

OAKLAND COUNTY MILLENNIALS CREATE PHILANTHROPIC GROUP

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Members of 100+ Millennials Who Care - Joey Bastian, Michelle Denno, Emilie Fitch, David Ehrlich, Joe Kulwicki and Chris Clark - presented Olivia Jones, volunteer coordinator for Grace Centers of Hope, with a donation at the Grace Centers of Hope headquarters on February 28th. Photo submitted by Matt Myftiu

While many millennials may be in debt following college graduation, studies show they are also the most charity-conscious generation in history.

Michelle Denno knew that her fellow millennials were interested in supporting their local communities but didn't know how. So last year, at age 29, Denno created the Rochester-based group 100+ Millennials Who Care. About 100 young adults, age 23 to 38, meet quarterly and donate \$100 each to an organization voted on by the members.

The latest recipient of the group's generosity was Grace Centers of Hope in Pontiac. Partnering with United Wholesale Mortgage, members of 100+ Millennials Who Care were able to donate \$8,700 to the nonprofit.

"This donation meant a lot for us. Grace Centers of Hope is a truly wonderful organization," said Denno.

"With the extreme negative temperatures we had this winter and addiction gripping our nation, the center worked overtime to accommodate additional residents, which means incurring additional costs. We were very excited to be able to help offset some of those costs."

100+ Millennials Who Care will host its next meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, April 8 at Emagine Theatre Royal Oak, 200 N Main St. Grace Centers of Hope will be in attendance to recap where the funds were allocated for the rest of the members. Three new charities will be nominated and one will be chosen to receive the next donation.

To learn more about the organization or complete the online membership form, visit www.100millennialshwhocare.com.

- Monica Drake, MediaNewsGroup