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## Our Founder



Rebecca Powers

This is the fourth and last article in a series that discusses our 5-year vision and the four action items I outlined in a letter to you this summer.

In April, 2008, we piloted a member-giving program called Beyond Impact. The goal of that program was to raise an additional \$150,000 in operating funds (over and above current methods) to be spent in fiscal years 2009 - 2011. We quietly raised \$153,000 from current members and received the validation we needed to know that our members want to participate in building the momentum Impact Austin is gaining in Central Texas.

These funds will be used to improve the infrastructure of

## Membership drive heads for the final stretch!

Help take us over the top-share Impact Austin with a friend!



Above: Rebecca Powers speaks to the crowd assembled at Grape Vine Market on November 13.

More than 40 women attended another successful Grape Vine Market recruiting event on November 13. Again, we extend our deepest thanks to the great people at Grape Vine Market for their support in hosting this event.

**As of this date, we have 428 members and are on track to reach our 500+ member goal by December 31.** If you know someone who may be interested in learning more about Impact Austin, please tell them about these **upcoming membership coffees:**

our organization. We will invest in software for an online grants system and membership database; organizational development and volunteer management consulting; and contract administrative support for the daily tasks that must be managed.

We are excited about the future, and in FY2010 we will give every member a chance to make a contribution to the Beyond Impact Fund. This will ensure our sustainability by fueling our operations well into our second decade of serving the community. It will give us the opportunity to grow deeper roots in the community and build on the solid foundation we've established.

I look forward to what the future holds for Impact Austin, and I hope you'll join with me as we continue to "learn as we grow!"

### **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.

### **Our Vision**

Our women are inspirational role models reaching their full giving potential for a better quality of life in our community.

### **Our Values**

- **Wednesday, December 10 at 7pm  
in zip code 78746**
- **Monday, December 15 at 7pm  
in zip code 78731**

Please contact [Debi Stafford](#) to RSVP and get directions.

## **Focus Area Committees and New Member FAC Orientation Sign up now!**

Our FACs are the teams responsible for evaluating Impact Austin grant applications and choosing the finalists our members vote on to receive our funding. If you would like to serve on a FAC, and have not previously filled out the sign-up form, please complete the process by linking to our [questionnaire](#). In addition, new FAC members should plan to attend one of three orientation sessions noted below. Contact [Nancy Sutherland](#) for additional information.

- **Thursday - December 11, 2008**  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm  
\*Session Is Full
- **Tuesday - December 16, 2008**  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm  
ATTENDANCE: Open
- **Thursday, January 8, 2009**  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm  
ATTENDANCE: Open

## **Focus Groups inform our future!**

Dini Partners, a nonprofit consulting corporation, is currently conducting several focus groups with our members. We are starting to plan for the long-term direction of Impact Austin, and the board wants to make sure we know what our members are thinking. Dini Partners asked for a list of three different categories of members and chose to invite women randomly from each of those groups to participate in a facilitated conversation.

If you have been invited to participate, we highly encourage you to do so. If you have not been invited, please know that the random approach will yield a reliable sampling of thoughts and opinions that will be condensed into a final report and shared with the board in mid-January. We will share the results in a future newsletter. Thanks for caring about our future!

## **Mark your calendars for these upcoming events!**

**Transparency** - *We are an open book.*

**Excellence** - *We are thorough, professional and go above and beyond.*

**Inclusiveness** - *We are open to all women.*

**Democracy** - *Each member has an equal voice.*

**Integrity** - *We are honest and ethical.*

**Respect** - *We consider the impact of our words and actions on others.*

**Accountability** - *We say what we're going to do and we do it.*

**Innovation** - *We are creative, but prudent risk-takers.*

**Continuous improvement** - *Through feedback and other input, we are always improving.*

## Volunteer Lunch & Learn-December 12

We have volunteer opportunities, big and small, in every area of Impact Austin's operations. Join us for lunch to learn more!

**Presented by:** Rebecca Powers and Meeta Kothare

**Date & Time:** Friday, December 12, 2008, from 11:45am - 12:45pm

**Location:** Rebecca Powers' Home, 11107 Callanish Park Dr., Austin, TX 78750

If you haven't received an Evite or have not responded yet, please contact [Meeta Kothare](#) to RSVP, or call 335-5540.

## Discovery Day-January 10

Join us for this exciting informational event! We'll hear from community leaders and experts about the Austin economy as well as current and pressing needs in our focus areas. Please invite your friends! RSVP to [Krista Ferguson](#).

**Saturday, January 10, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 East 7th Street**

Evite coming soon...

## Great turnout for 4th Annual Workshop

### Non-profit community came to learn about grant process

Impact Austin hosted its fourth annual workshop for the non-profit community on Friday, November 21st. The purpose: to educate area agencies on our grant process, eligibility and evaluation criteria, and tips for more effective grant applications. The program began with a formal presentation on the grant process, followed by insights and tips provided by Lisa Fielder and Emily Steinberg, the leadership team from 2007 grant recipient, College Forward. The final portion of the agenda involved small group discussions facilitated by past or present Focus Area Committee chairs. About 70 non-profit representatives attended the event and many indicated the information provided was extremely helpful. Special thanks to College Forward, the Impact Austin FAC chairs, and Goodwill, which provided the wonderful conference facility.

## The Giving Season

It's that time of year when we have a chance to reflect on how fortunate we are. As you think about your own blessings this season, think about the many families that are touched as a result of the work that Impact Austin does in the community. Help to continue our special legacy by taking your already meaningful gift one more step. Please consider adding 10% to

your \$1,000 membership donation to help fund the good work that we do.

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