

Each Membership is Vital

by Ann DeAngeli, Communications Chair

Each and every IWCF member is an intrinsic part of our mission with an equal voice in what projects we support, and we would hate to lose any member's valuable insight, experience and wisdom. We have heard from a few of you who are considering not renewing this year due to changes in financial or other circumstances, and we would like to help in any way we can.

In trying times it is important to stay focused on the positives in our lives – our health, our families, our friends, and our ability to help others who may be facing even greater challenges.

If you are considering not renewing this year, please talk to a board member -- or better yet, talk to anyone who has been impacted by

one of the many projects that IWCF has funded over the years. The list of projects (the most recent reporting elsewhere in this newsletter) that may very well have gone unfunded without IWCF's support is extensive. The impact that a group of women combining their funds has been able to accomplish is truly inspiring. Our unique ability to fund a project or special need is only going to become a more integral part of our society in the years ahead.

From a small group of women that came together 2001, we have grown to a force of over 250 strong. Please remain a valued member of IWCF, and a vital part of the momentum of philanthropic giving in our community!

THANK YOU!

Contributions

Gary and Janet Benoit
Computer desk
Susan Meuleman
Jacquelyn Wilson

Membership Referrals

Annie Chaflant
Margaret Gorrissen
Darin DeAngeli
Amy Rustad
Jena Vasconcellos

The Path to Effective Giving

From local, small scale community efforts to global undertakings..., an effective strategy can greatly improve the return on philanthropic investments.

-- from *Money Well Spent: A Strategic Guide to Smart Philanthropy*

A Well-Spent Million: Celebrating A Milestone

Take a day, no, take two and pack them with exploration, learning, conversation, and some outright celebration of well-spent money—a million, in fact! IWCF is celebrating our investment of \$1 million in pooled and individual grants given over the past seven years. What we plan to do on March 5 and 6 is to acknowledge women from coast to coast that are doing as we are: *giving effectively* in well-designed philanthropic groups.

Our title for this event was drawn from the inspiring book [Money Well Spent: A Strategic Guide to Smart Philanthropy](#) by Paul Brest, President, William and Flora Hewitt Foundation and Hal Harvey, President of Climateworks Foundation.

March 5th will start with discussions on women's leadership in new times, secrets of successful groups and extending and expanding the impact of philanthropy. Later in the afternoon, a roundtable will join interested participants to discuss *best practices in collaborative giving*, as experienced across the country.

The evening of March 5 we will put on our party dresses, grab our significant other and head for the Stueckle Sky Center at BSU for music, food, fun and celebration.

March 6th, we will transfer our activities to the Sun Valley area and enjoy the hospitality of a "sister organization", the Wood River Women's Charitable Foundation. We will look ahead to future challenges and opportunities within the framework of our organizations through roundtable discussions. A cocktail reception at the Hailey home of Marcia Liebich, a member of both IWCF and the Wood River group, will bring this inspirational, invigorating event to a close.

From the President

Dear IWCF Members:

First, thank you for your enduring commitment and generosity. They have brought us to this incredible milestone—we have invested one million dollars in high-impact community programs.

Our “Well-Spent Million” celebration takes place next month and I encourage you to attend as many events as possible. This is a chance for us to come together to commemorate the impact we have made on the Treasure Valley community. It is also an opportunity to share experiences with and gain inspiration from other regions. Representatives from women’s charitable organizations in California, Texas, Washington, and other parts of Idaho are traveling here to celebrate with us.

Let us welcome our guests warmly and share with them a hallmark of IWCF - our emphasis on educated giving. We have planned several exciting workshops on strategic, effective philanthropy. I am particularly honored to have Colleen Willoughby, the founder of the Washington Women’s Foundation and a national figure in the philanthropy, as our keynote speaker. She will share her insights into the future of the women’s philanthropic movement.

As we pause to mark this momentous achievement, we must stay focused on the future and our task of investing the next million dollars in our community. The need is greater than ever. I hope that you will continue to have confidence in the efforts and work of IWCF.

In gratitude,
Susan Smith



A “dream board” assembled by one of the participants in Baby Steps Step-Up Academy project.

Welcome New Members!

Oct. 2008 to Feb. 2009

Brenda Blitman
Nancy Boespflug
Kathy Bradshaw
Anne Brown
Amie Bruggeman
Michelle Carter
Sharon Colby
Amy Costello

May Davidson
Hilary Dunstan
Christy Hilde
Dana Kehr
Kellie Kuster
Cathy Lyons
Julie Manning
Beth Markley

Susan Mauk
JoAnne Minnick
Hindi Morland
Stella Schneider
Debbie Wachtell
Chris Wiersema

Midterm Reports from 2008

Pooled Grant Recipients

by Gena Delucchi, Grants Committee Chair

In December, the organizations that received IWCF Pooled Grant awards in May 2008 submitted mid-term reports, summarized below, to document progress in order to have the balance of the funds released to them. Two projects, C.A.R.E. Club Expansion and TriCA Sound and Lighting, have experienced setbacks in their timelines and had not yet expended any IWCF funds.

Baby Steps at St. Michael's Cathedral - Step Up Academy \$24,000

The *Step-Up Academy* is designed to be a personal and professional mentoring program for a subgroup of mothers served at BabySteps, a prenatal and parenting education program. Anticipated results of the Step-Up Academy included stronger women (knowledge, self-esteem, resources action plans), more economically-stable families, and engagement in the sustainability of the BabySteps program. *Step-Up Academy I* was launched August 25, 2008. Each of the seven participants identified very diverse goals for their futures. Slowly as a group and with individual mentoring sessions, the participants started taking steps towards the realization of dreams they once felt were impossible. The group decided to extend the course from twelve to a sixteen week program in order to more fully support each other in the process of taking these first steps in improving their families' lives. The *Step-Up Academy II* class was scheduled to commence on January 26, 2009 and run through May 2009 (16 weeks in total). Since being awarded the grant from IWCF, BabySteps has received a total of \$17,500 in donations for operational expenses. As the program progressed, and specifics were shared about the purpose and individual participants' goals, the St. Michael's Cathedral community began to respond. There was a palpable synergy that led to increased donation of time, treasure and talent. Five new youth volunteers and two adult volunteers now come on a weekly basis. IWCF grant funds have been used for salary, childcare, class materials, and a computer for developing a client database.

Idaho Meth Project - Billboard Campaign \$25,000

Along with the television, radio and print components of the Idaho Meth Project messaging, billboards throughout Southwest Idaho enhanced community awareness about the methamphetamine problem in Idaho. The funds awarded from IWCF have enabled the project to place 18 billboards in key communities that are struggling with significant meth abuse problems. These billboards are placed in highly visible areas that are frequented by teens and young adults. They consistently hear from parents that they use the billboards as an opportunity to talk to their kids about the dangers

(Continued on page 4)

Proposal Organizations Selected

The following organizations have been selected by Interest Area workgroups to submit grant proposals for IWCF 2009 Pooled Grant funding for projects they outlined in their Letter of Inquiry. These proposals will be distributed to Grants Committee members during a lunch meeting at 11:30 am at the Esther Simplot Performing Arts Academy on Tuesday, February 24.

Idaho Dance Theater: Women in Idaho - Cultural Diversity
Center for the Arts: Empowering and Connecting Youth through the Arts
Log Cabin Literary Center, Inc.: Cabin Classics Family Reading Series
Ballet Idaho: Learning Through Dance
Boise Community Radio Project, Inc.: 89.9 FM Studio Project
Boise Urban Garden School (BUGS): Edible Schoolyard
One Stone, Inc.: Start-Up Youth Service Learning
Learning Lab, Inc.: Learning & Reading with Puppets & Plays
Center for the Arts: Pilot Early Childhood Arts
Payette Lakes Community Association, Inc.: After School Program
Idaho Humane Society: Mobile Clinic
Land Trust of the Treasure Valley: Star River Walk
Peregrine Fund: California Condor Exhibit
Idaho Bird Observatory : Passion for the Outdoors
City of Boise: Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless (CATCH)
Idaho Foodbank: Backpack Program Expansion
Terry Reilly Health Services: Steps to Self-Sufficiency
Mountain States Group, Inc.: Rebuilding Refugee Lives Project
Terry Reilly Health Services: Preventing Dental Disease in Special Populations
Garden City Community Clinic: Volunteer Physician Network (VPN)
Wilder School District: Health and Wellness Recreation Center
Boise & Girls Club of Ada County: Feed the Family
Idaho State University Foundation: HIV Rapid Test Kits
Friends in Action: Powerful Tools for Caregivers
Idaho Voices for Children Foundation, Inc.: Executive Director

Midterm Reports *(Continued from page 3)*

of meth use. Please note that Lamar Outdoor Advertising is matching the value of the media placed at a 1:1 level, thus doubling the value of the IWCF grant award.

In January 2009, they are planning to launch an entirely new series of advertising that represents "WAVE II" of the Idaho Meth Project campaign. Interviews with 3,000 Idaho teens, young adults and parents were compiled in the [Year 1 Idaho Meth Use & Attitudes Survey](#). The results, scheduled to be released in early 2008, will be analyzed and compared with [Baseline Meth Use & Attitudes Survey](#) (administered in the fall of 2007) to measure the impact of the Idaho Meth Project media campaign. *Note: the completed study as well as the new media materials can now be viewed at www.idahomethproject.org.*

Treasure Valley Even Start - Family Literacy Expansion \$10,000

This project has allowed increased hours of operation for more classes in which students at similar educational levels study together. English Language Learners who find it difficult to practice their new language for fear of making mistakes or being misunderstood by their English speaking peers now feel more comfortable surrounded by students at

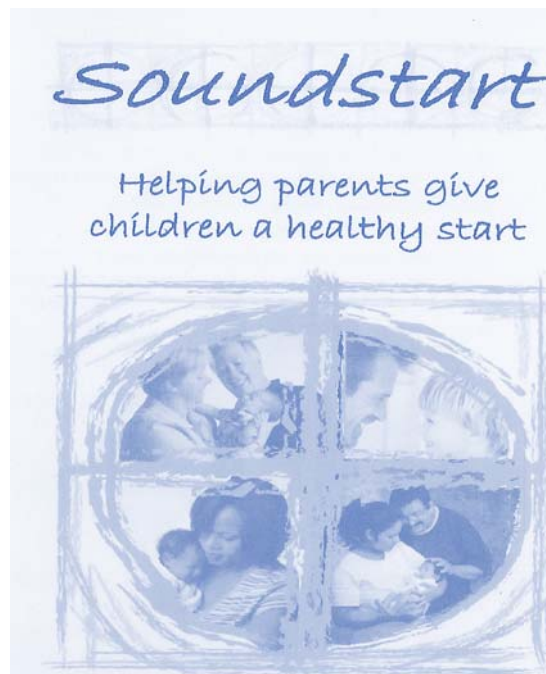
their same proficiency level. Many times English as a Second Language classrooms are noisy, as they should be. By allowing more time for the separate classes, GED students are able to study individually and at their own pace in a quiet environment. In just the last five months, the TVES program has served 46 families (45 adults and 89 children) and is on track to serving a record number of families this year. The percentage of parents who have moved at least one educational level has increased since this time last year. In 2008, 75% of children who attended the TVES program six months prior to entering kindergarten scored at grade level on the fall Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI). Only 31% of Caldwell kindergarteners are at this level according to the latest Idaho State Department of Education statistics. With more emphasis put on the adult classrooms, the program has been approached by BSU Learning Center for Adult Basic Education (ABE) to provide an ESL class in the evening for adults who live in Caldwell, work during the day, and cannot afford the cost of gasoline to get to their class in Nampa at the BSU extension. A partnership is being developed that will allow a BSU/ABE instructor to teach an ESL class for parents in the evenings while TVES provides Early Childhood Education to their children.

Boise WaterShed Exhibits, Inc - Welcome Basin \$25,000

The Welcome Basin at the Boise WaterShed Environmental Education Center serves to introduce the visitor to the sights, sounds and uniqueness of the Boise River. The entrance sets the stage for our mission of educating school children and the general public about the importance of water stewardship and water conservation. Since our May opening, the Center has hosted field trips for classes during the school year. During the summer, visits from local groups including preschools and day camps were a regular occurrence. There were three sessions of summer camp hosted at the Boise WaterShed in partnership with programs offered at Zoo Boise and the Foothills Learning Center. In addition, local community and business groups have held meetings at the facility. To date they have had over 3,600 visitors and expect to surpass the anticipated 15,000 annual visitor mark this first year. Although the IWCF grant came near the end of their fundraising effort, they had three subsequent donations that funded the remainder, which they attributed to IWCF's assistance. *Those last dollars seem always to be the hardest to secure and we are most grateful for the vote of confidence your membership gave us.*

KRISTIN HOFF SINCLAIR TAKES LEADERSHIP OF STRATEGIC PLANNING

Filling the title of Vice President by unanimous IWCF Board vote, Kristin Hoff Sinclair will serve in the position through May 2009. Kristin's experience in Strategic Planning with various organizations will assist the Board in creating a vision for the future. Membership survey results from last year as well as results from a soon to be sent survey will also aid this process. Kristin's organizational skills, perceptiveness on issues and commitment to the goals of IWCF will help her develop a viable plan. A big welcome and thank you to Kristin!



Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Soundstart Program

Final Report Summary

This project (awarded \$25,000 in June 2007) requested and was given a six month extension in order to complete expending IWCF grant funds on contract services to develop materials and recruit attorney presenters. In-kind staff time matched their funded hours during the extension period.

Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program (IVLP) has developed *Soundstart* presentation outlines for use by lawyers in presenting legal information to lay audiences on three topics: Paternity, Custody and Child Support; Guardianships, Wills, and Powers of Attorney; and Adoption for Parents and for Grandparents. IVLP has also developed Tips Brochures (take-away handouts for parents in English and Spanish) on each of the three topics and pre- and post-presentation quizzes for attorneys to use in teaching the concepts in each area. They have also developed evaluative surveys for participants and volunteer attorneys. IVLP is also close to producing a fourth curriculum topic relating to consumer issues that will be added to the presentation list for 2009. In 2008, 157 parents or grandparents and 33 staff at nonprofits serving low income families have participated in 23 *Soundstart* presentations. The enthusiasm with which *Soundstart* has been received suggests that it meets a critical unmet need. The summary of feedback surveys from participants suggests that on a scale of 1 to 5, those who felt they learned something new rated the presentations 4.29. Those who felt the topics were of concern to them rated the presentations 3.68, those who felt they knew what to do in the future rated *Soundstart* 4.20 and those who felt they would share the information they heard with others gave a rating of 4.18.

In addition, IVLP has managed to leverage previously untapped resources (e.g. attorneys who do not usually provide pro bono legal services to low-income families with family law issues including, but not limited to, the attorneys at Moffatt, Thomas, Barrett, Rock & Fields, Chtd. who have adopted *Soundstart* as a firm project). Contacts with volunteer lawyers confirm interest in *Soundstart* as a preventive alternative to confrontational approaches and crisis response. An increase of funding from the Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTA) funds will allow IVLP to expand its workshop offerings to include workshops in Canyon County.

Soundstart has developed as a professional program designed to provide legal information in a form well-suited to the needs and interests of the target population. ***This level of quality could not have been achieved without the financial support of IWCF.***

IWCF Calendar of Events 2009

February

- 2 RFP's sent to selected nonprofits
- 12 Valentines Day Lunch with Susan Smith
- 24 Grants Committee Meeting: grant applications distributed to workgroups
- 26 Education Committee meeting 3:30-5:00

March

- 5-6 A Well-Spent Million Celebration
- 18 Grants Committee Meeting: site visit recommendations
- 26 Education Committee meeting 3:30-5:00

April

- 9 Education interest area series: *arts*
- 16 Grants Committee Meeting: projects selected for final ballot
- 20 Pooled Grants ballot sent to membership
- 23 Education Committee meeting 3:30-5:00
- 30 Pooled Grants voting deadline

May

- 11 Annual Meeting and Grant Awards
- 28 Education Committee meeting 3:30-5:00

June

- *** *Newsletter and Member Directory*
- 25 Board retreat

*** All dates are subject to revision***



Idaho
Women's
Charitable
Foundation

BOARD NOMINATIONS

You are invited to recommend any of the many accomplished women in IWCF for a future Board position. Or recommend yourself, if Board service interests you. A form will be attached to our next weekly email which the Nominations Committee encourages you to fill out and return. Keeping a file of potential candidates will help the Nominations process, assuring that the best possible person for the position is on the list.

POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH THOUGHTFUL GIVING



Idaho
Women's
Charitable
Foundation

P.O. Box 6164
Boise, Idaho 83707

Save
the **Dates!**

March 5 & 6, 2009
Details Inside

Please invite your spouse and friends to join us as we celebrate

A Well-Spent Million: Cocktail Party

March 5, 2009

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Boise State University Stueckle Sky Center

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Susie Parrish

Marcia Liebich

Susan Smith

Thank You!

www.IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org