goals. This support may be through financial contributions, donation of goods, and/or "hands-on" assistance with, or co-sponsoring of, activities.

Section A: Philanthropic Projects and Charitable Organizations

AWCH has no official charities or philanthropic projects and there are no set limits to the type and number of organizations that we can support. However, several directives have been adopted to ensure that the specific organizations or projects that we support each year corroborate our constitutional goals, maximize our financial and member resources, and foster our FAWCO membership:

- One local non-profit (tax-exempt) organization will be elected every two years for which AWCH will sponsor awareness events, promote fundraising, and encourage member involvement.
 - Members are invited to nominate organizations by completing the Application for the AWCH Local Charity Support by the set deadline.
 - The nominated organization must meet the criteria laid out in Section B of these guidelines.
 - Philanthropy Collective reviews nominations and selects three finalists.
 - The finalists will be presented and voted upon at the AGM.
- The AWCH will fully back fundraising events to raise money for the FAWCO target project, the FAWCO Foundation, and FAWCO funds.
- Individual members may submit requests to the AWCH board to support other global or local projects with aims that are compatible with the AWCH constitution. These can be either single, one-off fundraisers or recurring fundraising events. Members are also encouraged to obtain further project funding through FAWCO Development Grants.
- To ensure sustainability of a project and the reliability that an organization requires, AWCH endeavors to maintain long-term support for projects initiated or adopted by its members, as long as AWCH members remain active in the project. These long-term projects do not include the biennially selected local charity and should be limited in number (e.g., four projects: The Heart Pillow Project, Thanksgiving Drive for the Hamburger Tafel, Nandanvan Trust projects, one additional.)
- To help guide the AWCH board in planning and decision-making, the Philanthropy Collective will review each year the list of organizations and projects currently being supported.

Section B: Criteria for local non-profit organizations targeted for selection

- Non-profit tax status (required)
- Focused services in one or more of the following areas:
 - **Promotion of International Understanding**
 - Fostering of relationships and understanding among and between groups in our community.
 - Supporting lectures and congresses, exhibitions, information stands, and publications that promote international understanding.
 - Promoting cultural exchanges between Americans, Germans, and other nationals.
 - **Welfare Care & Support of People in Need**
 - Ensuring people in need have consistent and convenient access to nutritious food.
 - Providing health and human services to people in need (medical screenings, social services, and/or shelters).
 - Improving access to recreation, arts, or cultural experiences for low-income individuals or families in Hamburg.
 - **Education**
 - Providing after school enrichment, tutoring, or vocational training for low-income individuals.
 - Working with parents to develop the tools needed to help children be successful in school.
 - Engaging students in extracurricular activities that foster leadership, time management, discipline, teamwork, conflict resolution, and problem-solving skills.
 - Working with students to develop a long-term path beyond high school graduation.
 - Bringing arts and culture to people of all ages.
- Significant ties to the local community.
- Track record of efficient organizational management, ensuring that a high percentage of contribution actually reaches targeted cause.
- Ability to partner with the AWCH through various ways, such as:
 - Volunteer and team building activities.
 - Public relations/community outreach opportunities.
 - Shared meeting and/or event space.
 - Awareness-building of social issues.

The club will not support:

- Organizations without non-profit tax status.
- Capital campaigns/capital expenditures and endowment campaigns.
- Religious groups for religious purposes (*inter alia*, to advance a specific religion or a church; to promote religious worship and sacred rituals).
- Political groups for political purposes (*i.e.*, influencing the formation of a specific political opinion, promoting a political party, and the like {AEAO zu § 52.})
- Disease-related research.
- Individuals or individual needs, including grants and scholarships to members.