



Donna Benson-Chan  
Executive Director

Impact Austin Members and Friends,

Impact Austin is off to a great start in 2017. Our Grant Review Committees have narrowed down our grant applicant pool to 26 worthy nonprofits that have been invited to submit full proposals. In addition, a large group of our members turned out to show their support (loudly!) as the organization received the award for being the Outstanding Philanthropic Organization of the Year by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. More details on both these achievements are below.

I remain, as always, impressed by the dedicated women of Impact Austin, and as I prepare to leave my position as Executive Director on March 9, I reflect and give thanks for the privilege of working closely with so many of you. We share the same desire to give back and hunger to learn and grow as philanthropists, and I look forward to our paths crossing again and again.

With gratitude,

Donna Benson-Chan

## Grant Review Committees Select 26 Organizations for Full Grant Proposal Submission

Impact Austin Grant Review Committees have reviewed 97 Letters of Inquiry for program grants in the areas of Culture, Education, Family and Health and Wellness. Twenty six nonprofits have been invited to submit full grant proposals from which the finalists will be selected in March. Finalists in the four program areas, as well as 14 organizations seeking a Catalyst Grant, will compete for grants of \$80,600 each. Site visits to finalists are slated for April. Click [HERE](#) for more info.



## Make a Difference with a Click of a Button During Amplify Austin March 2nd and 3rd

Again this year, Impact Austin will be among the beneficiaries participating in Amplify Austin, a citywide, 24-hour, online giving event designed to drive donations to local nonprofits while raising awareness of the many great charitable organizations in our city. This year, generous Impact Austin donors have provided a \$3,000 Challenge Grant so for every dollar you donate, up to \$3,000, you'll double your impact! Amplify Austin Day will take place this year from March 2 at 6:00 p.m. to March 3 at 6:00 p.m. Last year, Amplify Austin raised \$8.5 million for 600 central Texas nonprofits. Remember that your employer may match your gift! You can schedule your donation to Impact Austin NOW on our [Amplify Austin page](#).



## Girls Giving Grants Selects 2017 Grant Finalists

Girls Giving Grants (g3) has chosen their 2017 finalists! Earlier this month, the membership voted to conduct site visits with the Center for Child Protection and Central Texas Food Bank on April 1st. They will be learning more about Center for Child Protection's Animal Assisted Therapy program and Central Texas Food Bank's Backpack Program. After site visits, the girls will vote to select the recipient of their \$6,800 grant. Stay tuned for more details this spring.



## Impact Austin Honored as Outstanding Philanthropic Organization

Impact Austin received the prestigious designation as 'Outstanding Philanthropic Organization of the Year' by the Greater Austin Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. At an awards presentation on February 15, attended by more than 50 Impact Austin members, founding member and current board member Melissa Gray accepted the award and said the organization was honored to be recognized for its efforts to support nonprofits and philanthropic education in the greater Austin area. Click [HERE](#) for more details.



## FY 2016 Annual Report Released

Impact Austin has just released its FY 2016 annual report and audited financial statements. It was an exciting year for Impact Austin with the organization awarding \$426,000 in grants to five worthy nonprofits, welcoming the largest class ever of our youth initiative g3 and launching an endowment to ensure funding of the organization in perpetuity. Check out the annual report [HERE](#) to learn more about these accomplishments and more!



## Spotlight on Member Dina Mavridis

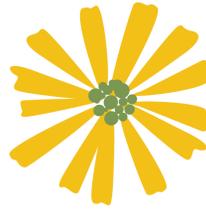
An Impact Austin member since 2003, Dina Mavridis understands the powerful effects of collective giving, not only within the community but for Impact members as well. The mother of three, including two girls whom she calls 'future g3 members,' credits her grandmother with teaching her the importance of community involvement. Read more about Dina [HERE](#).



Dina Mavridis

## Partner Update: 2015 Grant Recipient Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center

The Westcave Outdoor Discovery Center was established in 1976 to restore its namesake Hill Country grotto. Today the organization encompasses a state-of-the-art Environmental Learning Center and an environmental education curriculum that supports state-mandated learning objectives. One of the largest challenges the organization faces is having reliable transportation to introduce kids to Westcave where they can learn about and love the outdoors. This challenge was met in 2015 when Impact Austin provided a grant of \$80,000 to support the Roadrunner Outdoor Adventure Bus Program, allowing more under-served children to experience the great outdoors. Read more about this fantastic project [HERE](#).



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Impact Austin, P.O. Box 28148, Austin, TX 78755

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