

Newsletter

Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation

February 2015

Mid-Year Grants Review Report

Kim Liebich, Board Member-at-Large

Eight 2014-2015 Pooled-Fund Grant recipients received the first half of their grant, as usual, at our Annual Meeting in May, 2014. The second half isn't released until each recipient presents a mid-year progress report, to confirm that IWCF members' funds are being invested as intended. Those reports were submitted in December and reviewed by a group from our Grants Steering Committee. After discussion with the Board, second-half funds were released, based on each grantee's



Artisans for Hope

successful progress-to-date. A summary of the reviews follows.

Artisans For Hope: Their project provided the equipment to meet increased student demand, facilitated collaboration with job development partners and improved product sales. KIVI-TV news anchor Michelle Edmonds learned about this project while working with IWCF on the Fall Symposium. She featured some of the artisans on her program, gaining them much community visibility for their story quilts, now on display at the Idaho Statehouse. This visibility opened the door to additional grant opportunities.

Boise Urban Garden School New Education Facility:

In partnership with the Boise Department of Parks and Recreation and a private family foundation, BUGS is building an education building with a commercial kitchen and developing adjacent property into an on-site garden where garden-based environmental, science and health education will take place. The project is open and can be visited during the IWCF February 18 educational event.

Expressive Writing Program for At-Risk Youth by The Cabin:

This grant expanded The Cabin's Writers in the Schools (WITS) programs directed to at-risk and underserved

youth. WITS engages students in the full arc of the writing process and bolsters their efforts to meet Common Core standards in reading, writing, language, speaking and listening. The Cabin has increased WITS at West Canyon Elementary School and has a program in the juvenile corrections facilities.

Pilot Project for Parents Anonymous by Family Advocates:

This IWCF award allowed the grantee to garner an additional grant from the Idaho Children's Trust Fund to assist with support training and materials. Family Advocates also reestablished the Parents Anonymous program and developed a contract agreement with the Idaho Department of Corrections (IDOC) Women's Programs to ensure that women on probation and parole have ready access to Parents

Anonymous groups.

Idaho Shakespeare Festival:

ISF purchased a van to transport its educational tours, Idaho Theatre for Youth (ITY) and



Idaho Shakespeare Festival van

Shakespeareance. These programs reach more than 50,000 students and their teachers each year, across the entire state, including areas isolated and under-served during the school year. The van was used all summer and saved the cost of renting a vehicle. Tours to smaller schools have been booked and start in February 2015.

Junior Achievement of Idaho Expanded Financial Literacy in SW Idaho:

This in-class financial literacy program is being provided to low-income and high-risk students in grades K-12, giving them a basic understanding of financial education and equal access to a business mentor and experiential curriculum. They have completed more than 75 percent of their programming and are on track. *(continued on page 3)*

Positive change through thoughtful giving

From the Board

Welcome to our Winter Newsletter! This edition includes a second article authored by Nora Carpenter, executive director/CEO of United Way of Treasure Valley. She suggests that in order to engage in educated philanthropy, it's important for us all to look at a variety of information about what's happening in our extended community, as well as consider using frameworks such as Collective Impact to make our efforts truly significant. Another second is publishing this newsletter online again. You're still receiving a paper copy, but you also get an electronic notification, if you'd prefer to just click and read.

We're midway through an experimental year for our pooled-fund grants program. In addition to modifying the application timing, we increased the minimum grant size for our five pooled-fund grants to \$20,000 and allowed grantees to tell us whether it would be more effective for them to receive funds over one, two or three years.

We'll be assessing whether/how to go forward with any or all of these modifications over the next few months. Grantees will get a chance to weigh in first. A survey of all members will go out at the end of the grantee voting. It's important that you tell us what you liked and didn't like this year, so we can all decide how to proceed.

Participation is key in IWCF, of course, and in a more general survey delivered online we'll be asking for your thoughts about which strategic directions to take. It will be brief, in consideration of everyone's time, but it's a chance for all of us to "vote" on who we are and what we do together. Please take just a few minutes to respond to it!

In gratitude,
Dana Kehr, on behalf of your Board of Directors



Thank you!

- Susan Allison**
Anne Allyn
Director of Marketing, Micron
- Carlyn Blake**
Usful Glassworks
- Darin DeAngeli**
Partner, Ahrens DeAngeli Law Group LLP
- Kathy Durbin**
Kami Faylor
Micron Foundation
- Margaret & Willy Gorrissen**
Debbie Johnson
Cyndi Friend Kay
Branch Manager, D A Davidson & Co.
- Dana Kehr**
Kim Liebich
Tena Lokken
Mike Mers
Investment Manager, Aspen Capital Management
- Hailey Parsons Minder**
Telaya Winery
- Miranda Ririe**
Telaya Winery
- Deanna Schmidt**
Stella Schneider
Carrie and Earl Sullivan
Proprietors, Telaya Winery
- Nicole and Alexander Toeldte**
Raleigh Vachek
Financial Advisor at Daly & Vachek, Investment Consulting Group at Wells Fargo Advisors

Welcome New Members

Since November 2014

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Christine Avey | Diane Newton |
| Kristine Ball | Julie O'Meara |
| Brandi Benson | Cindy Pollock |
| Lori Gibson-Banducci | Marlys Saltzer |
| Janell McGill | Jeannine Smith |
| Mardell Nelson | LeAnn South |
| Michelle Nenov | Sarah Woodley |

Dream. Believe. Achieve.

Nora J Carpenter, president/CEO, United Way of Treasure Valley

These three words inspired IWCF Fall Symposium keynote speaker Dr. Tererai Trent to break away from what had been to embrace what can be. These same three words lay the foundation of true community change.

When individuals, organizations and unconnected stakeholders come together to dream and believe, it becomes possible to achieve positive change. The process actually has a name: Collective Impact.

Collective Impact gives a framework and process to the "dream, believe, achieve" ideal. Increasingly, communities are learning and working within this structure. In fact, most of the social services provided across Canada use it quite formally. And it works. When the model is followed, positive change happens.

Every Collective Impact initiative includes five key elements: A common agenda, continuous communication, shared data systems, mutually reinforcing activities and a backbone organization to keep all the work organized and moving forward. (Read more about Collective Impact in the Stanford Social Innovation Review at http://c.y.mcdn.com/sites/www.lano.org/resource/dynamic/blogs/20131007_093137_25993.pdf.)

Allowing Dr. Trent's three words be our muse, here is how we might create lasting positive, change for Idaho families and communities.

Dream: Dare to think big and create a common goal or agenda that a wide group buys into. Some communities have dared to dream really big, publicly stating a goal of zero poverty. Wow! Now there is a common agenda that everyone can align with.

Believe: The resources to help probably already exist. Bring together the widest possible collection of people, organizations and skills. Continually ask "Who else? What else?" Through constant communication and alignment of resources of all kinds, much more can be accomplished.

Achieve: A backbone is key. There must be a central entity, one that the community stakeholders will work with and support, someone who wakes up every day thinking about and coordinating solutions. This is a no ego role; it is vital to success.

Dream. Believe. Achieve. I believe we can.

(continued from front page)

One Stone: One Stone worked on three different projects with these funds and been successful in all, including the Youth Ranch, Hays Shelter and 24-hour think challenge. They were able to leverage our funding to get the 24-hour Think Challenge sponsored by another organization.

Terry Reilly Health Services: TRHS has purchased a Retinal Camera for diabetic eye screenings and has completed on-site training of staff to do these screenings in its Nampa medical clinic and at clinics in Boise and Caldwell on outreach/clinic days.



TRHS Retinal Camera

Grants Report

Anne Hay, Grants Committee

We are currently in the middle of our grants process, having received 19 full proposals that are being evaluated by our interest-area teams. Those chosen for site visits were announced at a meeting at the Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy on February 4, when site visit teams were formed. Then site visits will commence.

On March 18, the results of the site visits will be shared with the entire Grants Committee, and the ballot will be created with two projects per interest area. Member voting begins on March 24, after the board ratifies the ballot offering.

By April 15, all votes will be tallied and the grantees chosen. Grantees (and those not selected) will be notified after April 16, when the board certifies the voting results.

The actual grant checks will be delivered to grantees on May 12 at the IWCF Annual Meeting.

Behind the Scenes Developing the Organization, Developing the Person

Kim Peake, Marketing & Communications Committee

Susan Mauk, Board Development chair, and her committee have multiple responsibilities throughout the year, including recruiting members for board positions. Susan leads her team purposefully to not only “fill the spots,” but to ensure that board service is a rewarding experience for each member. They have just completed annual interviews with each of the 18 members of the board.

The interviews are important, not only for improving IWCF administration, but to help each board member enjoy her board tenure. Topics range from what members like and don’t like about their board experience to suggestions for new members, feedback on the board retreat and board meetings, recommendations for improving the board, and how they see their involvement evolving over the next year.

The committee presents its findings to the board as a whole, and actionable improvements are identified. The interview process is not simply an exercise, it is designed to build IWCF

and empower each member. One major goal, identified in previous such surveys, is to ensure that members don’t burn out, but instead experience a lot of satisfaction in their IWCF role.

Susan and her team do this by encouraging members to not only use the tremendous abilities and experiences they have,



IWCF Board hard at work (photo courtesy of Kim Liebich)

but explore new interests as well. So your board is evolving into a group of women who stretch themselves and don’t just serve in ways they have before. This challenging board environment enables members to grow personally as they investigate new areas, while building a stronger organization.

What is Microfinance?

Vicki Kreimeyer, Education Committee

The final education program of the year gives IWCF members the opportunity to learn more about microfinance as a way to provide people with the means to start businesses and support their families.

The focus will be on domestic microfinance, using examples in our own community. Our speaker is Ron Berning, Program Director of META (Micro Enterprise Training and Assistance), Boise.

Domestic Microfinance

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Charles Schwab & Co.

902 W. Main Street, Boise

Lunch will be available for \$10.
RSVP online by March 6.

Synopsis of IWCF Planned Giving Seminar, Jan. 13, 2015

Debbie Johnson, Treasurer

Panel members: Darin DeAngeli, partner, Ahrens DeAngeli Law Group; Raleigh Vachek, Daly & Vachek Investment Consulting Group of Wells Fargo Advisors; Mike Mers, founder, Aspen Capital Management.

Charitable giving can be thought of in three categories: Giving to an annual fund or for ongoing operations, giving to a capital or special campaign, and planned giving at the end of one’s life. While several other legally sophisticated options exist, most planned giving is accomplished through charitable bequests in a will or charitable beneficiary designations.

In a will, you can specify that a particular asset such as your house, a dollar amount or a part of your estate goes to a specific person or entity. Even easier than such a bequest is naming a charity as beneficiary on a life insurance policy, retirement plan, annuity or any other asset with a beneficiary designation. This beneficiary designation can be split, with a portion going to the charity and a portion to a spouse or other heir, or the beneficiary designation of the charity can

be secondary to that of a spouse or whomever is the primary beneficiary.

There are tax advantages to giving charities retirement assets as opposed to giving them non-retirement assets, since heirs pay income tax but charities do not. Heirs receive a “stepped-up basis” at death on non-retirement assets, and income taxes are levied only on prospective earnings or appreciation. This is not the case with retirement assets, the full value of which at death is subject to income taxes.

The panel strongly recommended obtaining professional counsel from an attorney and/or financial advisor who specializes in estate planning to create a charitable remainder trust, charitable gift annuity or charitable lead trust. It is also advisable to consult the charitable organization to ensure that your gift will meet its gift acceptance policy, as well as to correctly identify it in your will or beneficiary designation. [IWCF is happy to provide our IRS identification number and full legal name to you or your professional advisor when you set up your will or other planned giving instruments.]

In his closing remarks, Mike Mers pointed to IWCF as “one of the most efficient ways for getting money to work in the community” that he has seen. It’s so nice to know that someone who studies these things thinks we’re doing a good job.

Membership Survey Results

Susan Smith, Membership Committee

Your membership committee is always contemplating how to make sure that each member has a positive experience as an IWCF member. According to the survey many of you completed and submitted with your dues renewal, our foundation’s mission and the opportunity to meet other women who share a passion for philanthropy are the main reasons for joining IWCF. Together, we strive to accomplish our mission with our pooled-fund grants, individual designations and educational events.

During the year, we connect members through recruitment and social gatherings. The Holiday Social at the home of Nicole and Alexander Toeldte brought together more than 80 members and guests, and we are deeply grateful to Nicole and Alexander for their hospitality. The Winter Recruitment event at Telaya

Winery was a new location for us, with the added bonus of a winery tour. From that fun evening, we are hoping to gain eight new members.



Telaya Winery Tour

Other suggestions generated from your survey responses pertained to the timing of our events, making more efforts to spread the word about the amazing impact of IWCF, the importance of membership input, different membership levels, and strategies to connect women in the workplace.

Your membership committee is always looking for ideas to grow, diversify and maintain IWCF membership. If you have any thoughts to share and/or any friends, family or colleagues who might want to join, please contact us at iwcfSusan@gmail.com.

IWCF Founding Chair Honored

Marilyn Beck, Member



Michael & Susan Smith

IWCF founder Susan Smith received the Ralph J. Comstock, Jr., Light of Philanthropy award in November, 2014.

Ralph J. Comstock, Jr. was a remarkable man who died in 1995 after an exemplary career of professional and community service. In his honor, St. Luke's presents the annual Light of Philanthropy Award to a person who exemplifies Comstock's qualities

of leadership, philanthropy and humanitarianism.

Since 1977, Susan has served in leadership positions for many community organizations, including the Boise Art Museum, the Beaux Arts Society, Ballet Idaho, Idaho Botanical Garden, Humphreys Diabetes Center, Junior League of Boise, FUNDSY, The Learning Lab, Boise YMCA, West Family YMCA, St. Joseph's School, Boise Brave Parents, and The Children's School.

She supported them with personal financial contributions as well as time and talent, and inspired many to become deeply involved in philanthropy.

Perhaps Susan's greatest undertaking is the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation. The visionary behind this organization, she is its founder and served with distinction as its president for 10 years.

IWCF began on 2001 as a group of 35 women determined to better fund nonprofit organizations and projects by pooling their resources; 14 years later, IWCF has over 340 members and their cumulative

investment in southwestern Idaho and beyond totals more than \$2.5 million.

Before stepping down as president, Susan saw the need to provide for IWCF's long-term sustainability. She was instrumental in establishing what became the Susan Smith Endowment to fund the foundation's operations.

Susan richly deserves this honor for her many accomplishments and contributions to this community. The wonderful thing is, she genuinely does everything for the pure joy of helping others.

We congratulate you, Susan.

(IWCF member Marilyn Beck received the Comstock award in 2012.)

(Photos courtesy of St. Lukes)



Evening program



Introduction of Susan Smith by Alice Hennessey

Q&A with New IWCF Volunteer Coordinator

Jillian Huang has taken on the role of Volunteer Coordinator. She joined IWCF in March 2012 and began learning about the organization by working on the Education Committee. She was elected to the Board of Directors in May 2014. Jillian has years of experience as a public librarian, specializing in youth services, and she is passionate about reading, educational programs and opportunities to serve in the community. She loves to travel, hike, eat and spend time with her husband and dog.

Jillian recently shared her thoughts about engaging volunteers.

Why did you join Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation, and why did you decide to take the Volunteer Coordinator role?

Vicki Kreimeyer introduced me to the group and invited me to a few events. I grew to love the mission of IWCF. I was attracted to the concept of giving money in an educated, collective fashion, thereby making a real difference in our community.

When asked to serve in the Volunteer Coordinator capacity, I accepted. I feel strongly that we can create meaningful opportunities to serve and then connect our members with those opportunities. We have amazing talent in our ranks!

What are your plans to increase volunteer opportunities with IWCF?

First, I want to analyze the data collected from new and renewing members, work with the Board and our Operations Committee to learn of our current needs, and put those things together. Then, if you've signed up to volunteer, you can expect a call from me!



Jillian Huang, IWCF Volunteer Coordinator

I hope to provide brief job descriptions for current volunteer opportunities so that members can be fully aware of what the job entails. Perhaps a member has something to offer (new program ideas, special training, skills, etc.) that we haven't previously considered? I am open to suggestions and would love to hear from anyone.

How can IWCF members learn more about getting involved?

Come to our programs, read the newsletter and give me a call at (513) 312-4724. Maybe we could even list current volunteer openings (committees, office help, etc.) on our website and newsletter so that members can quickly zero in on what they'd like to do. There is something for everyone to contribute.

Let Your Voice Be Heard

Kim Peake, Marketing & Communications Committee

Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation is a very special organization. Together, members have invested more than \$2.5 million in grants and gifts in southwestern Idaho nonprofits and beyond since 2001, and we have seen tremendous results in our communities. Lives have been changed as organizations have been given the opportunity to grow, to provide valuable services and to meet real needs.

Internally, IWCF continually strives to operate with best practices and excellence, inviting members to be involved at the level of involvement where they feel comfortable.

Almost 350 members give "their money and their vote" each year...and now, we are asking you for your voice.

Each committee has put together one significant question that will affect the direction of IWCF, and we are asking you to answer them in an online survey. One question each because we value your time. Significant because we want to make sure your feedback is considered and the overall results are put into action, so our organization becomes even more effective for our community and members.

Please take a few minutes to take this survey by March 31. Your voice will make our foundation, as well as our state, stronger!

The survey is available through our website:

IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org



**Idaho
Women's
Charitable
Foundation**

P.O. Box 6164
Boise, Idaho 83707

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Join our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation

Save the Dates!

Domestic Microfinance

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

*11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Charles Schwab & Co
902 W. Main Street, Boise*

Grants Ballot Decision Meeting

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., ESPAA

Pooled-Fund Grants Ballot Q & A with Social

Wednesday, April 1, 2015

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., site TBD

Voting Deadline for Pooled-Fund Grants, Midnight

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Annual Meeting & Grants Awards

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., BSU, Student Union

Deadline for Individual Grant Designations

Tuesday, June 30, 2015

**Please Let Us Know* - Any time you have a comment or question, feel free to contact us.
Office@IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org or (208) 343-4923

www.IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org