

# NEWS

# A Note from the Executive Director

As 2019 draws to a close and we each set goals for the coming new year, I want to thank you for your generous contributions to Impact Austin. I am grateful beyond words for your gifts of time, talent, and treasure that enable us to pursue our mission. Each day, Impact Austin supports women on their philanthropic journey while investing in organizations that are solving critical issues in our community. When combined, each member's gifts are exponentially increased and we are inherently stronger together!

I encourage you to reflect on an organization or issue that

you learned about through Impact Austin this year. Now, write a check to support their new program. Or call their office to ask about volunteer opportunities. You can drop off food, coats, or other needed supplies on their wish lists. And please, for me, include "Impact Austin member" with the checks, letters, and emails you send to them to demonstrate the expanding reach of our members throughout the Central Texas community. I can't wait to hear about the organizations you have impacted next time I see you. One thing is certain, and that's the impact you've had on me, your fellow members, and our beloved Impact Austin.

Savor every holiday moment this month and know the gratitude I feel that you are part of our generous collective giving sisterhood!

Christina Gorczynski Executive Director

# 2019 Town Hall Meeting Congratulations to The Innocence Initiative

Impact Austin's Town Hall Meeting on November 6 was an evening to remember! 225 philanthropic women enjoyed the hospitality of the Austin Film Society, where they connected over cocktails and snacks, heard from experts in the field of philanthropy, and selected the first-ever winner of Impact Austin's Social Innovation Grant.

"With the Social innovation Grant pilot program, we were able to focus on innovative, new programs and promote the collaboration of local nonprofits" said SIG Co-Chair Michelle Rankin. "We were also able to innovate internally and streamline some of our grant processes. We are thrilled with the outcome and welcome The Innocence



Christina Gorczynski

Initiative as a new Community Partner."

We invite you to find more <u>details</u> about this wonderful evening on our website and you can find some great pictures in our <u>Facebook album</u> as well.

## New Grant Cycle: Application Deadline & GRC Sign-Ups

Our 2020 grant cycle is underway, and the deadline for nonprofits to submit LOIs and applications is tomorrow, December 11 at 5pm. There will be three Program Grants and one Catalyst Grant, each for \$100,000, that will be awarded in June 2020.

The grant review process starts soon, and if you are interested in serving on a Grant Review Committee (GRC), keep in mind that you have to register no later than December 16. If you want to find out more about what it is like to serve on a GRC or to sign up, click <u>here</u>.

It is important to note that one of the conditions to serve on a GRC is that you have paid your 2020 membership dues by December 31, 2019.

# Girls Giving Grants Pushing Ahead on Reviews

Girls Giving Grants (g3) is well into their grant cycle, as they will decide their largest grant ever, \$10,300, in April 2020. These young women philanthropists have received 36 applications that are now under review!

Katiana Soenen, President of g3 says: "We are so incredibly excited and honored to have received so many grant applications from so many wonderful nonprofits around Austin. We cannot wait to learn more about the applicants as we thoughtfully discuss and evaluate each grant. Thank you so much to everyone who sent in an application."



g3 Grant Application Training

### **Board Leadership Recruitment**

"Impact Austin's leadership seeks to reflect the many faces, cultures and walks of life that make up our society" said Jenny Cotner, Chair of Governance, Impact Austin <u>Board of</u> <u>Directors</u>. "We believe diversity helps us better understand and address the issues facing our community." The next board nomination cycle for Impact Austin will start in January. New board members begin their tenure in July for a three-year commitment.

The current board is a dynamic group of women and is looking to complement its current skill set with women who have experience in technology, fundraising/advancement, finance and/or translating strategy into action. If this sound like you, or if you want to nominate someone you know, please email <u>Jenny Cotner</u>.

Also mark your calendars for Discovery Day (January 25) when we will offer an information session on board service.

#### Membership Renewals & Matching Gifts

'Tis the season to <u>renew</u> your Impact Austin membership! Please keep in mind that in order to serve on a GRC, your dues have to be paid no later than 12/31/19. If you will not serve on a GRC and need a little extra time, you have until 1/31/20 to pay the 2020 membership dues and still be able to vote at the June 8 Annual Meeting.

**Corporate match opportunities** may exist to double the impact of your membership renewal and year-end gifts to Impact Austin. <u>Find out</u> if an employer in your household will match your year-end gift and/or membership payment.

#### Recruitment



Are you looking for a way to spend more time with the amazing women in your life? Have you thought about inviting them to join Impact Austin and helping us grow our organization and the positive impact we have on our community? Please join us, with a friend (or two), at one of the upcoming Info Sessions that are in the works for the following dates and areas of town. Register <u>here</u> to get specific information on time and location.

December 11 - West Austin December 16 - East Austin January 7 - North Austin

### Member Portal



Take a moment to review your member profile within Impact Austin's <u>Member Portal</u> and update it, if necessary. The member overview will show your status and whether or not a renewal payment is due. The overview reminds you when you joined and contains the contact information that you have shared (and that the other members may use to find you). If you don't already know it, your Zone is identified for you. Race/ethnicity information that you provide assists Impact Austin's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiative. The Portal also links to volunteer opportunities within Impact Austin.

### **Discovery Day**

Impact Austin is gearing up for an exciting <u>Discovery Day</u> on January 25 at St. Edward's University's Mabee Ballroom. The program will include optional breakout sessions for new member orientation and interest in board service, as well an informative keynote and panel discussions. You can read more about the 2019 Discovery Day event <u>here</u> and sign up for 2020 Discovery Day <u>here</u>.

Discovery Day sponsors are warmly invited. Please find more information on sponsorship opportunities and benefits <u>here</u>.

# Be an Impact Austin Sponsor!

Big thanks to all of our <u>Annual Sponsors</u> who contributed to our Annual Fund 2020! These contributions ensure the continued success of Impact Austin by helping underwrite our organization's operating expenses. Learn more about each of our generous Annual Sponsors and available sponsorship opportunities <u>here</u>.

Special thanks to:

#### **Empowerment Sponsor**



#### **Champion Sponsors**



Allison Marshall



Rebecca Powers

# On the Calendar

Important Dates

December 31 - Members serving on GRCs must renew their membership by this date

January 25 - Discovery Day

**January 31** - Membership payments due for all 2020 members with eligibility to vote at the Annual Meeting

June 8 - Annual Meeting

**Ongoing** - Zone Events are happening throughout the year, with several events offered around Austin! <u>Find a Zone</u> near you!

# Follow and Promote us on Social Media

When you "like" and "tag" and repost our social media posts, you help to promote Impact Austin to a wider audience and potential members. Please **#JoinImpactAustin** on your social media platforms!



# Check Out Our Blog

Aside from emails like this, we have a team of amazing individuals who work hard to always keep you up to date with what is happening at Impact Austin. If you have not been to our blog lately, now is a great time to take another look! <u>HERE</u> you will find event info, press releases, member profiles and so much more!

### We're Listening

We'd love to hear from you...what do you want to learn more about? What type of information is useful for you? Contact us at <u>contact@impactaustin.org</u>.



