



NEWS

For Extraordinary Members

Executive Director Message



Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Executive Director

Dear Members,

Impact Austin celebrates the power of women's philanthropy, engaging and inspiring women to effect positive change. In our ten years, we have continued to connect a diverse group of women who create significant transformation in their community.

As of this June 10th, 2013, Impact Austin will celebrate giving over four million dollars to the Central Texas community. We continue to show the power of collective philanthropy to change lives by supporting diverse and impactful nonprofits.



We invite you to celebrate our success of ten years on **Sunday, April 28th at the American Legion**

In This Issue:

- Executive Director Message - **Ten-Year Anniversary Celebration**
- Grants Update - **29 Nonprofits Invited to Submit Grant Applications**
- Mark Your Calendar - **Book Club/ Ten-Year Anniversary Celebration/ Annual Meeting**
- Impact Through Involvement - **Board of Directors Nomination Process**
- Member Spotlight - **Joy Butler**
- Member Engagement - **Volunteer Opportunities**
- Community Partner Spotlight - **Texas Advocacy Project**
- Discovery Day - **Recap and Presentations**
- Girls Giving Grants - **G3 Grants Update**

Grants Update

29 Nonprofits Invited to Submit Grant Applications

Our 123 hardworking Focus Area Committee (FAC) members have been busy the past 3 weeks reading, researching and analyzing the 118 Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) that Impact Austin received this year. After much discussion and careful consideration, we have invited 29 organizations to submit full grant applications (see list by committee below). Grant applications are due on February 22nd and the FACs will be back to work reviewing those the last week of February.



The Culture FAC chose six organizations to submit full grant applications

Hall from 2-5pm. This will be a family friendly event with members, significant others and community partners all sharing in celebrating this special year. It's a time for us to honor our founder Rebecca Powers for her tremendous vision, applaud our members for their hard work and dedication and revel in our Community Partners' successes.

Keep your eyes peeled for the SAVE the DATE from our Ten-Year Committee Chair, Lisa Allen. A paper invitation with all ticket details will follow soon.

We are still looking for sponsors for this event to include in-kind sponsorship for food, beverage, décor and kids' activities. If you have ideas on sponsorship, please contact Lisa Allen at lisa@planningworks.biz for more details.

I am grateful for your continued support and dedication in our work.

Warmly,
Liz

Mark Your Calendar

Impact Austin Book Club

**Wednesday, March 27th
6:30 p.m.**

To accomodate a geographically dispersed membership, we have four meeting locations. Choose the zip code that works best for you!

Home of Nancy Word

Hosts: Nancy Word and Kathleen Christensen
Zip code: 78738
[Register](#)

Home of Judy Muessel

Zip code: 78759
[Register](#)

Home of Kathryn Drew

Hosts: Kathryn Drew and Dr. Karen Wright
Zip code: 78746
[Register](#)

Home of Christine Egli

Zip code: 78704
[Register](#)

We will be reading Allison Goldberg, Karen Pittelman, and Resource Generation's Creating Change Through Family Philanthropy. Buy your copy [HERE!](#)

Ten-Year Anniversary Celebration

**Sunday, April 28th
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Culture:

- Anthropos Arts
- Austin Film Society
- Austin Symphony
- Latinitas
- Long Center for the Performing Arts
- ZACH Theatre

Education:

- Austin Habitat for Humanity
- Breakthrough Austin
- Council on At-Risk Youth (CARY)
- Explore Austin
- LifeWorks
- SafePlace

Environment:

- Animal Trustees of Austin
- Austin Youth River Watch
- Colorado River Foundation
- Sustainable Food Center
- Waller Creek Conservancy

Family:

- Austin Free-Net
- CASA of Travis County
- GENaustin
- Refugee Services of Texas, Inc. - Austin Office
- Texas Legal Services Center
- The Settlement Home for Children

Health & Wellness:

- Center for Survivors of Torture
- Foundation Communities
- Manos de Cristo
- Marbridge Foundation
- The Christi Center
- Waterloo Counseling Center



The Health & Wellness FAC will be back to work the last

American Legion Hall
404 Atlanta
Austin, TX 78703
([map](#))

week in February reviewing their six grant applications

Annual Meeting Monday, June 10th

Member Spotlight

Joy Butler

Interviewed by Susan Mack



"One of the things I love about Impact Austin," Joy Butler says over tea, "is that you get so much more out of it than you put into it." A four-year member, Joy goes on to describe how much she has learned while participating in Impact Austin's Focus Area Committees - two years in environment, one year in culture, and this year as co-chair of the Health and Wellness committee. "For anyone who ever has written a grant or proposal, sitting on the other side and going through our process is illuminating."

She talks about the power of the site visits. She loves watching the faces of the non-profits when a group of engaged, caring Impact Austin women come to visit them. "Many times," she says, "non-profits have had limited personal contact with a grant-giving organization. During our site visit committee interviews, we often hear comments about the exceptional questions our members ask."

"But what really blows me away, is the depth and breadth of perspectives Impact Austin members bring to the process," she continues. "I remember my first time going through the LOI process. I just had to sit back and smile while listening to the discussion of which non-profit deserved to make first cut. Opinions were flying around the room, and we all came to a much better understanding as a result."

Joy knows a lot about bringing people to common understanding. Outside of her Impact Austin volunteer work, she also volunteers her time with the local team of [Reconciling Ministries Network](#), a group that works to mobilize United

Impact Through Involvement Board of Directors Nomination Process

Interested in Impact Austin Board Service?

Do you like working with other smart, savvy women? Do you have skills that you would love to use for Impact Austin's benefit? Financial background, Nonprofit Board experience, Fundraising, Technology, Legal knowledge or other areas of expertise you would like to share? We want to hear about you...or someone you know! This is the time of year when we ask you to consider board service.

Click on the links below to find the following forms:

- [Nomination process and The Board of Directors Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Nomination Form](#)

Or, find these forms on our [website](#).

Nominations are due no later than **March 15th**, and a full application will be requested from selected nominees. Interviews will be scheduled on two Saturdays in April. The selected nominees will be elected at the May board meeting and will be introduced to the general membership at the annual meeting in June.

We ask if you are nominating another member, that you get her permission before making the nomination. You may also nominate yourself. Each year Impact Austin seeks to add to the bench strength of the Board and to reinforce existing areas of expertise for succession planning. If the openings don't fit your skills this year, please consider applying again.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Impact Austin Board of Directors

Member Engagement Impact Austin Volunteer Opportunities

Passionate, creative and resourceful volunteers are what make Impact Austin successful. Volunteers at Impact Austin review grant proposals, recruit members, chair events, lead Girls Giving Grants, raise capital for fundraising, guide marketing to our members and the community and work one on one with our Community Partners. Just to name a few!

Volunteer Opportunities include but are not limited to:

Administration

This role is vital as the "backbone" of Impact Austin.

- Assist with administrative work of Impact Austin to include:
 - Filing
 - Mail outs
 - Ordering supplies
 - Writing thank you notes

Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to transform the Methodist Church and world through acceptance and full inclusion of all people. Individual Methodist groups within a church, as well as entire Methodist congregations, can decide to affiliate with RMN. Working with these groups moving toward common understanding is where Joy spends a lot of time. "Becoming a more inclusive community takes a lot of dialogue," she says. "You have to listen and learn from a spectrum of opinions."

We end our conversation back where it began - by talking about inclusion and diversity. "I've learned so much from my Reconciling Ministries conversations," she says. "I think it's important for the future of Impact Austin that we continue to be inclusive. We are a group of young women, old women, women of different backgrounds, abilities, colors and cultures. That is a strong point for us, and we can only benefit from listening to the voices of our entire constituency."

Connect with Us

We invite you to visit us online at 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 

View our videos on YouTube 

Sign up to [volunteer](#)

[Read our 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.

Our Vision

Our vision is that our women are inspirational role models reaching their full giving potential for a better quality of life in our community. We will ensure our long-term sustainability by tapping into the talents of our members and

Fund Development (new committee)

Be a part of this exciting new committee to raise funds for Impact Austin.

- Secure sponsorships for Impact Austin events
- Assist in communications with donors
- Write grants to secure foundation and corporate funding
- Conduct planned giving seminars
- Assist with thank you events, cards and special projects

Girls Giving Grants (G3)

Do you want to inspire the next generation of young women. Serve as a leader in the development of young girls learning to be philanthropists.

- A G3 advisor would work with the youth membership and the Impact Austin board liaison in the creation, implementation and maintenance of G3's operational infrastructure.

Grants Committee

Experience the many facets of the thriving grants team.

- Focus Area Committee (FAC) members review grant applications in one of Impact Austin's five focus areas
- Grant Finance Committee members perform reviews of the financial documents included in the grant applications; requires working knowledge of financial statements and 1 year as a Focus Area Committee member

The following positions require 1 to 2 years as an FAC member at a minimum:

- Focus Area Committee Chair
- Grant Finance Committee Chair
- Focus Area Committee Coordinator
- Nonprofit Coordinator
- Community Partner Liaison
- Community Partner Liaison Chair
- Grants Training Coordinator
- Finalist Process Coordinator
- Grants Chair

Marketing Committee

Are you creative, a strategic thinker, or a writer? The marketing committee is the "face" of Impact Austin.

- Graphic Design - help Impact Austin create new and exciting marketing materials
- Social Media - do you love to blog, tweet and update Facebook? Then we want to talk to you!
- Communications - help Impact Austin write content for all print and e-communications
- Content Communications - help Impact Austin deliver all our e-communications
- Newsletter contributors

Membership Recruitment

Share your passion of Impact Austin!

- Host a membership coffee
- Speak at a membership coffee
- Assist with membership calls
- Assist with membership mailings

building Impact Austin from the "inside out."

Our Values

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, risktakers.

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

- Recruit local businesses to host membership coffees

Philanthropy and Membership Engagement (New Committee)

Be a part of building and fostering a vital, diverse and satisfied membership; one in which members feel connected to each other and the community. This committee also develops programs and events that engage and educate members and guests on topics that expand their knowledge of the needs in our community and how philanthropy can have the most impact.

- Create a calendar of Impact Austin educational events
- Host Impact Austin book club at your home
- Develop and conduct membership engagement activities
- Chair or host the 1st-Year Member Party in the spring to celebrate our first year members
- Chair or host the New Member Party in December to welcome our new members
- Plan the annual Impact Austin on the Move event (to help members learn more about our Community Partners)
- Plan the Impact Austin Volunteer Days (have members work one on one with our Community Partners)
- Become a welcome committee volunteer to assist with membership packet assembly, welcome calls and thank you notes

Discovery Day Planning Committee

The Discovery Day planning committee develops expert speakers for Discovery Day that focus on emerging, urgent community issues and trends, and how philanthropy can address them.

Annual Meeting Committee

The Annual Meeting planning committee organizes this meeting that is the culmination of the grants cycle.

- Works with the grants team to coordinate needs of the grants chair and finalists
- Secure food and beverage
- Lead registration for member check in

Ten-Year Anniversary Celebration

Do you love a good party? Help us plan our big anniversary bash in April.

Technology Committee (new committee)

Do you love all things technology? Do you love the term geek? This may be the spot for you!

- Volunteers with Salesforce Database projects have experience managing data migration projects, and feel comfortable handling technical issues. Volunteer should also have experience with CRM (experience with Salesforce is a plus)
- Volunteers on our website projects have experience managing website design projects and have exposure to a variety of design tools (Joomla, Drupal, Wordpress, etc.)
- Volunteers with CTK are familiar with database management. CTK has tools for grant application, allocation, funding impact management.

Questions:

Contact Liz Fitzgerald at efitzgerald@impact-austin.org or call 335-5540.

Community Partner Spotlight

Texas Advocacy Project

Texas Advocacy Project and Emergency Protective Orders

The partnership between Impact Austin and [Texas Advocacy Project](#) began in 2011 with a grant allowing the Project to provide services to victims of domestic violence when they are the most vulnerable--immediately after the batterer's arrest. The funding allows attorneys to review the majority of family violence arrests in Travis County; explain to victims what their legal rights are and protections available to keep their families safe; and make recommendations to judges about whether or not an emergency protective order (EPO) should be used.



Impact Austin funding allows attorneys to review family violence arrests and make recommendations about whether or not an EPO should be used

An EPO must be issued within 24-48 hours of the arrest—a time which is the most lethal for a victim and her children. EPOs keep the victim and her children safe following the abuser's release by requiring he stay away from the victim's home, work, and/or the children's schools for a period of time. This brief window allows the victim time to seek a permanent protective order, develop a safety plan, move to a safer location, and get the legal help she needs to keep her family safe.

Take Angelica for example. Angelica called police after Jose hit her in the face. In addition to the welt it left, police noticed bruises on her arms. Jose was arrested for a family violence assault. After the Project's attorneys reviewed the arrest, they reached out to Angelica to share information about EPOs. They knew that Angelica needed safety when Jose was released from jail. The attorney who contacted Angelica explained that the beauty of an EPO is that the abuser can be re-arrested and given an additional criminal charge if he violates it. As soon as Angelica understood that the order would provide her with time to organize her plans to leave Jose, she asked for the EPO. Of course, when Jose was released from jail, he was angry and wanted to return to the house. With the EPO, he was unable to do so. Thankfully, we will never know if Jose would have harmed Angelica upon being released because the EPO worked. Today Angelica is living in safety with her child.

The attorneys at Texas Advocacy Project share one vision, a world where

children never have to see one parent harm the other. Share our vision and our hotline number: 1-800-374-HOPE.

Discovery Day

Recap & Presentations

The 7th annual Discovery Day was held at the Region 13 Service Center on January 5th and proved to be one of Impact Austin's signature events. This day serves as a reminder to all of us that we are a thoughtful, learning organization. We learned from community leaders to enhance our knowledge of the critical issues impacting Central Texas. Attending were Impact Austin members, guests of members interested in joining, and many of our speakers stayed to listen to the speakers in the other areas. When the day concluded many continued the dialogue over lunch at a local restaurant.



After Discovery Day, many continued the dialogue over lunch

All Impact Austin attendees were asked to complete an online survey to provide feedback that will be valuable in planning for next year's event. Key feedback from the respondents completely agreed or agreed that:

- 99% Event met their expectations
- 96% Left the event better prepared for IA's grant process
- 98% Had the opportunity to meet other members and network
- 100% Event was worth their time and would recommend the event to others

We are starting to form next year's planning committee and are looking for volunteers to help with this very important project. If interested, please contact [Liz Fitzgerald](#).

Here are the links to many of the presentations given at Discovery Day:

- [Healthy, Wealthy, & Wise: The Power of Information in Healthcare](#)
- [Older Texans & Their Families: A Snapshot of Current Issues](#)
- [Rethink Green! The Sustainability Challenge](#)
- [The Role of the Creative Sector in Austin's Economy](#)
- [The Changing Face of the Texas Labor Market](#)

Girls Giving Grants

G3 Grants Update

After reviewing 17 grant applications, G3 members selected five semi-finalists:

1. The Junior League of Austin
2. Easter Seals
3. Foster Angels of Central Texas
4. Austin Children's Museum
5. Wonders & Worries

From these five semi-finalists, G3 members voted for [The Junior League of Austin](#) and [Easter Seals](#) to receive site visits. One of these two organizations will receive a \$5900 grant later this spring.



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Impact Austin | P.O. Box 28148 | Austin | TX | 78755