Butler University Giving Circle-FAQ

- What is the Butler Giving Circle
  - The Butler Giving Circle is a community of alumni donors dedicated to supporting two mission-critical elements of Butler University's vision for the future: student scholarships and Indianapolis community partnerships.

- What is the annual commitment to the Butler Giving Circle?
  - Through an annual gift of $500 to the University, alumni donors become shareholders of the Butler Giving Circle.

- I have a matching employer; can that be counted as part of my shareholder contribution?
  - Yes and no. Your $500 Butler Giving Circle gift must be fully made by you. Due to not knowing when a match will come in will affect the cash in-cash out component of the program.
    - However, feel free to submit your match to give an additional gift to the Butler Giving Circle or to another fund at Butler.

- Both my partner/spouse and I are alumni; can we give more than $500?
  - Yes. Each Butler alumni is entitled to 1 vote. For $1,000 you both can be shareholders or for $500 you can share your vote; $500=1 vote. Each individual alumni can only have up to 1 vote.

- I am a non-graduating alumni; can I join?
  - While the Butler Giving Circle is exclusive for Butler alumni, we are including those who are considered non-graduating alumni.

- What is unique about the Butler Giving Circle?
  - These funds are pooled and directed as such: 40 percent of funds raised are directed to the Butler Fund for Student Scholarship and 60 percent are directed toward Indianapolis community partnerships already affiliated with Butler University. The Indianapolis community partnership allocation is informed by member recommendations made during the Butler Giving Circle annual shareholder meeting.

- When is the Annual Shareholder Meeting?
  - This year it will be on Thursday September 24, 2020
    - Right before Homecoming weekend.

- What does the money raised go towards?
  - 60 percent of the money raised goes to a community organization or organizations’ program or project and 40 percent goes to the Butler Fund for Student Scholarship.

- How much money will be given away?
  - Because this is the first year, we don’t know how much will be given away. However, our goal for year 1 is to have at least 100 members and distribute at least $50,000.

- Does my $500 shareholder contribution count towards other giving societies?
  - Yes!
    - Your $500 gift will count towards your President’s Club annual gift and will also go towards your cumulative cash giving for Carillon Society.
Butler University Giving Circle-FAQ

- Can we vote remotely?
  - We will have the option for a proxy vote to be sent in via mail or online. This is in the works, but there will be further communication on this.

- Can you give the scholarship money to the student who "wins" the grant money for their organization?
  - No. Because of the complications of financial aid, Butler doesn’t offer stackable scholarships. We will be doing a Butler Giving Circle Annual Scholarship, dependent on amount raised.

- Why can’t you just give the money to an organization?
  - Butler is a 501c3 organization and we are not legally allowed to take tax deductible donations from individuals and give them to another nonprofit organization.

- Is my gift tax deductible?
  - Butler University is a not-for-profit educational institution registered and domiciled in the State of Indiana. The University is a qualified organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, charitable gifts made by individuals and entities to the University are eligible for deduction under the direction of federal tax laws.

- Is my Giving Circle share eligible for priority points?
  - Yes, but per the new tax legislation, all donations may be considered 0% tax-deductible due to our priority points system. Please consult with your tax advisor or see https://butlersports.com/sports/2016/5/19/priority-points.aspx

- What opportunities are there outside of voting?
  - While year one is a learning and growing process, we anticipate having the opportunity for shareholders to volunteer and network with students, alumni, Butler leaders, and the organizations involved as finalists.
    - 2 Networking events, 1 volunteer day, 1 membership meeting

- What benefit is there to shareholders not living in Indiana?
  - The benefit of being in the Butler Giving Circle regardless of location is helping to promote the community around Butler University while also supporting the entrepreneurship of Butler students.
  - Also, if this becomes a successful program, we could expand it to our regional communities.

- How do I make my gift?
  - You can write a check to Butler University Giving Circle Fund or go to butler.edu/givingcircle or contact twhitake@butler.edu or 317.940.6680