



**Women Writing
for (a) Change®**
B L O O M I N G T O N

It is not often that someone comes along who is a true friend and a good writer. E. B. White

Dear Friends,

One of the most profound side effects of writing in community is the many (true) friends I have made. There is something about this writing, about truth telling, that opens us up in ways that we had not expected. Listening to each other, really listening, gives us the gift of empathy. Every person who I have had the good fortune to meet at circles, samplers, on retreats or in one of the many outreach circles we offer, every person, has been a touchstone for me. I have, from the start of my involvement here, made some long-lasting friendships because that's what happens when you construct an environment that encourages safe space and storytelling. You are surrounded by people with a common ethos and sense of grounding. I feel so lucky to be a part of this community.

I hope that as you read this you to feel a little tug of something beautiful someone shared in circle, or something wise you wrote, or an unexpected response to a poem that you read aloud. I hope you are remembering that your writing was important. It helped you. It helped me.

I hope that as you think of that time or remember our circles you are inspired to help us out! We have just launched our annual [Giving Voice Campaign](#). This is quite simply our primary outreach to supporters and patrons to ask them to give back to the organization. We are celebrating 20 years of writing in the Bloomington Community. 20 years!

In addition to our regular writing circles, samplers, and workshops, we have spent a lot of time in the community writing with adults at Stonebelt, men and women at the local jail, teens at The Academy, Girl Scouts, residents of Middleway House, and many volunteers at a variety of organizations around Monroe County.

Your donation helps us to keep our writing outreach active and on-going. It ensures that we can continue to serve the jail and Middleway House and adults at Stonebelt. I hope you'll consider clicking on the link below, donating and helping us to celebrate 20 years.

Warm wishes,

Amy Cornell
Giving Voice Campaign Chair