

The Terri Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation accepted a \$4,600 award from the 100+ Women Who Care - Lower CT River Valley Chapter on March 29.

100+ Women Who Care is a group of women who gather four times a year for an opportunity to learn about local charities, with a personal commitment to donating \$100 each to a local organization that the group selects.

When Suzie Woodward lived in Michigan, she was inspired by the effectiveness of such collective giving by the Michigan 100 Women Who Care chapter. After having moved to Connecticut six years ago in 2016, she founded the 100+ Women Who Care (WWC) – Lower CT River Valley Chapter. This chapter is one of 350 groups worldwide.



At each meeting, each member puts the name of one charity in a hat. Three are chosen to be presented as candidates for the total donation at the next quarterly session and one is an alternate. Suzie carefully vets each group before they are slated to be presented to ensure they meet the agreed upon parameters for inclusion. One of her jobs is to ensure the organization's legitimacy, including their 501 (c) 3 legal status.

The person who submitted the name of the charity commits to making a presentation at the next meeting. Only members can speak for the charity; no outside organizers are permitted. At the end of the three presentations, the members vote on which charity will be the beneficiary of their donations. Only one of the three charities can be selected so as to make the biggest impact per quarter. There is an emphasis on women choosing the organization that speaks to their hearts. Once the votes have been counted, each woman writes her own check to the charity directly.

Debra Lynn Alt, a member of the 100+ WWC - Lower CT River Valley Chapter presented the Terri Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation to the group as a candidate for the February donation. It was quite dramatic and exciting to receive 46 checks of \$100 each at one time made out to the TBBCF.

On March, 29, 2017, Suzie Woodward and Debra presented the Terri Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation with a donation of \$4,600 that will go toward sponsorship to support seasonal summer intern salaries.



Suzie Woodward, Debra Lynn Alt and Sandy Maniscalco at presentation of checks on March 29.

Since the inception of the 100+ WWC - Lower CT River Valley Chapter in 2016, they have donated \$8,200 to area non-profits.

Debra Lynn Alt is the author of "Each Moment We're Alive", a book and song dedicated to cancer survivors.