



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

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**IMPACT AUSTIN NAMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**Liz Fitzgerald brings extensive leadership experience to growing organization**

Austin, TX, June 22, 2011 – Impact Austin ([www.impact-austin.org](http://www.impact-austin.org)) Board of Directors announced today Elizabeth (Liz) Fitzgerald as Executive Director of the Austin organization. Fitzgerald will oversee operations and volunteer staff while working with the Board of Directors to set the strategic direction of the organization. Fitzgerald is replacing Donna Benson-Chan, Interim Executive Director, following the retirement of Rebecca Powers, Impact Austin Founder and CEO, who led the organization for more than eight years on a volunteer basis.

“Rebecca has been an amazing visionary leader, growing Impact Austin from just a few women to more than 540 members who have awarded grants totaling \$3,154,000,” said Paula Klante, President of the Impact Austin Board of Directors. “We recognize and thank Rebecca for her hard work and we look forward to partnering with Liz to continue Impact Austin’s mission of awarding significant grants to Austin-area non-profits.”

Fitzgerald has a rich background in nonprofit and for-profit experience, most recently as Southwestern/Western Regional Manager of [America’s Charities](#). Liz has worked in Austin since 1995, serving in a variety of sales and program manager roles for Dell Family Interest, [Shoes for Austin](#), [The Driskill Hotel](#) and [Omni Hotel](#). Fitzgerald has also served in volunteer leadership roles including appointment by Governor Perry to the State Advisory Committee of the [Texas State Employee Campaign](#). She is a founding member of the [Dell Children’s Hospital Trust](#), and served as a board member for the [Gladney Center for Adoption](#) and [March of Dimes](#).

About Impact Austin:

Impact Austin is a 501(c)(3) public charity made up of women seeking to transform lives in the Austin area through high-impact and lifelong giving. The only membership requirements are to be female and donate \$1,000 each year. Impact Austin combines the annual donations from members and gives large grants each year to local worthy causes selected by the members. Grant applications are accepted in each of the following focus areas: culture, environment, education, family, and health and wellness. Collectively, we are changing the face of philanthropy in Austin [www.impact-austin.org](http://www.impact-austin.org).