

# Newsletter

Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation

FEBRUARY 2011

Volume 10 Issue 1

## Personal Philanthropy

### *Focusing our vision for more effective giving*

by Vicky Coelho, Vice President

Giving forward, giving back, and faith-based giving, giving for high impact, personal ties, or giving to make a recognizable difference--these are only some of the ways the philanthropist gives. On January 11, 2011, the IWCF Education Committee sponsored a workshop to spark a dialogue to ensure that our personal philanthropy is effective. The discussion clarified the distinction between charity (solving immediate problems) and philanthropy (visionary solutions with continued impact). But the key was for each participant to personally assess her giving focus in order to become a more thoughtful and effective philanthropist.

As half of IWCF members' annual contribution goes to individual designations, now is an appropriate time to focus attention on our personal choices. The workshop encouraged members to make their individual selections early; however, some members wait until the grant process is completed in May in order to take advantage of the research conducted by our interest area grant committees. Either way, the driving message is to put that money to work out in the community.

Four panelists presented different aspects of personal philanthropy. Johanna Bell (Edward's Mother Earth Foundation Board Vice President) explained how EMEF focuses its dollars on energy policies in multiple states. Susan Mauk, IWCF Board Member, via Coelho, shared a simple way to collaborate with friends by pooling Christmas gift resources to fund a mutually selected cause.

Susan Smith, IWCF President, detailed the advantages of pooled giving; collectively IWCF makes a larger impact through thoughtful research and bigger-than-average grants.

Mary K. Aucutt, former City of Boise's Funding Information Specialist and Director of the Foundation Center for the Library in Boise, said that IWCF's thoughtful and collaborative approach to philanthropy has raised the bar regionally. By insisting on better projects, better grants and more careful oversight of results, IWCF has demonstrated leadership and encouraged nonprofits and other grant makers to meet the challenge.

Vicky Coelho and Tena Lokken moderated the program and provided a packet of materials as well as a brief presentation that outlined some advantages of targeting personal philanthropy. Attendees were sent home with a four-page Personal Philanthropy Audit which is designed to evoke a thoughtful approach to personal philanthropic goals--focusing vision for more effective giving. If you missed this presentation you can access some of these materials on our website.

## Welcome New Members!

Since October 2010

Carol Allred  
Linda FitzHugh  
Janice Fulkerson  
Kam Garner  
Leslie Garrett  
Rashelle Gussner  
Sondra Hackborn  
Suzanne Knibbe  
Nancy Kobe  
Gayle Marie  
Mary Monroe  
Janet Morris  
Nancy Napier  
Minnie Patton  
Dari Pori  
Mary Reiman  
Jan Riener  
Sally Schmelzer  
LeAnn Simmons  
Adrienne Smith  
Nikki Stilwell  
Doris Talbutt  
Judith Taylor  
Julaine Ziegert  
Sally Zive



Join our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/Idahowomenscharitablefoundation](http://www.facebook.com/Idahowomenscharitablefoundation)

*Our "viral" network is vital to our communities, our beneficiaries and our members. Be sure to share IWCF events and opportunities with your Facebook friends and help us spread the word.*

*Positive change through thoughtful giving*

# From the President

Dear IWCF Members,

In 2001, a group of Boise women were brought together by their desire to have a long-term, sustainable impact on their community. On September 12, 2001 – a day when we were in shock as a nation – they decided to make a positive statement about going forward and building for the future. Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation was created.

They felt they could do more if they became better-informed philanthropists: thoughtfully considering what was needed in the community; focusing on strategic, rather than just tactical, needs; then combining their resources to get more "bang for their bucks". Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation was created.

This fall, we're celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their creation. In our first year, 2002, IWCF distributed not quite \$20,000 in pooled grants. Last year, in 2010, thanks to your generosity and dedication, we distributed \$141,500, across the areas of Cultural Arts, Education, Environment, Financial Security and Health. Another \$100,000 or so in donations was distributed to your individual personal designations.

As you read this Newsletter, you'll notice a continued focus on education, grants and membership. So far this year, our education programs have looked at recidivism in our area and how it might be addressed; as well as understanding the importance of individual thoughtful philanthropy. The education committee solicited your recommendations for future educational events via survey monkey, and is now reviewing your responses through your responses to design next year's program.

Our grants process is now in full swing. This year starting with over 100 applicants, we'll be pursuing a rigorous process to determine where the need and the potential for positive impact are the greatest. Participating in the grants process can be one of the most fulfilling experiences in IWCF. Though many of us can't participate in the entire process, please consider attending the reviews on March 9 and April 6, where you will hear the individual sub-committees reports on the strongest grantees. From these, finalists will later be submitted to a vote by the entire membership, to determine where our pooled grants will go.

An equally important part of IWCF resource allocation is your individual grant designation. As you know, \$500 of your annual contribution to IWCF is allocated in either a single \$500 contribution or in two \$250 designations. Many of you have already submitted the names of the one or two charities to which you want your donations to go. If you haven't yet done so, please contact our office - [Office@IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org](mailto:Office@IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org), to be sure the donation in your name is made in a timely manner.

We cannot do any of this without your hard work and support. If you haven't already renewed your membership, please do so soon. Your contribution enables us to support the many worthwhile activities that will help make the Treasure Valley a better place to live. If you have friends who are looking for a way to effect positive change in our community, introduce them to IWCF. Whether they want to become very active or just want to contribute financially to improving our home, this can be an organization that allows them to participate in a way that's comfortable for them.

In gratitude,

Susan Smith, President

**2010-2011**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Smith, *President*  
Vicky Coelho, *Vice President*  
Anne-Marie Lodge, *Secretary*  
Christy Hilde, *Treasurer*  
Suzanne Groff Lierz, *Arrangements Chair*  
Dana Kehr, *Communications Chair*  
Janelle Wise, *Education Chair*  
Gena Delucchi, *Grants Chair*  
Kim Liebich, *Membership Chair*  
Jena Vasconcellos, *Nominations Chair*  
Theresa Madrid, *Member-at-Large*  
Susan Mauk, *Member-at-Large*  
Kathy Pidjeon, *Member-at-Large*  
Mindy Plumlee, *Member-at-Large*

## Contributions to IWCF!

Sharon Colby  
Wayne & Susan Meuleman  
Alicia Ritter  
Cale Smith

**Thank  
You!**

## Checking in with a 2010 grantee...

### *Horseshoe Bend Mutual Improvement Club*

Dear IWCF,

I feel like I am writing my last letter to some dear friends. You asked that we send an update on our project in 2011. As you know (and some of the members of your group can attest to) the work on the club has been completed for some time.

We have had numerous compliments on the visual improvements, in fact one family will be renting the club house in 2 weeks based on the favorable reports going around the community.

We have only had to partially refill our propane tank once since September of 2010, while last year we were receiving large bills every 2 months.

Those who rent the building can testify that it is much quicker to heat up the hall now. And since I am responsible for having the building heated for certain activities I am grateful that I no longer have to get up in the early morning hours to get it done.

Again we want to thank you for all you have done for us. We all wish you success in all you do.

Yours truly,  
Charlene Kidner, Chairperson for the Grant Committee

## Department of Corrections Success Story:

### *Reducing Recidivism: Justice and Solutions, the November, 2010 education event*

*This article submitted by Sustainable Futures, a community support service working on ex-inmates from returning to prison*

One of our most successful female offenders utilized a combination of prison treatment, transitional housing, faith-based programming and her own drive and work ethic to succeed on parole. "Ms M" had felony convictions in Washington and Nevada before coming to Idaho on an Interstate Compact after being in prison in Nevada. After completing a term of interstate compact supervision, she got caught selling methamphetamine to a confidential informant. For that crime, she was initially sentenced to a period of retained jurisdiction, completed that and a year on probation before she violated and was sent back to prison to complete the Therapeutic Community.

In November 2006, she was released to parole. Because her family did not live in Idaho and she needed to complete one year of aftercare for the Therapeutic Community program, she elected to be release from prison to a bed in a transitional house. She was scared to death; she had never been on her own before, never paid her own bills. She had relied on a series of men in her life to take care of her. This time she decided, she was going to do it on her own! Take care of herself!

Within six months, the owner of the transitional house asked her to be the "house mother". One of her roles was working with women newly released from prison. She enjoyed the opportunity to "give back" and help others who were in the same position she had been in when she got out of prison. She enjoyed taking them places, helping them get orientated to the community and to parole supervision. She did not enjoy some of the responsibilities of her job which included doing UA's (unapproved absences) on the women at the house and reporting to Probation and Parole if they had been using drugs or alcohol.

Ms M shared that one of the best things she felt she did for herself was not get involved in a romantic relationship for the first two years she was out of prison. She was able to maintain the job she had gotten just prior to release from prison and she attended 12-step programs and other mandated programming.

At 47, this woman lives alone, supports herself, and has a healthy relationship with a man she met at an AA meeting. She recently began working for a major local employer while retaining her post-prison job part-time. She attends church regularly and has expressed interest in obtaining a computer so she can learn computer skills and be more marketable in regards to employment. This is a woman, not young, who is so proud of herself every day for what she has accomplished and so happy with her life that talking to her was a joy. She reminds me of why I have done this job for 19 years!

## IWCF Nominations Committee

Are you interested in helping on a committee, or taking a leadership role as a chair or co-chair?

There are many opportunities to be involved in IWCF. Our organization offers a variety of committee work which you can fit with your time, interest, skills, and desire to learn something new.

The Nominations committee is in the process of developing the Board of Directors slate for the next term. We'd like to encourage anyone interested in participating to contact Jena Vasconcellos by email at [jenavascon@yahoo.com](mailto:jenavascon@yahoo.com) or call 343-4330.

The areas in which IWCF needs member involvement include:

- Grants
- Education
- Finance
- Communications
- Membership
- Event Arrangements
- Board of Directors

Please give Jena a call or send her a note!

# Pooled Grants Process Gearing Up for 2011

by Gena Delucchi, Grants Chair

All of the projects we funded in 2010 have reported good progress and several have already been completed. Since the **Horseshoe Bend Ladies Club Building Upgrade** project required all construction work to be accomplished at once, the balance of their grant was released in early September as soon as they had expended/encumbered the first half of the grant. A recent letter from the Club President is included on Page 2 of this issue.

The **Boys and Girls Club of Ada County's Kuna Summer Program** served nearly 600 children in a program that provided a wide variety of fun and engaging programs and activities during a 9-week period for a membership fee of just \$25. The Kuna Summer program was attended by an average of 239 youth each day. This program was highly visible, widely praised and embraced by the Kuna community and will enhance the fundraising campaign needed to build a permanent facility. **Canyon County Habitat for Humanity** purchased a hydraulic lift truck in June 2010. The truck has been used to pick up donations from over one hundred families as well as increased recycling initiatives, directly impacted sales goals, and helped support affordable housing in Canyon County. With the addition of graphics, the truck also serves as a moving billboard and advertisement each time a volunteer gets behind the wheel to pick up a donation. The balance of grant funds released to these two organizations will be used to reimburse accounts they were able to tap to in order to fully fund their projects up front.



The IWCF grant award to the **Momentum Group Common Ground** program enabled training 104 refugees for employment, surpassing the prior goal of 75 persons to be prepared for work in the Treasure Valley. They were also able to employ 25 refugees during 2010, compared with 8 employees in 2009. The farm operation sold organic produce through a Community Supported Agriculture program (CSA) and area partner wholesalers and restaurants (Red Feather, Locavore, the Boise Fry Co), and donated thousands of pounds of produce to the Idaho Foodbank, Life's Kitchen, the refugee community, and others serving at-risk families.

**ROSE Advocates' Better Choices for Better Futures** project has gotten underway with up to 23 children attending group sessions have gained added knowledge and confidence to help build and improve their self-esteem and self-image. The biggest barrier was the large number of requests for children's one-on-one counseling. They have rededicated funds from another source to add the hours needed. Because of requests from the school district, parents and law enforcement, they will be expanding the Better Choices program to include middle and high school age children.

**Women's and Children's Alliance**, as lead agency for the Treasure Valley Economic Action Program, reports that as of December two part-time contract staff had been hired and received training in St. Louis, MO on the REAP curriculum and have been meeting with collaborative partners' staff to give introductory training and set up schedules. A staff person from REAP (St. Louis) facilitated a day-and-a-half training for collaborative members in November. Client training sessions at WCA, Hope's Door, Valley Crisis Center and Nampa Family Justice Center have been calendared for Jan-Feb 2011. Additionally, a baseline measure of approximately 120 women has been initiated to acquire basic information about the population to be served, their experience of economic abuse and their level of financial knowledge.

Grant funds awarded for the **Boise Community Radio 89.9 FM Production Studio** project have been held in anticipation of ordering the broadcast gear by mid-January. To take advantage of best pricing incentives, they will purchase most equipment at one time, rather than stretch it out with several smaller orders. Our funds have been leveraged with federal funding by a factor of three. Additionally, the grant positioned BCR to request and receive \$7,500 funding from another local family foundation because of the credibility associated with IWCF.

*Positive change through thoughtful giving*

## Thanks to Outgoing Treasurer – Amy Costello

*By Jena Vasconcellos, Nominations Chair*

As IWCF continues to grow and reach out into the community, the job of Treasurer has expanded. In February 2010, Amy Costello volunteered to take over the position and learn the job by shadowing the outgoing chair at the time, Theresa Fox. Amy received the membership vote in May to officially take over the position.

Amy's background in finance gave her a knowledge base to consider our overall needs. During her tenure, Amy simplified many of the procedures and documents we had been using. Due to family issues – Amy has a new baby – she decided she needed to step down. She has graciously continued to help Christy Hilde and Tricia Kennedy, the two new co-chairs, to redesign the position to make it more compatible with purely volunteer staffing.

Amy's knowledge and commitment to best accounting practices are an immense help to the new co-Treasurers. Her dedication and hard work are appreciated by the Board and the membership.

Thank you, Amy!

## Treasurer's Job in Capable Hands of Hilde & Kennedy

*By Jena Vasconcellos, Nominations Chair*

Christy Hilde and Tricia Kennedy are sharing the redesigned position of Treasurer of IWCF, with the goal of dividing the many aspects of the job into two more manageable pieces. The two positions will then be more easily passed on to successive volunteers. Christy will serve on the Board.

Christy and Tricia are continuing to work together with outgoing Treasurer, Amy Costello, to redesign the job while learning all the aspects of IWCF's financial cycle. Christy, who has a background in business administration, has been serving on the Finance Committee doing payroll. Tricia, who has an accounting degree, will be attending to payables and receipts, and together they are working almost daily to smooth the transition. Their dedication to timeliness, accuracy, transparency and regular reports is thankfully acknowledged.

We sincerely appreciate their stepping forth to take on this extremely important function.

## Meet Our Foundation Assistant

*By Kathy Pidjeon, HR Chair*

Timing is everything! Last fall, Tawny Flanders was attracted to a new and special project at St. Lukes that was near and dear to her heart. When we initiated our search for a new foundation assistant, we decided our ideal candidate was someone with foundation or nonprofit experience; was a kindred IWCF soul; and had impeccable references. Susan Dunlap, with over six years experience - primarily working directly for Sally Zive, president at United Way of Treasure Valley-just happened to be looking for a new challenge. References told us, "If you need one staff member, Susan Dunlap's the one. And, if you could clone her, you could conquer the world." Voila! We had a perfect fit!

Since December 1, Susan has been learning how to facilitate IWCF goals and maintain an efficient, effective, professional and friendly office. In a short time, Susan has helped coordinate a number of IWCF events and projects. Board members also appreciate her latest creation - a website for safer storage and easier retrieval of our organizational documents, meeting agendas, minutes, committee reports, etc.

In 2004, Susan and her husband, Tom, moved from Phoenix to Boise for its family atmosphere. They have four children (Tim, Jessica, Brandy and Cody) and 9 grandchildren. Susan volunteers in the Taft Elementary School office and with their Cub Scout program. She is an avid reader and enjoys quilting.

About her new job, Susan said "I love my job". She likes going home knowing she has made a difference.

IWCF office hours are generally from 9:30AM to 2:30PM on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Stop by the Sonna Building (910 West Main Street, Suite 356) and say hi!



Idaho  
Women's  
Charitable  
Foundation

P.O. Box 6164  
Boise, Idaho 83707

## Save the Date!

### **Valentine Social**

February 11, 2011  
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Home of Susan Smith

### **Grants Education Meeting - Proposal Evaluations**

February 16, 2011  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy

### **Grant Applications Reviews (Members Only)**

March 9, 2011  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy

### **Grant Site Selections Summaries (Members Only)**

April 6, 2011  
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy

### **Grants Ballot Q & A (Members Only)**

April 21, 2011  
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy

### **Pooled Grants voting deadline (Members Only)**

April 27, 2011

### **Annual Meeting and Grants Awards**

May 9, 2011  
5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

## Coming in June...

- 2011 Grant Awards
- Endowment Update
- IWCF 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Plans