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# NEWS

For Extraordinary Members



## From Our Founder



One of the things I treasure most about my Impact Austin experience is the personal relationships I have developed with so many of you. My day-to-day leadership duties will come to an end in late January, but my role as 'founder' will continue...forever. Simply put, I will have much more time to nurture these relationships that have come to mean so much to me...and I can't wait! I will get to cheer from the sidelines as members, one by one, step up and take on important roles that showcase their talents and expertise and help Impact Austin grow deeper roots in the community. I already see it happening.

Jackie Mata is leading the Discovery Day Committee this year. She and her team have done a fabulous job

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## Membership Update

### "Last Chance" Community Coffee

Our final Community Coffee of the season is tomorrow evening. But it's not too late to RSVP.

**Wednesday, December 15th**

**6:30 p.m.**

**The Clubhouse**

**The Mosaic at Mueller Apartments**

**4600 Mueller Boulevard**

**Austin, TX 78723**

[Get Directions](#)

vetting and choosing a top-notch lineup of speakers who will challenge our thinking and help us explore regions of our community that we don't know much about. Becky Griner and her new team of coffee speakers have risen to the challenge of recruiting 500 members by 12/31. Though we aren't quite there, the spirit on her team will help them reach the finish line in style. Laura Green, new to Impact Austin this year and already involved on the Marketing Committee, has agreed to lead that group on an interim basis while the chair, Lauren Paver, lends her skills and operations knowledge to the Board as the CEO transition process unfolds. New member, Tamara Faraone, has taken on a leadership role with g3 and will work closely with Dina Mavridis, g3 Chair, to ensure a smooth process as the year continues. There are lots of women on the Grants Committee that have moved into leadership positions, too. If you want to get involved and volunteer on a committee, contact me at [rpowers@impact-austin.org](mailto:rpowers@impact-austin.org). You won't be sorry, and you will meet some fabulous women along the way.

Thanks to all of you, our members, who have laid a solid foundation upon which future leaders can build. So many possibilities; so many ways to create an impact. I look forward to celebrating your success as this new chapter unfolds...the fun has just begun!

See you all on January 8 at Discovery Day...we may be able to coax Brett Barnes into singing for us again this year. He is VERY clever.

May this holiday season bring joy, love and laughter to you all!

- Rebecca Powers  
Founder and CEO

### Mark Your Calendar

#### **Member Orientation**

*(For current and new members who want to learn more about Impact Austin)*

**Tuesday, January 4, 2011**

**7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.**



Socializing at the Sonno Domestic Living Community Coffee

Our member recruiting efforts are rapidly approaching an end, and we need your help to make our goal of 500 women by December 31st! If you have not attended a coffee with a friend this year, this is your last chance!

We are delighted to introduce this new Community Coffee venue and thank the Greystar Property Management team of Mosaic at Mueller for their support of our "last chance" event. We are also excited about this opportunity to raise awareness of Impact Austin in the Mueller community.

Our recruiting success has always depended on our members and their willingness to share our story with a friend, family member, co-worker, or neighbor. We hope to see you there and thank you for bringing a friend... or two or three!

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

Please contact Becky Griner at [bgriner@impact-austin.org](mailto:bgriner@impact-austin.org) or (512) 917-5712 with questions or for additional information.

### A Call to Arms! We need your help!

We can't emphasize enough that Impact Austin needs your help to reach our goal of 500 members! It has been another economically challenging year. If you know someone who should be introduced to Impact Austin, please invite her to the final coffee. If attending a coffee is not ideal for your friend, please contact Becky Griner at [bgriner@impact-austin.org](mailto:bgriner@impact-austin.org) and we will find an alternative method of sharing the Impact Austin story.

*The Home of Becky Griner  
11106 Oak Knoll Drive  
Austin, TX 78759*

*\*Contact Becky Griner at  
[bgriner@impact-austin.org](mailto:bgriner@impact-austin.org) or  
512-917-5712 to RSVP or for  
more information\**

**Focus Area  
Committee (FAC)  
Orientation**

*(For members who plan to  
participate on an FAC in 2011  
and have not participated on  
an FAC in the past.  
Returning members are  
welcome, too!)*

**Wednesday, January 5,  
2011**

**6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
*The Gathering Room at  
Westbank Library  
1309 Westbank Dr  
Austin, TX 78746*

**Thursday, January 6, 2011**

**6:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
*The Church Library at  
Westover Hills Church of  
Christ  
(entrance facing Steck)  
8332 Mesa Drive  
Austin, TX 78759  
(corner of Steck and Mesa)*

*\*Contact Connie Lawyer at  
[clawyer@impact-austin.org](mailto:clawyer@impact-austin.org) to  
RSVP or for more  
information\**

**Discovery Day**  
*(Educational forum for  
members to learn about  
current issues and trends in  
each focus area)*  
**Saturday, January 8, 2011**  
**8:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**

Our goal is to spread awareness so that we can reach those who can and will join us in our mission for next year. The nonprofit community and the people it serves are counting on us. With your help, we are confident that we will be able to reach our membership goal and put our \$500,000 to work in the community in 2011.

## Member Orientation: An Opportunity for New and Seasoned Members

Our orientations provide an overview of Impact Austin's history, organizational structure, and volunteer opportunities. Both new and seasoned members have a chance to learn more about Impact Austin and meet members of the Operations Staff, Board Members, and of course, one another. The next orientation will be Tuesday, January 4th at the home of Becky Griner. Please see details in the "Mark Your Calendar" section in the left-hand column of this newsletter.

## Save The Date! Discovery Day 2011

Please join us for another fact-filled Discovery Day, as we learn from community leaders and enhance our knowledge of the critical issues affecting our community. Speakers will share their insights about challenges and trends in each of our focus areas.

Discovery Day  
Saturday, January 8, 2011  
8:30 am - 12:45 p.m.  
St. David's Episcopal Church  
Third Floor - Sumners Hall  
301 East 8th Street  
Austin, TX 78701  
([map](#))

Members are encouraged to attend. [Click here to RSVP.](#)

### Schedule:

8:30 - 8:50 a.m.  
Breakfast tacos, fruit and beverages

8:50 - 9:00 a.m.  
Opening remarks and membership attainment

9:00 - 9:40 a.m.  
**Sylvia Acevedo**, Founder and President of Communicard LLC  
**Demographics: Where the Children Are Now**

9:45 - 10:15 a.m.

*St. David's Episcopal Church  
301 E. 8th St  
3rd Floor Sumners Hall  
Austin, TX 78701*

**Member Spotlight**

by Mary Campana



I am proud to be an Impact Austin member because of the organization's significant influence and inspiration for our community. I have been a member of Impact Austin for the past two years and I am the Chief Development Officer for [Communities In Schools of Central Texas](#), one of Impact Austin's Community Partners.

I am blessed to be able to be involved with Impact Austin from both sides of the equation and truly believe that Impact Austin is making a significant difference in our community. I know first-hand that, when an agency receives a \$100,000 grant, it is a "game changer" for that organization. Impact Austin's unique process encourages an agency to think outside of the box. With their support, an agency is given the capacity to grow and continue to produce programs that work.

Impact Austin's five focus areas are wide-ranging and represent the most critical needs in Austin. The grant process is straight forward, fair and provides an opportunity for any nonprofit to apply for support. Impact Austin collaborates with their Community Partners and the benefits from this partnership are tremendous in terms of community awareness, program validation and accountability.

Impact Austin's membership and application process are open to the

**Mel Waxler**, General Counsel for AISD  
**Education: AISD Drop-out Rate: Causation, Prevalence, Ramifications, and Solutions**

10:20 - 10:50 a.m.

**Greg Hartman**, President and CEO of University Medical Center Brackenridge  
**Health and Wellness: Medical Education and Research in Central Texas - The Next Big Thing**

11:00 - 11:30 a.m.

**Nancy Herron**, Manager, Outdoor Learning Programs for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
**Environment: The Tipping Point for Conservation**

11:35 - 12:05 p.m.

**Francie Ferguson**, Director of Neighborworks Multifamily Affiliate  
**Family: Affordable Homes: Visions and Opportunities**

12:10 - 12:40 p.m.

**Cookie Ruiz**, Chair of CreateAustin  
**Culture: How Can Austin Sustain Itself as a Magnet for Arts, Culture and Creativity?**

12:40 - 12:45 p.m.

Closing remarks

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Jackie Mata at [jmata@impact-austin.org](mailto:jmata@impact-austin.org).

## Impact Through Involvement

### Learn About Impact Austin's Grant Process

Are you interested in learning about Impact Austin's grant giving process? This exciting process will drive the selection of finalists for Impact Austin's Annual Meeting in June where members will vote for our 2011 Community Partners. An overview of the process will be offered during two orientation sessions in January prior to the first meetings of the Focus Area Committees. Both new and returning members are invited to attend.

If you are interested in attending one of these sessions, select one of the dates and locations in the "Mark Your Calendar" section in the left-hand column of this newsletter and register with Connie Lawyer at [clawyer@impact-austin.org](mailto:clawyer@impact-austin.org).

## Grants Update

### Recap of the 6th Annual Nonprofit Workshop



entire community. Therefore, when a nonprofit receives a grant from Impact Austin, it is in essence community wide validation and a seal of approval for their mission and program. Impact Austin is not just a funding source for a non-profit agency, it is an endorsement from over 500 women that represent the voice of our community. I am thrilled to be a member and strongly encourage other women to become members of Impact Austin.

**NEW for FY2011 -We want to know who your favorite Community Partner is and why. The members of Impact Austin would love to hear from you!**

To share your story, please email Laura Green at [newsletter@impact-austin.org](mailto:newsletter@impact-austin.org)

## Connect with Us

We invite you to visit us online at [www.impact-austin.org](http://www.impact-austin.org) and connect with Impact Austin's social media community. This is a great way to keep in touch with other Impact Austin members and stay up-to-date on our current events. Please join us on:

Find us on Facebook 

View our profile on LinkedIn 

And don't forget to check out [Rebecca's Blog](#)

## Our Mission

We're a progressive leader in women's philanthropy, bringing new resources to the community and making philanthropy accessible. Through high-impact grant making, we engage, develop and inspire women to effect positive change.

Impact Austin held its sixth annual workshop for Austin area non-profits on November 17th at the Goodwill Community Center. More than eighty representatives of local non-profits learned about our grant eligibility guidelines, the FAC review and selection process, and tips for preparing the most competitive application possible. College Forward's Executive Director, Lisa Fiedler, also spoke about her agency's experience as an Impact Austin applicant and their success in becoming one of our 2007 Community Partners.



The 6th Annual Nonprofit Workshop

The final segment of the workshop included table discussions facilitated by Impact Austin members who have led a Focus Area Committee. These small group discussions have become the most valuable aspect of the workshop to the attendees. They allow the non-profits to ask questions in a more intimate setting and get answers from Impact Austin members who are experienced participants in the FAC process.

Special thanks to the following:

- Goodwill - for the use of their lovely conference facilities
- Thundercloud Subs - for their generous donation of sandwiches to feed the crowd
- Impact Austin members: Betsy Blair, Susan Blount, Gloria Brown-Oliver, Kathryn Hale, Kimberly Hieber, Cynthia Hoff, Jen Hornish, Susan Kirr, June Kissinger, Connie Lawyer, Lisa Lyons, Holly Moore, Susan Noble and Rebecca Powers for serving as Table Captains for the small group discussions and for helping with registration and logistics.

## Annual Report

The 2010 Impact Austin Annual Report should have arrived in your mailbox toward the end of November. If you haven't taken a moment to check it out, please do so. This annual publication is a great opportunity to learn more about our accomplishments: including details on our 2010 Community Partners, distribution of funds and member education events that are sure to inspire and make you feel good about the impact you have made in Austin. You can also share our exciting story with others by passing along the annual report to a friend!

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