

Newsletter

Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation

November 2012

Volume 11 Issue 2

Kathy LeMay at the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation Fall Symposium

by Jo Anne Minnick and Elizabeth Greene

Kathy LeMay, CEO of Raising Change, kept an audience of more than 350 people enthralled during her presentation as the luncheon keynote speaker at the IWCF Fall Symposium. LeMay inspired us with her stories about regular people who are making a difference. She told how she raised money, one T-shirt at a time, to help female survivors of the Bosnian rape-genocide camps, and of how her presence in that country—simply listening to these survivors share their stories of horror—healed hearts and allowed people to carry on. Maybe most importantly, she told us that philanthropy belongs to all of us. She said, “It is ordinary people, doing what we can, who will change the world. No one else is going to do it if we don’t.”

LeMay first gave credit to her beloved mother for teaching her and being an example of compassion, courage and dignity; of never seeing yourself as a deficit, no matter what; of seeing what you have to give and being brave enough to give it.

At the age of 23, LeMay experienced a turning point in her life. Her friends and colleagues assumed she wouldn't go to Bosnia, an area in conflict and a place where women were not safe. They asked her what she could do in Bosnia, when even world leaders couldn't figure out a solution. In the end, she went because, she said, “If it were me, I certainly hope other women would show up for me.” And she listened to the women's stories: “That was something I could do.” Today, LeMay continues to travel around the nation and the world as a fundraiser, advisor, consultant and spokesperson to help and inspire others, particularly in the fields of women's human rights, poverty relief and hunger.

LeMay energized the audience by her spirited delivery, sharing example after example of ways we can focus on what we are passionate about. She urged us to seek out what breaks our hearts, and then to get involved. And she commended “the fierce Boise women who started IWCF the day after 9/11 and what you have done here since.”

In closing, she said, “How we care for each other will be the future of our world.”

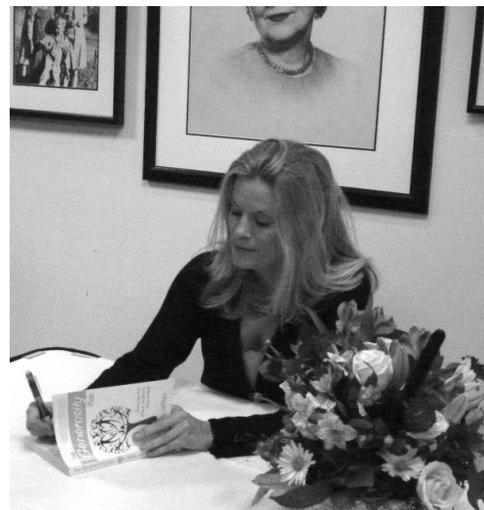


Photo courtesy of Diane Ronayne

IWCF is Now Accepting Letters of Inquiry

In October of each year, IWCF begins accepting “Letters of Inquiry” (LOI) forms from nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, schools or other tax exempt entities serving southwestern Idaho (specifically Ada, Boise, Canyon, Adams, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley and Washington counties) for potential funding from its pooled grant fund. LOI forms are due this year (without exception) by **November 30, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.**

IWCF funds projects in the following Interest Areas: Cultural Arts, Education, Environment, Financial Stability and Health. Organizations proposing selected projects will be invited to submit complete proposals in early February 2013 for grants that will be awarded in May 2013 in amounts ranging between \$10,000 and \$25,000. Each year, the entire IWCF membership votes to select the recipients of our pooled funds.

IWCF has invested just under \$2 million since our inception in 2001 — more than \$1 million to 54 different southwestern Idaho projects in pooled grant awards. If you know of a project or organization that might qualify for proposed funding, please pass along this information.

Continued page 3

Positive change through thoughtful giving

From the President

Dear IWCF Members,

Wow! What a message Kathy LeMay delivered at the 2012 Fall Symposium! Kathy inspired us all to take action when we see something that's not right. Her remarks instilled in us the understanding that each of us can make a difference by doing even the smallest thing. What a powerful message to launch our 2012-2013 year! I was fortunate to get to squire her to various places during her brief visit. She truly fell in love with Boise—and, why not? She was also really impressed with all that has been done through IWCF.

Many of our guests, energized by what they heard at the Symposium, have since joined us. Adding members means we will have more funding to invest in grantees in May. Plus, this is the time of year that provides the fullest palette of experiences for new members—they can choose among various educational events, join us for wine and appetizers during the winter and, most importantly, take part in the grant selection process.

It's so important that eligible nonprofits get a chance to request funding. The application deadline is November 30, at 6:00 p.m. We've sent information out through the media and have posted application information on our own website. Please, think about the nonprofits important to you and be sure to let them know our application process is under way.

All in all, we are starting out on another amazing year. It's so rewarding to be part of this with you.

In gratitude,

Dana Kehr

We couldn't have done it without you!

Gail LeBow, Terry Reilly Health Services
Marcia Liebich, Donald and Marcia Liebich Fund
Kim Peake, Idaho Coalition for Justice
Rosie Reilly, Terry Reilly Health Services
Diane Ronayne Writing, Editing, Photography
Nicole Sirak, Family Advocates
Janelle Wise, Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation
Tena Lokken and the Education Committee
Symposium Committee

Thank You!

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Special Thanks

Kay Alspaugh
Boise State University and Kathy Kustra
Ann Brown and Fraser Vineyard
Sharon Colby
Dick & Sondra Hackborn
Deb Holleran
Julie Manning honoring Tena Lokken
Jan Riener
Susan Smith

LOI's continued from page 1

The following suggestions make compelling LOIs:

- Clarity of mission and of proposed project
- Unequivocal about how IWCF funds will be used
- Identify partnerships you will leverage to maximize impact
- Identify projected outcomes and measures to track them
- A Catchy Project Title – descriptive and engaging

The LOI form and instructions are available at: IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org.

Help Select Our 2013 Grant Projects

By Celeste Miller and Anne Hay, Grant Co-Chairs

The IWCF Grants process is the heart of what we do as a group. We encourage all IWCF members to consider serving on the Grants Committee at least once in order to fully experience the core function of our organization. Serving on an Interest Area Workgroup might be the most rewarding nonprofit work you do this year!

Participating on the Grants Committee is one of the best ways for every member to learn about the community impacts of IWCF grants. Serving on a workgroup puts you in the driver's seat for viewing all of the potential grantees and the project selection process. Lesser time commitments are also welcome from those who wish to drive some portion of the route toward our collective, final decisions. If you weren't able to make it to the Welcome to Grants meeting but would still like to be a part of the grants team **...please let us know***

Grantee Spotlight, Boise Bicycle Project – 2012 Grant

Program: Commuter Work and Ride Program

Amount: \$12,000

Project: BBP's "Work and Ride" program is designed to make it possible for adults and teens to receive bicycle repair, equipment and training to commute safely to work, school and essential daily activities.

We would like to congratulate Boise Bicycle Project (BBP), an IWCF 2012 Grantee, on being named Best Local Bike Shop in the Boise Weekly 2012 Annual Readers' Choice Awards. Celebrating four years in operation this month, BBP believes that Boise can become the cycling capital of the U.S. BBP supports cycling-related activities throughout the year to ensure that citizens and leaders remain engaged in and strengthen Boise's bicycle community.

The organization's core mission is to promote the personal, social and environmental benefits of bicycling. In carrying it out, BBP refurbishes donated bicycles to be redistributed back into the community for a good cause. To date, 2,100 BBP-refurbished bicycles have been donated to at-risk youth. BBP also offers free classes on safety and bicycle repair and actively pursues community outreach to ensure that everyone in Boise has access to a quality bicycle and bicycle education.

It is no wonder that BBP was named to the Best of Boise list. Although BBP is not a traditional bike shop, it is obvious that Boiseans appreciate its activities and support this worthwhile effort.

IWCF is proud to support BBP and help sustain its mission of service to our community.



Positive change through thoughtful giving

Making Comprehensive Health Care Affordable and Accessible - Rosie Reilly and Gail LeBow

at the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation Fall Symposium, by Marilyn Shuler

Rosie Reilly and Gail LeBow are two highly-educated and successful women with impressive resumes as educators. Those skills were apparent as they spoke at the Symposium about health care and the poor in Southwest Idaho. They brought to life the 41-year history of Terry Reilly Health Services as only the long-suffering wives of pioneers and founders can.

Idaho native Terry Reilly was a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War whose alternative service was with the Catholic Diocese of Boise, tutoring the children of farm workers. He soon discovered that the poor had a critical need for medical services. Terry saw health care as a right, not a privilege, and began by finding a physician who would volunteer some hours. In fact, Rosie's first home in Nampa housed a clinic in the living room with a number of unspeakable things tucked away in the refrigerator.

Gail, whose husband Bob was the clinic's first medical director, helped keep balance in her household by refusing to serve dinner until he told her two happy things that had happened that day. Upon graduating from Johns Hopkins University, Bob had received a stipend allowing him to go anywhere in the world to practice for two years. He chose Nampa, where he found tremendous challenges and rewards in providing primary care to critically ill, low-income individuals. When the two years were up, the clinic still needed Bob, and he stayed for more than 30 years.

Neither woman retreated when these giants met untimely and tragic deaths. Instead, they continued to work to see the goals of the clinic accomplished. Rosie has served on the board of Terry Reilly for 26 years. She is proud of the nonprofit organization, which last year provided more than \$6 million in sliding-fee discounts, while serving more than 30,000 individuals—two-thirds of whom were uninsured. In addition to medical services, Terry Reilly now provides dental care, mental health services and sexual-and physical-abuse treatment at 16 sites.

For many years, Bob dreamed of creating a "Zero Pay Fund" for the most vulnerable patients. After his catastrophic bicycling accident in 2002, generous donations from family and friends—plus proceeds from his book, "Health Care Meltdown," and the annual Bob LeBow Bike Tour fundraiser—have made the Zero Pay Fund a reality.

In 2002, IWCF's very first grant—\$19,750—was made to Terry Reilly Health Services, for cervical cancer education at the Marsing clinic.

Guiding Family Foundations and Funds to Make a Difference - Marcia Liebich and Janelle Wise

at the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation Fall Symposium, by Tena Lokken, Education Chair

More than 90 women attended this inspiring and informative session at the Fall Symposium, during which Janelle Wise, of the Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation Inc., and Marcia Liebich, of the Donald and Marcia Liebich Fund, answered questions about how they strive to make a difference in consistently thoughtful and impactful ways. Among others, they answered the following questions:

- How do you go about selecting from so many worthy causes which ones you will fund?
- Do your funding criteria evolve from year-to-year?
- How do you diplomatically stop funding something that you have funded previously?
- What are a few of the most surprising or interesting projects you have funded?
- What are your plans for involving "the next generation" of family members in the process, and how will you prepare them?

continued

Marcia Liebich and Janelle Wise continued

Among stories too numerous to share here, Marcia described how she and her husband, Don, support a girls school in Jordan, and how they funded a medical clinic in Kenya after hearing about the need from their safari guide. Through scholarships, they also support staff training and development for Wood River Valley nonprofits. Janelle said the Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation has funded educational scholarships for Idaho students every year since 1964. Several years ago, they selected the lowest-income school in Nampa, provided new computers and software, and were able to see measurable improvements in student achievement the following year.

“The greatest gift we can give our children is to set a good example,” said Janelle about preparing the next generation to carry on a legacy of generosity. Although her three boys are quite young, they regularly pick up trash wherever they go, carry granola bars in the car for hungry people on the street, and bake cookies for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. The boys’ weekly allowance follows an established pattern of “save some, spend some, and give some away.” Marcia and Don are engaging their six grandchildren in philanthropy by giving them money on Thanksgiving Day to donate to a charity the grandchildren have researched and selected. They “report” back to the family on Christmas day what they did with the money and why. We appreciate Janelle and Marcia sharing these practical and simple strategies we can all model for our children as we strive to follow Kathy LeMay’s advice to “show up” and “stand up” for others.

Human Trafficking: Raising Awareness and Taking Action - Kim Peake

at the Idaho Women’s Charitable Foundation Fall Symposium, by Heidi Egerman

In 2007, Kim Peake, co-founder of Idaho Coalition for Justice, found the answer to a question that had haunted her for years: Why is there still so much poverty, pain and suffering throughout the world when so much has been done to alleviate them? She had traveled on mission trips and donated to relief organizations, yet at times these efforts seemed to go into a “black hole” because so many problems remained. After reading about the realities of modern-day slavery and human trafficking, she realized that injustice is what holds people in the perpetual cycle of poverty, pain and suffering. Ultimately, her journey led her to launch the Idaho Coalition for Justice.

Calling herself “an ordinary girl on an extraordinary mission,” Peake said the grim reality of human trafficking is that there are more slaves today than there were in the 1800s during the height of the transatlantic slave trade. However, increased attention around this issue has elevated the focus on fair trade and led companies like Apple, Walmart and Hershey to clean up their supply chain. Peake explained the different types of human trafficking and how the Internet enables traffickers to cross states, borders and countries. She identified the basic issue as injustice, which often includes government corruption. In order to find solutions, injustice must be viewed and understood holistically, she said.

Peake urged the audience to go to www.polarisproject.org to learn more. The Polaris Project is committed to combating human trafficking and modern-day slavery and to strengthening the anti-trafficking movement through a comprehensive approach that includes client services, public policy advocacy, a national human trafficking hotline, and training and technical services.

Reaching out to the next generation of philanthropists

Our Fall Symposium, keynote speaker, Kathy LeMay, challenged us to be proactive with our philanthropy. She embarked on her philanthropic journey as a young student. Her stories again prompted the question: How can IWCF mentor the next generation to become thoughtful, engaged donors?

If you would like to explore with other IWCF members ways we can share our grant-making and giving experiences to inspire youth philanthropy, please contact Susan Smith, 345-1607 or iwcfSusan@gmail.com

Positive change through thoughtful giving

Cultivating Commitment to Child Abuse Prevention and Intervention - Nicole Sirak Irwin

at the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation Fall Symposium, by Vicki Kreimeyer

Nicole Sirak Irwin, Executive Director of Family Advocates, spoke to an engaged audience of IWCF members and their guests during the workshop session presented as part of the Fall Symposium.

Family Advocates is a nonprofit with two major programs. The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA or Guardian ad Litem) program serves children who have been abused, neglected or abandoned. CASA is staffed by 250 trained volunteers who dedicate more than 15,000 hours of service annually to these children, most of whom are 6 years of age or younger. The other program, Families First, provides parents with support and parenting education through volunteers who conduct home visits to work one-on-one with them. Police, community workers and social services agencies identify families that need support.

Sirak Irwin described great increases in child abuse and neglect directly related to the economic recession, pointing out that parents under increased economic stress and hardship all too often direct their distress toward their children. Last year, the Families First home visiting program lost the funding that had paid staff to conduct family visits. The organization then made a strategic decision to restructure the program and make it volunteer based, modeled after CASA. A \$25,000 IWCF grant helped bring that volunteer-based model into existence. There are now 20 trained volunteers, each working with a family over a 12-month period. The number of volunteers will continue to grow as Family Advocates develops greater capacity for training and placement.

Family Advocates continually reviews its goals and ability to provide "a voice in court for children placed in foster care, while supporting parents to build strong families," she said. Sirak Irwin noted that, after careful review, the board decided to end its traditional formal evening fund-raising event and follow the model of the WCA. She especially appreciates the consulting assistance given to her by WCA Executive Director Bea Black.

Family Advocates is integrating BSU Social Work and Counseling interns into its program as another way to leverage its resources. Acknowledging that Boise has many small non-profits, often engaged in closely related services, Nicole said Family Advocates continually evaluates its partnerships and focuses its mission to help leverage the resources in the community rather than compete for them.

"Arts Matter" Education Event

Experience the performing arts up close and personal. Learn how the arts affect and contribute to our community and *why the arts matter!*

IWCF is creating an opportunity for you to experience theatre, opera, dance and musical performances on Nov. 14. You will hear from the artistic directors of Boise Contemporary Theatre (Matt Clark), Opera Idaho (Mark Junkert), Balance Dance Company (Leah Clark), and the Boise Philharmonic (Robert Franz), as well as enjoy performances by actors, opera singers, dancers and a string quartet. Plus, you will have an opportunity to ask questions after the performances.

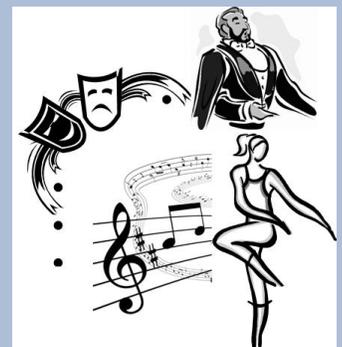
Join us for a presentation and performance.

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
Boise Contemporary Theater, 854 Fulton Street

Please plan to arrive 15 minutes early. We will start promptly at 11:35 as we have a wonderfully packed presentation. There will be a \$10 catered lunch for those with an RSVP or you are welcome to bring your own. Please **RSVP** for lunch or no lunch so we know how many to set up for by **Friday, November 9**.

Note: Please park in the paid lot across Broad St. from BCT or in the Simplot Academy lot on Miller St., across 9th Street from the Academy, not in the lot around the Academy. Car-pooling, walking or biking are encouraged.

*...please let us know**



Membership News

by Margaret Gorrissen, Membership Chair

The Board has set a strategic plan for the next five years. Part of it focuses on membership retention and growth. Our goal is to maintain our current 10 percent organic growth rate - a slow and steady pace. The objective is not growth the sake of growth, but to enable us to make a greater positive impact on the community together.

This fall was our first foray into expanding IWCF membership outside of Boise. We kick-started this effort with a reception in McCall, inviting women who either live there full-time or spend much of the year there. (If you know of anyone who fits this description, please let us know and we will invite her to the next meeting.) We asked The Community Care Clinic in Valley County, which received a grant in 2011, to speak about its important work and how valuable organizations like IWCF are in keeping its doors open. A good time was had by all—and most importantly, we added two new members! The turnout was excellent: More than 15 women from McCall now know how important our organization is and, fingers crossed, we hope they will be inspired to join us.

If you missed the new-and-not so new membership orientation and would like to find out how to be more involved or you have questions about how things work with IWCF we would be pleased to meet with you at any time.

Membership is always looking for new committee members. If you are interested, please get in touch with me. We try to meet once a month to address a variety of tasks. It's a great way to get involved. Also, consider hosting a coffee reception in your home. We do all the work, and it is a very effective way to introduce IWCF to your friends. Please give me a call anytime at 208-841-3151.

Upcoming Events:

- **Membership Celebration** - Friday, November 9. Please join us as we celebrate our one; three; six; and ten-year members. The James Castle Collection and Archive formerly known as J. Crist Gallery on 17th Street has graciously agreed to host us. Please don't miss the celebration and, as always, bring a guest!
- **Christmas Social** - Friday, December 14. We had so much fun at our first annual Christmas Party (no agenda, just jolliness) that we are at it again. Keep an eye out for details as we get closer to the date.

A Huge Thank you to Darcy Hoellwarth for graciously opening her home to host a coffee for the women of Eagle who are interested in IWCF.

Welcome New Members

Since June 2012

Beth Brigham	Amy McDevitt
Michael Siebert Burke	Lory Nesor
Shauna Doerr	Camille Olson
Jane Dunbar	Sue Pierson
Alyson Powell Erwin	Melinda Sander
Chris Kempers	Jo-Anne Smith
Martha Lane	Denise Smith
Linnea Lovlien	

Congratulations to Marilyn!

by Ann DeAngeli

Marilyn Beck, an IWCF member since 2006, received the Ralph J. Comstock Jr. Light of Philanthropy Award at the St. Luke's Ball on Oct. 19. The award is presented annually to an individual in our community chosen for his or her "remarkable qualities in leadership, philanthropy, and humanitarianism." Marilyn's husband of more than 50 years, Dr. Thomas Beck, their three children and beautiful grandchildren accompanied Marilyn for the dinner, presentation and dancing at the Boise Centre.

Chris Roth, St. Luke's Treasure Valley CEO, recognized Marilyn's many contributions to and involvement in our community, which include leadership in building the Morrison Center, service on the Boise City Arts Commission, and decades of volunteer work with Ballet Idaho, Boise Art Museum, Boise Philharmonic, Learning Lab, Osher Institute, Idaho Public Television, Idaho Botanical Garden and other nonprofits. Her son, Scott Beck, spoke of his mother's passion and dedication, saying she "has always been more interested in promoting others in the community than herself."

Marilyn epitomizes the IWCF values of philanthropy, education, inclusiveness, effective collaboration and significant pooled giving. Our community is a better place because of her compassion, hard work and generosity.

Other IWCF members honored with this prestigious award include Alice Hennessey (2004) and Marilyn Shuler (2009).

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**Please Let Us Know* - Anytime you have a comment or question we ask you to contact us, feel free to use the office email address. It will get to the right place! Susan Dunlap - office@IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org or 343-4923

Save the Date!

Membership Celebration

November 9, 2012

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. James Castle Collection and Archive
formerly known as J Crist Gallery

"Arts Matter"

November 14, 2012

11:30 - 1:00 p.m. Boise Contemporary Theater

2013 Pooled Grants LOI Deadline

November 30, 2012

Holiday Social

December 14, 2012

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Stewart Gallery

Info Update!

- Are you getting the Updates in your Wednesday's email?
- Do you have a gift matching program available to you at work? Matching your IWCF donation is a great way to maximize that match.

If you have any questions, or feel that you are missing information

*...please let us know**