

PRESS RELEASE

Impact Austin
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For Immediate Release

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Women and Philanthropy Take High Impact Giving to a New Level

**1ST ANNUAL IMPACT CONFERENCE:
Friday, Sept. 22nd - Saturday, Sept. 23rd**

(Austin, TX – September 15, 2006)—Impact Austin, a local philanthropic group of women, hosts the first annual ***Impact Conference, Success Through Sharing***, in Austin, TX at St. David's Episcopal Church on Friday, September 22, 1:00pm-6:30pm and Saturday, September 23rd, 9:00am-4:00pm.

Guest speakers Wendy Steele, founder of Impact 100 and the Impact movement, and Colleen Willoughby, co-founder and president of Washington Women's Foundation—a collective giving organization that has been in existence for 10 years—will discuss the increasingly important role of women in philanthropy.

“The power to write a check is the power to change the world,” said Impact Austin president and founder, Rebecca Powers. “There is more than just a trend going on in the country regarding women's giving circles. It's more like a joyful epidemic. Women are now discovering the impact and power that collective giving can make in a community. Our hope for the ***Success Through Sharing*** conference is that we pool together some of our best practices so each organization can move forward with a deeper tool box of ideas.”

Impact attendees represent the following cities:

- Austin, TX

- Cincinnati, OH
- Indianapolis, IN
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Owensboro, KY
- Pensacola, FL
- San Antonio, TX

Impact Austin is a 501(c)(3) public charity made up of women seeking to transform lives in the Austin area through high-impact and lifelong giving. The only membership requirements are to be female and donate \$1,000 each year. Impact Austin combines the annual donations from members and gives large grants each year to local worthy causes selected by the members. Grant applications are accepted in each of the following focus areas: culture, environment, family, education and health and wellness. Collectively, we are changing the face of philanthropy in Austin www.impact-austin.org.