

Homelessness in Our Community

By Janelle Wise, Education Chair

Providing a roof over their guests' heads, a bed, and a good meal is only a small part of the mission of Boise's homeless shelters, according to panelists who led a discussion for the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation on Thursday, November 19, at City Light. The shelter's core undertaking goes much farther. They provide essential services and resources to assist men, women, and families to return to self-sufficiency and full participation in the community.

Representatives from five homeless agencies responded to questions regarding the demographics of their institutions, how they work with runaway and homeless teens, the types of mental health services that are available, the costs per person per night, and the need for affordable housing.

Steve Fields, director of Hays House; Amber Young, social worker for the Salvation Army; Jean Lockheart, director of City Light, an arm of Boise Rescue Mission; Jayne Sorel, director of Interfaith Sanctuary; and Sherry Tipping, Boise

School District Homeless Coordinator responded to questions from Janelle Wise, chairman of IWCF's Education Committee.

A special concern for those working with homeless is the large number of homeless children enrolled in Boise's schools, including those who might slip through the cracks: children and teens not living in a shelter, but with extended family or friends or neighbors. Through the efforts of these groups, the students are identified and qualified for special services, including access to clean clothing, showers, and healthcare.

The biggest problem for every group is not the number of beds but the difficulty of finding better and more accessible mental health services, more low-cost housing for those who are ready to go out on their own, and transitional group housing for those who are ready to leave the shelter, but not quite up to being on their own. No guest is ever turned away from any shelter, as long as they meet the criteria for the specific institution.

In addition, more programs that connect the homeless with strong families and mentors in the community must be developed.

The institutions regularly work together to ensure that Boise's approximately 2,000 homeless are supported and protected. They meet regularly to share resources and information, and to assist one another. Caring for the needy is a joint effort by dedicated and experienced directors and volunteers. The shelters regularly work with the city's law enforcement officers, sharing information about available space for placing street dwellers in desperate need. The city and the state each have a ten year plan to eliminate chronic homelessness.

At all times of the year, the shelters need participation from the public. All programs need cash donations to pay for utilities, volunteers to work shifts, and contributions of clean and usable clothing, supplies, and food.

Paola Gianturco: 2010 Fall Symposium

Our hard-working Education Committee has been tirelessly working to present an exciting and noteworthy speaker at our Fall Symposium this year.

IWCF, in collaboration with Boise State University, is honored to host Paola Gianturco for our fall symposium. Paola has been a guest on The Oprah Winfrey Show, CNN, NPR and Voice of America programs as well as many other programs around the world. Her work has been exhibited by The UN-New York, UNESCO-

Paris, the US Senate, The Field Museum, The Smithsonian and many, many others.

For the past 13 years, Paola has worked as a photojournalist, documenting women's lives in forty countries. Paola's most recent book, *Women Who Light the Dark*, tells the story of local women around the world who are helping one another tackle the problems that darken their lives – including violence, poverty, illiteracy and disease. Gianturco is giving 100% of her author royalties for this book to The Global Fund for Women, which advocates for and defends women's human rights by making grants to support women-run groups around the world.

We would like to offset the cost of bringing Paola to Boise by finding several sponsors for the October 7, 2010, Fall Symposium. If you know of a company or group who can sponsor our fall symposium in the amount of \$1,000, please contact Susan Smith.

Please be sure to save the date for this special event -- and invite your friends, relatives and coworkers. We would like to have a strong show of support and tremendous turnout for such a remarkable and renowned speaker!

Further information on the author and her extensive works can be found at www.PaolaGianturco.com

From the President

Dear IWCF Members,

You are amazing women! You are committed to the power of philanthropy, and this philanthropic commitment is the driving force behind IWCF.

There are many offerings for IWCF members: the membership events, the educational forums, and the 2010 pooled grants process. The goal of all these endeavors is to support your philanthropic engagement -- both individual and pooled -- and perhaps increase your awareness of the needs in our community. It's an opportunity to research projects or groups to where you may ultimately direct your IWCF funds.

Members are the most important resource of IWCF. It is YOUR organization, and I hope that you consider it a long-term relationship. As you know, January 25th was the renewal date, and we have had another tremendous response. While we are not quite at 100% member renewal, our members are again proving their commitment can make a difference in our community. If you have not yet renewed, please do so soon.

Every membership matters. The fact that we had 115 LOI's versus 76 in 2009 signifies that we are needed more than ever. It is a very well-known and published fact that the nonprofit community has had many struggles due to the economy and lack of funding. It is indeed a critical time to support initiatives that impact our community effectively. Our grants of \$10,000 to \$25,000 are unique, and our criteria serves to prompt great ideas for the greater good. I like to think of our IWCF philanthropy as educated generosity with a long term vision.

Looking to the future -- the Education, Membership, Arrangements, and Communication Committees are collaborating on IWCF's ambitious plans to bring Paola Gianturco to the Treasure Valley for our fall symposium.

Paola will inspire us all to continue to fulfill our mission of positive change through thoughtful giving. Please join us on February 22nd for our initial study of her work.

In gratitude,

Susan Smith, President

Special Thanks!

Thanks to those who have gone the extra mile for IWCF these past few months.

Keely Duke

Graciously volunteered her professional time and expertise for a board meeting presentation on professional conduct and standards for board members -- and Mindy Plumlee for inviting her.

Clint Paskewitz - Post Insurance

Volunteered his professional time and expertise for a board meeting presentation on insurance policies -- and Jena Vasconcellos for inviting him.

Laura MacGregor Bettis

Hosted the membership gathering at the Arid Club on January 28, 2010. Also thanks to Alice Hennessey and Alicia Ritter for co-hosting the event.

Kathy Pidjeon

Graciously volunteered her time and expertise for an executive committee meeting presentation on personnel policies.

Wayne and Susan Meuleman

Contribution to the IWCF Pooled Fund

Judith Taylor

Contribution to the IWCF Pooled Fund



IWCF Board of Directors — Back left: Theresa Fox, Amy Rustad, Donna Wetherley, Susan Smith, Janelle Wise, Gena Delucchi, Tawny Flanders (office manager), Laura Barton; Front right: Kim Liebich, Susan Chaloupka, Mindy Plumlee, Ann DeAngeli, Anne-Marie Lodge, Jena Vasconcellos

Susan Smith IWCF Endowment: Meeting the Match ...

By Alicia Ritter, Endowment Committee Co-Chair

MEMBERS CLOSE IN ON "MEET THE MATCH" ENDOWMENT FUND CAMPAIGN -- ONE YEAR AHEAD OF SCHEDULE!

Last March, IWCF launched the Susan Smith Endowment Fund Campaign to support the organization's administrative needs in perpetuity. Thanks to the generosity of the Charitable Leadership Foundation, IWCF became eligible for a \$150,000 matching grant contingent on achieving \$150,000 in member and friend pledges by March 2011.

We are pleased to report that the campaign has been exceedingly successful. As of this publication, we have received \$130,000 in pledges and contributions through the tremendous generosity of 70 of our members and friends. *This is almost one year ahead of schedule.* We would particularly like to thank our lead donors of \$5,000 or more (see sidebar). These women certainly jump-started this effort in ways not expected. However, as we have said from the beginning, this campaign is not complete without you. No matter how large or small, we invite you to participate. Now is the time. We are grateful for whatever you are able to do. The sooner we meet the match, the sooner our money goes to work for us.

Please know that this campaign is only the beginning of our work to grow our endowment. As our membership continues to grow so do our administrative needs, and so does our desire to increase the level of our service to members - more education programs, and more opportunities to get to know and learn from one another. This all takes money and is why a healthy operating endowment is so critical. While our current goal is meeting the match by securing the last \$20,000 in pledges, this is only the first step in securing the future of our great organization. Over the coming months, our focus will turn to long-term planning to manage the endowment in perpetuity.

Thank you for your involvement in IWCF and for your gift to help secure our future!

Welcome to Our New Members! Since November 2009

Juliana Benner
Sherry Bithell
Roxanne Truax Cummings
Kris Erne
Raquel Guglielmetti
Louanne Harrington
Darcy Hoelwarth
Linda Kahn
Cyndi Friend Kay
Tricia Kennedy

Suzanne Groff Lierz
Cindy Lindner
Claudia Parcels
Linda Rodda
Roberta Saccoman
Cornelia Sprung
Barb Turner
Janea Walker
Mikel Ward
Hermine Weiser

Thank You — Endowment Leadership Gifts through January 2010

\$20,000+

Susie Parrish

\$10,000+

Kim Liebich
Susan Smith

\$5,000+

Mary Abercrombie
Ann DeAngeli
Margaret Gorrison
Marcia Liebich
Shannon Satz

Do you have a skill to offer IWCF?

Your IWCF organization continues to grow through the dedication of many volunteers. In order to fill committee, advisory and leadership roles, the Nominations Committee strives to keep current with those able to serve in some capacity. If you find that your skills fall in one of the following areas, or if you are just generally interested in getting involved, please contact Jena Vasconcellos at 343-4330 or jenavascon@yahoo.com.

- Board / organizational leadership
- Accounting / financial
- Legal / non-profit policy issues
- IWCF events—educational and social
- Membership recruitment and retention
- Grant policies and oversight

The Nominations Committee:

Jena Vasconcellos, Kay Alspaugh, Lynn Hoffmann, Georgiann Raimondi, Kristin Hoff Sinclair, and Susan Smith

Positive change through thoughtful giving

Feathered Philanthropists: Birds of Prey Interpretive Center

by Vicky Coelho

On January 25th, the IWCF Education Committee organized a remarkable opportunity to get close and personal with some of our most interesting feathered friends — in this case a Swainson's Hawk named Griffan and an American Crow named Daka

Vicky Coelho, former Education Committee Chair, guides us through the day.....A three year old Swainson's Hawk, flew overhead while 26 attendees observed the difference between an American Crow, Daka, and a bird of prey, in this case, Griffan. Clearly, Griffan had a curved beak, powerful talons, and large eyes—characteristics that Daka does not have. In addition, bird handler Trish Nixon demonstrated Daka's ability to learn quickly. We all learned to sit very still during the demonstrations.

Children and their parents examined four rooms of exhibits and the "dark hall" and found specimens of various birds from throughout the world. They even had the opportunity to touch feathers, furs and dress up like birds! For two hours IWCF members and their guests were given a private tour and instruction from Birds of Prey staff members, Nick Piccono and Claudia Laushman in the world famous facility.

Construction is near completion of a new outdoor exhibit to house live California Condors this summer. We all thought that would be good reason to return!



Trish Nixon, bird handler at World Center for Birds of Prey, showing off Griffan, a Swainson's Hawk, to an intrigued audience of IWCF members and their children, who had the day off school. (photo by Mindy Plumlee)

Grants Committee Update

by Gena Delucchi, Grants Committee Chair

2010 has proven to be a big year in the number of nonprofit applications and IWCF reviewers!

We received 115 LOIs total for the 2010 grant cycle, of which the strongest 91 were reviewed by the five Interest Area workgroups. Due to the volume of LOIs (up from a total of 76 for 2009), I was more rigorous in our pre-screening with concurrence of the workgroup leaders and did not forward projects that either did not or only minimally met our stated funding criteria. Twenty-seven organizations have been invited to describe their projects in more detail through a Request for Proposal.

Another superlative for the 2010 cycle is the number of IWCF members who have signed up for the Grants Committee: 41 and counting, easily the largest group ever. We have been asking for increasingly more

copies of their applications from the nonprofits (7 last year and I still needed to duplicate some) which constituted a burden in terms of the organizations' resources and postage costs as well as the sheer bulk we had to haul away from the post office at deadline time. This year we are only requesting two complete proposals, text and required attachments, which will be duplicated to hand out to the exact number of members on each workgroup.

The more members we have when it is time to award the grants, the more projects we will be able to fund in May. That is why it is crucial to have a significant membership renewal rate, and why new IWCF members provide such a positive impact on our ability to fund the projects that IWCF membership ultimately votes to support.

On February 16, 2010, the entire Grants

Committee will meet during which the proposals will be distributed as well as a short training on how to evaluate these applications consistently and strategically. All members of IWCF are invited to attend this lunchtime event to learn about how to apply this information to their personal giving: either their individual designations or donations they make in addition to those through IWCF.

Please be sure to join us:

Grants Proposal Distribution & Project Evaluation Training

*Tuesday, February 16, 2010
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.*

*Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy
\$10 Lunch (purchase optional)
RSVP to genad@cablone.net*

Nonprofit Legislative Day

by Mindy Plumlee, Member at Large

On February 2nd, over 140 nonprofit representatives and state legislators gathered at the Hoff Building in downtown Boise to participate in the 4th annual Nonprofit Legislative Day, organized by the Idaho Nonprofit Center (INC). With deep cuts in the state budget, more of the burden of services is likely to shift to nonprofits. The event was an opportunity to hear from the legislators about the impacts of their decisions and to ensure feedback and a voice from the nonprofit sector.

The morning began with INC Executive Director and IWCF member Lynn Hoffmann touching on preliminary findings of a Current Conditions Report as it relates to the state's nonprofits. Comparisons and contrasts were drawn across Idaho with regards to voluntarism and fundraising, but overall most organizations expect 2010 to bring an increase in demand for services and

a strong focus on connecting to donors. The final report is expected to be available from INC in March.

Keynote speaker Michael Lipsky offered practical tools for framing your message when talking with legislators. His top ten ideas include:

- know who you're talking to, what their position is within the structure of the Legislature,
- offer them local information, stories and focuses, and
- approach them with an effort to build a relationship, not just have a single encounter.

Brett DeLange, Deputy Attorney General, provided a resource we can all use: a publication entitled "Service on an Idaho Nonprofit Board of Directors." Visit the AG's website (www.ag.idaho.gov) under the tabs consumers and charities to find the free document.

A snapshot of the challenging economy ahead was offered by John Hale, Managing Partner of KPMG, before he moderated a legislative panel through many tough questions. Panelists included Rep. Darrell Bolz, Caldwell; Sen. Shawn Keough, Sandpoint; Rep. Wendy Jaquet, Ketchum; and Sen. Chuck Winder, Boise. The panel ended with a 'lightning round' of 15 second suggestions from attendees to the legislators about how they could help nonprofits better serve the people of Idaho. The message for all: working together through these tough times will benefit Idaho.

Future IWCF Events — Mark your calendar!

February 22, 2010: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Life's Kitchen
Craftswomen Changing the World

While enjoying a lunch especially prepared for us at Life's Kitchen, learn about the work that impoverished female artisans with little education have been doing to lift their families out of poverty. In preparation for IWCF's fall symposium speaker (10/7/2010), we'll be reviewing the international philanthropy and photography work of Paola Gianturco. Paola Gianturco's books show the work and tell the stories of women all over the world who are creating and selling beautiful indigenous crafts resulting in thriving micro-enterprises in many developing countries.

Seating is limited, please RSVP by Monday, February 15th! Lunch optional (\$12).
Information@IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org

April 22, 2010: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Downtown Boise
Enjoy Earth Day with an Art Walk Downtown

Back by popular demand, we will enjoy another Art Walk through Boise's downtown to view city-sponsored public art. At last spring's walk, we covered only a handful of the many pieces placed throughout the city. Join us to visit even more of these works that make Boise even more beautiful.

May 10, 2010: 5:30 p.m. - Arid Club
IWCF Annual Meeting

Join us for our 2010 annual meeting and grant presentations!

October 7, 2010: 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - BSU Jordan Ballroom
Fall Symposium w/keynote speaker Paula Gianturco

IWCF, in collaboration with Boise State University, is honored to host Paola Gianturco, an author and photojournalist, for our fall symposium. Her most recent book, *Women Who Light the Dark*, tells the story of local women around the world who are helping one another tackle the problems that darken their lives – including violence, poverty, illiteracy and disease. Ms. Gianturco is a fascinating woman and we are excited to have her join us!

Positive change through thoughtful giving



Idaho
Women's
Charitable
Foundation

P.O. Box 6164
Boise, Idaho 83707

Save the Date!

Upcoming events

you will not

want to miss!

February 16, 2010

11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Grants Proposal Distribution &
Project Evaluation Training

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Earth Day with an Art Walk
Downtown Boise

Help Survivors of the Earthquake in Haiti

Charity Navigator's recommendations for giving for earthquake relief, organizations as well as general tips can be found at the following link: www.charitynavigator.org/index.cfm?bay=content.view&cpid=1004

www.IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org