



# ANNUAL REPORT 2017

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Impact Austin Members and Friends:

This annual report showcases the outcomes created by our members and Community Partners in pursuit of our mission and vision.

Community Partners are more than just Impact Austin grantees. They are proven stewards in creating positive change. I continue to be inspired by their innovative, impassioned commitment to our growing community. Their results reinforce our belief that our partners know the needs of Central Texas.

Impact Austin members continue to be a powerful force for good, transforming Community Partners' goals into reality with high impact grants. Since inception, our members have invested more than \$6 million in Central Texas – but they have proven to be more than check writers. Our members power Impact Austin. In this fiscal year, 150 members participated on Grant Review Committees, adding insightful analysis to the process while building their own philanthropic skills. And, true to our vision, members continue to be inspirational role models. From starting or mentoring other collective giving groups, to sitting on nonprofit boards, fulfilling critical volunteer roles, and spearheading community awareness and advocacy, our members are catalysts for community change.

My heartfelt gratitude is extended to the women who lead Impact Austin. The Board of Directors is the guardian of our purpose, organizational strategy and financial health. The Committee Cabinet puts Board strategy into practice. Together, they recruit members and deliver the Ultimate Member Experience, Impact Austin's thoughtful approach to member stewardship, learning and engagement.

Impact Austin's financial health has never been stronger. Our reserves reached \$238,816 by the end of FY 2017. In addition, our members have generously supported the Rebecca Warren Powers Endowment for Impact Austin, which reached \$53,333 by fiscal year-end. This endowment is managed by the Austin Community Foundation for the benefit of Impact Austin.

The fiscal year's close signaled the start of Impact Austin's 15th anniversary year. Our Board of Directors will now consider the next strategic plan, employing our core values of innovation, continuous improvement and excellence. Our mission to be a progressive leader in women's philanthropy means never stalling, ever creating change. And as our recent Town Hall keynote speaker Caroline Adams Miller remarked, "Change starts with each one of us doing our best, one day at a time, patiently and with humility, and when we do it in concert with others, we get collectively stronger and more powerful."

With gratitude and passion for our continued success,

Lauren Paver

President, Board of Directors

Thank you to the members of Impact Austin who served on the Board of Directors or Committee Cabinet during FY 2017.

# 2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sharon Francia, President

Betsy Blair, Vice President

Sarah Elliott, Treasurer

Sara Pantin, Secretary

Rebekah Bonde,

Immediate Past President

Melissa Gray, Director

Valerie Kirk, Director

**Connie Lawyer**, *Director* 

Judy MacKenzie, Director

Dipti Pandey, Director

Lauren Paver, Director

Jacquie Shillis, Director

# 2017 COMMITTEE CABINET

Donna Benson-Chan,

Executive Director

Lisa Apfelberg,

Acting Executive Director

Kathleen Mack, Development

Valerie Kirk. Financial Administrator

Ami Kane, Girls Giving Grants

Becky Austen, Connie Lawyer and Jacquie Shillis, *Grants* 

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Marisa Bushee, Marketing

Melissa Gray, Membership

Valerie Colbourn and Karen Esparza, *Philanthropy Education* 

Philanthropy Education

Becky Hesson and Carolyn Grimes,

Technology

Stacey Vicari, Zones

# **OUR MISSION**

We're a progressive leader in women's philanthropy, bringing new resources to the community and making philanthropy accessible. Through high-impact grantmaking, we engage, develop and inspire women to effect positive change.

# 2017 GRANTMAKING

For the 2017 fiscal year, the members of Impact Austin awarded five grants of \$80,600 each to the following Austin-area nonprofits: The SAFE Alliance, The Contemporary Austin, Any Baby Can, Interfaith Action of Central Texas, and Seedling Foundation. Since our founding in 2003, Impact Austin has distributed over \$6 million, bettering the lives of thousands of Central Texans.

# WHAT'S NEW: NEW GRANT CATEGORIES

Impact Austin is gearing up for the next grant cycle with an exciting change to the grants program that will improve the process for our nonprofit partners. Effective FY 2018, the number of program grant focus areas changes from five to three, while the scope of each is expanded. By broadening the focus areas, Impact Austin opens the opportunity for every qualified nonprofit to apply each year. The new focus areas are Health and Well-Being; Community; and Education. We will continue funding our Catalyst grant at the same amount as our program grants, to underscore the importance of providing support for the long-term viability of nonprofit organizations.



# **GIRLS GIVING GRANTS**

Girls Giving Grants (g3) is the youth initiative of Impact Austin. The organization creates philanthropic opportunities for girls in the Austin area in grades 8-12 and provides up to 30 hours of community service credit. In 2017, g3 selected the Center for Child Protection as its Community Partner. The \$6,800 g3 grant was earmarked to help fund the Center's Canine **Courtroom Accompaniment** Program's new therapy dog, Mickler, a golden retriever/yellow lab, then a year-and-a-half old.

#### MEMBER AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Impact Austin organized numerous fun and informative events for members throughout the year, including:

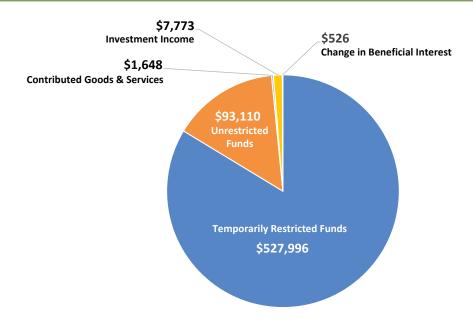
- Numerous neighborhood get-togethers for members through our new "Zone" program
- Grant Review Committee training sessions and meetings to review grant applications
- Discovery Day, featuring topics ranging from Mindfulness to Protecting Immigrant Families
- Orientation sessions for new members
- · Annual Meeting, our biggest event and the venue where final grant recipients were selected



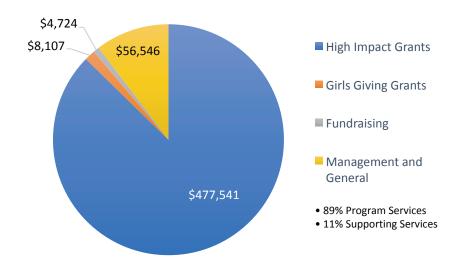
# IMPACT AUSTIN HONORED WITH PHILANTHOPY AWARD

Impact Austin was honored as 2017 Outstanding Philanthropy Organization of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Greater Austin Chapter. Offered at AFP's annual Philanthropy Day, this award was established 20 years ago to recognize outstanding commitment demonstrated through financial support, through encouragement of others to take leadership roles in philanthropy, and through community involvement. Fifty Impact Austin members attended to support the Philanthropy Day event.

# FY2017 REVENUE: \$631,053



# FY2017 EXPENSES: \$546,918



# Increase in Net Assets: \$84,135

Impact Austin's fiscal year 2017 ran from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. An independent audit was conducted by Gindler, Chappell, Morrison, & Co. P.C. The complete audited financial statements and the auditor's report can be found on our website at www.impactaustin.org/news-events/categories/c/financial-reports

# **ENDOWMENT FUND**

The Rebecca Warren Powers Endowment for Impact Austin was established in 2016 and is intended to provide general support for Impact Austin. FY 2017 contributions to the endowment were \$10,262, and the fund balance was \$53,333 at year-end.

# Catalyst | Seedling Foundation

Seedling Foundation supports children challenged by parental incarceration through innovative, research driven, school-based mentoring. Each year, the program helps more than 600 students in over 100 schools. The Catalyst Grant will sustain and grow this program by increasing awareness of this vulnerable population through enhanced marketing efforts to recruit mentors and engage new school districts as potential partners.



# Health & Well-Being | The SAFE Alliance

SAFE is a merger of Austin Children's Shelter and SafePlace, two longstanding human service agencies in Austin. SAFE's mission is to lead in ending sexual assault and exploitation, child abuse and domestic violence through prevention, intervention and advocacy for change. This grant will pilot a new Alumni Services program for former foster care youth previously served by SAFE, who are now struggling with homelessness and/or other barriers to living on their own. The program will provide outreach to up to 60 Austin-area youth per year; work with up to 40 youth per year to become self-sufficient and be leaders for their peers; and help youth gain skills to build independent, healthy futures.



# Family | Any Baby Can

Each year in Central Texas, one in three women receives no or late prenatal care, leading to health problems for both mother and child. Any Baby Can's Nurse-Family Partnership® enrolls first-time moms before the 28th week of gestation and serves them through their child's second birthday. This long-term, free health service provides information, support and counseling, while enhancing prenatal care, focusing on the child's development and mother's growth. This grant will allow Any Baby Can's Nurse-Family Partnership® to serve 22 families through this evidence-based program with proven results.



#### Education | Interfaith Action of Central Texas

Interfaith Action of Central Texas cultivates peace and respect through interfaith dialogue, service, and celebration. As one of its four core programs, iACT teaches English as a Second Language and cultural skills to newly-arrived refugees. Its youth component, the iLearn Refugee Youth Education Program, provides refugee children language and cultural orientation in summer day camp, Saturday drop-in tutoring, and year-round teen mentoring. Using this grant, Interfaith Action will hire a Refugee Youth Program Coordinator to recruit, train, and manage youth volunteers and mentors. During the summer, 50 students will participate in the summer camp program and many will be provided on-going mentoring throughout the school year.



# Culture | The Contemporary Austin

Seeing Special Things is The Contemporary Austin's innovative outreach program for Title I schools in the Austin Independent School District. Throughout the 37 year history of Seeing Special Things, more than 18,000 children have participated in this art education program designed to build visual literacy skills and inspire learning in the museum environment. This grant would allow The Contemporary Austin to engage more deeply with the community by bringing exhibitions of student work to every school served through the program, where more students, families, and members of the surrounding community can participate, and by hiring a bilingual educator for Seeing Special Things.







# The Community Partners below completed their grant programs in FY 2017. Their impact by the numbers is shown below:



#### ANTHROPOS ARTS

- Expanded programming by 40% in two years.
- Increased the number of students served from 110 to 143.
- Thirteen of 14 seniors in the class of 2015 and all 16 seniors in the class of 2016 attended college on a scholarship.



# **AUSTIN YOUTH RIVER WATCH**

- Performed 22 service projects with 19 partners.
- Completed 1,016 hours of student River Watch work.
- Engaged volunteers in 491 hours of work.



#### CASA OF TRAVIS COUNTY

- Seven staff trained as Truth Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) educators.
- An additional 34 staff and 160 volunteers trained in TBRI.
- Stronger client services for approximately 300 children's trauma cases.



#### COUNCIL ON AT-RISK YOUTH

- · Additional 100 middle school students served.
- 64% demonstrated improvement in grades, 78% showed reduction in serious discipline referrals, 55% showed increase in school attendance.
- Hired one full-time mental health professional.
- 98% parent satisfaction rate and 96% student satisfaction rate with the program.



# **DRIVE A SENIOR**

- Hired 4 new drivers.
- Trained 15 new volunteers.
- 98% of riders reported a decrease in isolation thanks to the rides and 98% reported that they would not have left their homes without the van rides.



# TEXAS ADVOCACY PROJECT

- Closed an additional 400 cases in 2016 over 2015.
- Increased the number of closed cases by 7% thanks to new technologies.



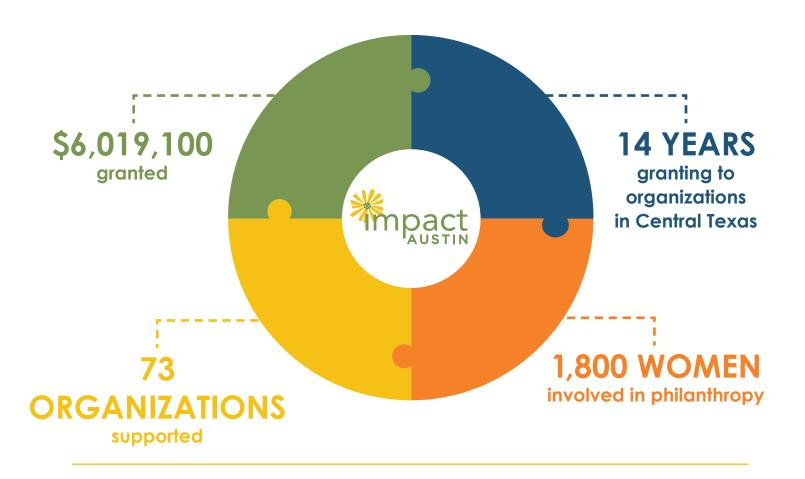
# WESTCAVE OUTDOOR DISCOVERY CENTER

- Purchased and refurbished one school bus.
- Hired and insured one professional bus driver.
- Served 2,000 children through the bus program.



# CASA MARIANELLA

- · Hired one Assistant Director.
- Served 84 women and children in the program.
- 100% of eligible residents were offered free attorney services.
- 88% of those who left the program left for stable housing with sufficient income.





# **OUR VISION**

Our women are inspirational role models reaching their full giving potential for a better quality of life in our community. We will ensure our long-term sustainability by tapping into the talents of our members and building Impact Austin from the "inside out."

