

## Laura White Barton

Laura White Barton is a philanthropy and international development advisor, editor, and writer who has directed communications, public affairs, and international advocacy campaigns at the highest levels of philanthropy (The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) and government (the White House) on issues affecting international development.

Laura White Barton edited the speeches of Melinda Gates and supported her at various speaking engagements while serving as the Editorial and Web Manager for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. As a member of the Foundation's Emergency Relief Committee, Mrs. Barton helped manage a \$10 million annual global relief portfolio, researched and reviewed proposals, made funding recommendations, and helped develop the committee's grant-making strategy and policies.

Mrs. Barton played a key role at the highest levels of government communications and advocacy in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. At the White House Office of Global Communications, she directed the communication of the U.S. government's relief and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan to a wide variety of national and international audiences.

From 1998 to 2001, Mrs. Barton served as a journalist and press spokeswoman for World Relief, a relief and development organization. She launched World Relief's humanitarian magazine and wrote several cover stories for the magazine.

Mrs. Barton most recently served as the director of advocacy campaigns for World Vision, the world's largest privately funded relief, development, and advocacy organization.

Mrs. Barton's public-speaking roles have included keynote speaker at the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation's *Fall Symposium 2007*; featured presenter at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's *Pacific Northwest Grantee Conference*; expert panelist on the reconstruction of Afghanistan for the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, D.C.; expert panelist for a public discussion on Islam and Afghanistan sponsored by the World Affairs Council in Seattle; featured presenter on developing advocacy campaigns at InterAction's *Advocacy Symposium* in Washington, D.C.; featured presenter at World Vision's *International Marketer's Conference* in Bangkok, Thailand on advocacy's role in advancing international development; featured speaker on the global AIDS pandemic and the use of child soldiers at World Vision's *Acting on AIDS Annual Collegiate Summit*; featured speaker on careers in international development for Duke University; and featured presenter on developing public awareness campaigns at *Targeting Hope: The Rural and Small Cities Development Conference*.

Mrs. Barton graduated *cum laude* from Duke University with a Bachelor of Arts in international studies (Russia/Eastern Europe), a certificate in creative writing and a certificate in film and video.

Mrs. Barton serves on the Idaho advisory committee of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition and is a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Alumni Ambassador. She is a member of the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation, the American Committees on Foreign Relations, the Boise Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. Barton serves on the organizing committee of the Idaho State Prayer Breakfast. She was a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations and has served on the board of directors of the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation, and The Vine -- a national organization that brought together professionals at national and regional conferences to address contemporary issues and build relationships. She is a past member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and the World Affairs Council. She lives in Boise, Idaho with her husband and their four children.

### **Susan Abdo**

Susan became a member of IWCF in 2007, and her community interests include sustainable farming, climate change, firewise and environmental education, land preservation, and human rights. She is past president and firewise program manager of the Boise Heights Neighborhood Association Board, and she was very instrumental in the development of the Boise Hills Park.

Susan is also a partner of her family farming business in the California Central Valley and guides the marketing.

Susan spent two years traveling through the developing world (East and southeast Asia) with her backpack in 1989 and 1990 which directly changed her lens of the world. Susan's other activities include winter sports, artistic projects, hiking/biking meditation, travel, and studying Buddhist philosophy.

### **Christine Avey**

Christine Avey serves as the current President of IWCF. During her six years as a member, she has been involved in Grants, Marketing, Operations and the Symposium. In addition to IWCF, Christine helps to run a local foodbank, and enjoys volunteering at her children's schools and sports teams. Christine is a supply chain expert, having spent many years of her career leading major programs at HP. In her free time, you will find her in the foothills - she loves hiking and exploring the outdoors. Christine and her husband Bill (an HP executive) have two fun teenagers, two cuddly cats and a sweet dog. She feels optimistic about the future and can't wait until we can all be in person again!

### **Lydia Bassett**

Lydia recently relocated to Boise from Seattle where she lived and worked in the nonprofit sector for 20+ years. With a background focused on education and the environment, Lydia currently works as Development Director at the Discovery Center of Idaho. Her interests include hiking in the foothills, exploring Idaho's small towns and natural areas, and learning to snowshoe with her partner. She looks forward to visiting the Farmers Market and traveling again once the pandemic is over.

### **Molly Blackaby Harder**

Molly joined IWCF in 2015, and she is the 2021 IWCF Symposium Chair. Molly has been very involved with the Education committee and recently became a member of the Grants committee. Molly's various community activities and endeavors have included past leadership positions on the Riverside Elementary, East Junior High, and Timberline High School PTO Boards, and she also assisted with Boise School District Bond campaigns and the Boise Schools Volunteer programs. Molly also served as the Junior League President and Chair of the Board in addition to other League board positions. Molly remains active in the Junior League as past Sustainer Council president and member of the Sustainer Council.

## **Nicole Patterson**

Nicole Patterson, the Chairperson of IWCF's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, has over 20 years of experience as an HR professional, consultant and executive coach. She spent nearly 15 years at Google, most recently as a leader in Google's Learning & Development organization, and has been leading her own Leadership and Organizational Development Consulting Practice since 2018. Nicole and her husband, Matt, a seasoned entrepreneur, lead an active family of three children, two cats and one dog. When Nicole is not spending time with her family or working, you're most likely to find her supporting her community (like leading a girl scout troop meeting or a project at her children's school) or learning something new (she loves to read and is always looking for good podcasts!).

## **Kristin Prieur**

Kristin Prieur has been a development professional for 35 years. During her tenure, she has helped many organizations grow their financial support base. Prieur began her career in development at the University of Montana Western in 1986 while earning her master's degree there. Four years later, Prieur joined Washington State University, where she became the assistant dean for development and external relations for the College of Veterinary Medicine for 10 years. Prieur then served for 3 years as the Executive Vice President at the Boston Zoo.

Upon returning to Pullman, WA, Prieur launched WhiteRock Consulting Group, Inc. in 2002 to expand her scope of work to include working with mid-size and small nonprofits along with institutions of higher education. WhiteRock Consulting Group provides personalized philanthropy consulting services to organizations throughout the Northwest U.S. Prieur and her team have advised more than 200 clients with budding and established advancement programs.

Prieur is an active volunteer in the Pullman community. She is a founding member of Circles of Caring Adult Day Health Foundation, Inc. and currently serves as treasurer of the board of directors. In her spare time, Prieur loves to ski, hike, and is learning to play golf. Spending time with her grandchildren, however, is her most treasured pastime.

## **Linda Riley**

Linda Riley joined IWCF in 2016, and she is serving as the IWCF Membership Chair. Linda's community concerns are homelessness, child services, education and health, and she is also a supporter of the Arts. She serves on the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southwestern Idaho Board. Linda is currently the National Director of Development, and she is the past Leadership Giving Director of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and Senior Director of Donor Relations at Boise State University. Linda received her BS in Business Administration at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and certificates in Nonprofit Leadership from Columbia and fundraising from UC Irvine. She is originally from Cupertino, CA, and relocated to Boise in 2013.

### **Christine Smith**

Christine joined IWCF in 2018, and she has served on a Grants Committee for the past 2 years.

She is also actively involved in the Assistance League as Vice-President Education, as Projects Chair for P. E.O. Chapter BN, and volunteers for Days for Girls and for the Idaho Food Bank.

She serves as informal coordinator of her book club.

Christine is retired from a career as an independent Residential Appraiser.

### **Kathy Scott**

Kathy Scott was raised in Washington D.C. but familiar with Idaho from family vacations, she came west to Idaho State for college and never went east again. Kathy has since lived and worked in many western states. During her time in Los Angeles, Kathy worked for Mattel Toys in various capacities. One of which was as a Corporate Trainer. While getting her MBA at Boise State, she was called by Boise Cascade to interview and for ten years provided training to corporate staff and BCC business units in areas such as interpersonal skills, Myers-Briggs, conflict management, feedback skills, interviewing skills, and supervisory skills. Upon retirement in 2003, she started her own business, Extended Training Skills providing her with an opportunity to travel the United States doing similar work until 2008.

Kathy's volunteer activities include the AAUW Boise Area Branch serving as programs co-chair, branch president (twice), and funds chair and AAUW Idaho President. She is still serving as funds chair, Happy Hour Coordinator, and Zoom Master (a self-appointed title).

Kathy has always been in a books group – in two of them now!