

Newsletter

Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation

February 2014

Education Forum: The 4 Rs

Recycling, Reusing, Reducing Carbon Footprint, Re-purposing Buildings

by Jo Anne Minnick, Member-at-Large

On Nov. 12, 2013, IWCF members and guests filled the Boise WaterShed Environmental Education Center to learn about the 4 Rs.

Boise WaterShed, Inc., Executive Director Nellie Baker welcomed us, thanking IWCF members for their generous contribution to the Center, which with gifts from others made possible hands-on exhibits on conserving and protecting water. (IWCF is named in "Waterfall of Heroes," the donor listing on the wall.)

Catherine Chertudi, Solid Waste Programs manager, Boise Public Works Department, jokingly called herself the "Trash Queen." She enumerated her program's past successes and improvements to come:

- 70,000 households weekly get trash pick-up (400,000+ stops per month); 96 percent of city residents set out bins.
- On average, 196 pounds of trash and 30 pounds of material to be recycled are collected per household.
- 10,630 Boise households use the award-winning Hazardous Waste Program (27,000 in Ada County).
- 10 percent of Boise's waste is recycled and reused—and not sent abroad.
- Boise was the first city in the nation to fuel trash-collection vehicles with CNG (compressed natural gas), which is better for the environment and saves money.
- Partnering with a local business, Environmental Abrasives, enables us to recycle glass locally.
- In the future, our food and yard waste may be recycled. (A pilot program now recycles yard waste.)

Charlie Woodruff, Executive Director, Idaho Chapter of the U. S. Green Building Council, answered the question, "Why build green?": Green buildings can reduce energy use by 24 percent to 50 percent, CO2 emissions by 33 percent to 39 percent, water use by 40 percent and solid waste by 70 percent. Building green includes careful site planning, water management and materials choices, as well as attention to energy use and the quality of the indoor environment.



Executive Director Nellie Baker welcomes IWCF members to learn about the 4Rs at the Boise WaterShed (photo courtesy of Diane Ronayne)



IWCF Education Chair Vicki Kreimeyer introduces Charlie Woodruff (rear), Executive Director, Idaho Chapter of the U. S. Green Building Council (photo courtesy of Diane Ronayne)

Boise has 36 buildings certified LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design); Ada County has 47. Examples include Banner Bank downtown, Library! at Cole and Ustick, CSHQA on Front Street, and the WaterShed; the new 8th and Main Building and JUMP will be certified. The number of green and LEED buildings continues to grow in Idaho and the nation.

Ben Jarvis, Pollution Prevention Projects coordinator, Department of Environmental Quality, addressed reducing our carbon footprint,

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Positive change through thoughtful giving

From the President

Dear IWCF Members,

Successful nonprofit organizations share this basic core value: They periodically set aside focused time, attention and energy to paint a clear picture of the desired future state of their organization. Their goal is to answer the question, "Where do we see ourselves in 'x' years?"

This is exactly what your IWCF Executive Committee and Board have been doing over the past five months through a process facilitated by IWCF member Lori Mers, who has worked with HP and other organizations in their planning. During a series of interactive workshops, we have brainstormed and discussed what IWCF will be in the year 2017.

So far, we have focused on these topics:

1. Future picture of the organization
2. IWCF's stage in the nonprofit lifecycle
3. The nonprofit landscape in the greater Treasure Valley area
4. SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis
5. Current/future members, partners and sponsors

We will complete our workshops by finishing up #5, evaluating/clarifying the IWCF key differentiators and points of differentiation, and identifying the biggest challenges facing IWCF over the next three years. Once this work is complete, we will have the background to discuss our higher-level strategic priorities, which will result in a tactical plan for the coming year.

These workshops have been very engaging, interactive and enlightening! A strong value expressed by all of the women involved is making sure we represent your voice throughout the process, because this is your organization. Key recurring themes include community, collaboration and impact. It is gratifying to see that these ideas are so much a part of our culture that they appear spontaneously as we discuss who we are now and who we will be in the future.

We are excited about sharing the results of this process with you at our Annual Meeting in May. Our goal is to strengthen the solid foundation and reputation IWCF has developed within the broader community, as we move to the next level. Stay tuned!



*Strategic Planning session with Lori Mers
(photo courtesy of Diane Ronayne)*

Thank You!

Arrangements Committee

Membership Committee

Sharon Colby

Linda Dixon

Wayne & Susan Meuleman

Lori Mers

Jan Riener

Kristin Shafer

Gerry Soule

Jena Vasconcellos

Café Vicino

Jacqueline Crist,

James Castle Collection and Archive

Dr. Julia Robinson,

Family Practice Residency

Tom Tompkins,

ESPAA

and to all our renewing members!

Welcome New Members

Since November 2013

Phoebe Boelter

Pamela Briggs

Fritz Dickey

Janelle Eckhardt

Anita Keyser

Linda Kline

Ann Lewis

Janet Mills

Jeanne Miranda

Laura Simic

Sara West

Grants 2013 Mid-Term Reports

by Anne Hay, Grants Committee Co-Chair

We are happy to report that all eight of the organizations that undertook projects with IWCF funding in May 2013 have submitted mid-term assessments. Most projects are on track, and the results are exciting!

Boys and Girls Club of Ada County received \$10,000 to add bus transportation to their after-school program for children. After six months, they report that they are serving 80-120 children per day (achieving their goal of 100 children per day). Daily attendance is up by 5 percent over the previous year, and this is attributed to the busing. A quote from a BG Club member: “I used to go home every day after school and I was really bored. Then my friends told me about the club and that they have a bus from my school. I am so happy now that I get to come to the Club!”

Family Medicine Residency of Idaho, Inc. received \$25,000 to assist in equipping the first school-based health clinic in Idaho. Although they have not yet opened the clinic, their story is inspiring. They connected with the Meridian School District and used high school tech classes to do much of the remodeling for their clinic at Meridian Elementary School. Our funding example enabled them to acquire more funding from a variety of foundations, totaling \$175,000 at the time of their six-month report. They were awarded a designation as a Federally Qualified Health Center and plan to open on February 18 of this year, with a goal of having 2,892 patient visits in 12 months (but this timing will not be in synch with the IWCF funding year). The Meridian District estimates that in-kind donations of construction management, architecture, etc., from the community have exceeded \$100,000 at this point. Wow!

Genesis World Mission (Garden City Community Clinic) received \$24,397 to expand a dental specialty referral network. By Nov. 30, 2013, the clinic had spent time and energy organizing its network of dentists and hospitals, a gradual and time-consuming process. They organized a Dental MASH Outreach in September. On one day, they were able to see 62 pre-screened patients with almost 100 volunteers. They have leveraged our donation with a number of other organizations, including Saint Alphonsus, Greater Boise Rotary and United Way, and this leverage is helping them attract multiple new dentists and hygienists as volunteers at the Garden City location. They are also gradually educating the emergency room personnel in local hospitals about the referral service, and can report numerous success stories.

Glenns Ferry Historical Museum received \$24,654 to update, organize and integrate cultural arts into the local museum. By the time of the report, 880 people had signed the guest book. The project experienced a step backwards when a transformer in Three Island State Park went out and the park was closed during peak season, and everyone hopes to have better attendance numbers in the coming summer. Those events that were sponsored were enthusiastically attended by local community members, and volunteers joined to help with remodeling and putting events together. A quote from the director: “Our town has been fighting and publicly at odds since I moved here, kind of like the rest of the country! I was able to garner participation and support from both sides...and that give us all hope!”



Glenns Ferry Historical Museum first outdoor event

The Idaho Law Foundation received \$13,500 to create the New American Law Academy, a free 8-week practical law course for adult refugees. They plan to serve 70 refugees, but so far have been creating the organization and the curriculum. Ten attorneys, 2 non-attorney volunteers and a number of other partners (including Concordia Law School in Boise) have joined in extensive planning, and the first session began on January 15. Pre-tests and post-tests have been developed. The solid foundation that has been created should permit the organization to produce two sessions this spring. The first session includes a group of 38 refugees speaking four different native languages. We will hear more about outcomes at the end of their grant year.

Interfaith Sanctuary Housing Services received \$19,500 to expand supportive services by hiring a part time social worker to help clients move forward. They hired their new social worker on July 8, and she has been working to connect homeless guests with available resources, including employment, benefits and transition to permanent housing. She has served 487 unique individuals in her first six months, focusing most intently on women and families and their problems. She has also helped to supervise interns and to increase general services to everyone by her presence. To paraphrase a staff member, “The bulk of case

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Positive change through thoughtful giving

Board Development

by Jena Vasconcellos, Board Development Chair

We all joined IWCF loving the fact that by pooling our funds we could make an impact in the community, and also because “you don’t have to do anything but vote!”

That is still true, but when the time is right for you to give IWCF some time and talent, you can—and many of us do!

Committee chairs always look for and welcome those who want to help or just attend a committee meeting to see if it is right for them. If you are interested, or simply curious, please contact one of them. Many hands (and minds!) break the big tasks into manageable pieces!

- Education, under Vicki Kreimeyer, plans several events a year for members and guests to learn more about issues in our community. Helping find venues and contact speakers is a very manageable way to contribute time.
- Marketing and Communications, under Beth Markley, creates avenues for both the membership and the outside world to be informed of IWCF events and accomplishments.
- Membership, under Susan Smith, keeps our forces growing through a variety of gatherings. Its members provide that important “personal touch” we value about belonging.
- Arrangements, under Jan Reiner, helps committees if they need to provide sustenance to attendees, and also gets to plan and execute the Annual Dinner and other special events.
- Finance, under Debbie Johnson, capably addresses all money matters, a task that grows along with our membership numbers.
- Operations, under Ginny Miller, deals with running the office and helping us all meet the IWCF timeline, working with a liaison from each committee. She can use office assistance, from those who have smaller chunks of time to give, for the vital “little things” (mailings, filing, data entry, etc.) that keep us in business.
- Board Development, under Jena Vasconcellos, reaches out to members to fill vacancies on the Board as terms end. The committee also helps with board training and updating job descriptions.
- Grants Committee, co-chaired by Helen Carter and Anne Hay, is the way to really understand the mission, thoroughness and process of grant-making through IWCF, plus savor the rewards of participation: knowledge, friendship and accomplishment.

We’re in the New York Times!

“Giving Circles: More Impact to Go Around”

WCGN and Impact100 Philadelphia gained national exposure in the Nov. 7, 2013, edition of the New York Times. The article, by Kerry Hannon, surveyed the growing giving circle movement and gave special attention to collective giving.

“...for a sense of the grass-roots efforts that go beyond financing primarily women’s initiatives, consider the growth of the Women’s Collective Giving Grantmakers Network. In 2011, it had 20 members, including the Idaho Women’s Charitable Foundation in Boise and the San Diego Women’s Foundation. Today, there are 38 collective giving groups, representing 7,000 women in 18 states, including the Gainesville Women’s Giving Circle in Florida and the Spirit of St. Louis Women’s Fund in Missouri. In 2012, the network’s members gave more than \$8.9 million to nonprofits throughout the country.”

Not only are we in good company, but our total impact nationwide is impressive!

Fall Symposium features Tererai Trent, PhD



When: Wednesday, October 15, 2014
9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. - Morning Breakouts
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - Luncheon

Where: BSU Student Union Building, Jordan Ballroom

Theme: “Education—a path out of poverty, a lesson of hope and power”

Dr. Tererai Trent was featured in the book “Half the Sky,” by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. Oprah chose Tererai as her “All-Time Favorite Guest,” spanning 25 years! We are VERY excited about bringing Tererai to Boise to share her story!

As a young girl in rural Zimbabwe, Tererai lived without running water and electricity. Although desperate to learn, she only attended two terms of school before she was forced to marry at age 11. In 1991, Tererai met a woman with Heifer International and told her that her greatest dream was to move to America and get her PhD. The woman looked at Tererai and said, “If you desire those things, it is achievable.” Later, Tererai’s mother encouraged her to write her dreams down, so Tererai wrote them on piece of paper, placed them in a tin box and buried them under a rock.

By 1998, her dream had started to come true: Tererai moved to Oklahoma. Just three years later, she earned a bachelor’s degree in agricultural education. In 2003, Tererai obtained her master’s degree. After every achievement, Tererai returned home to Zimbabwe, unearthed her tin of dreams and checked off each goal she accomplished, one by one.

Today, Tererai has made the fourth dream she wrote down come true, as well: She has earned her PhD!

Please mark your calendar now for this very special educational and inspirational symposium, and think about inviting a friend or two who would benefit from hearing Tererai and learning about IWCF.

The 4Rs continued from front page

specifically by focusing on Treasure Valley air quality issues: ozone, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and air toxics. Current policies, programs and people positively affecting sources of pollutant generation are the Clean Air Act; behavioral change (i.e. Clean Air Zone/Be Idle Free Boise); promoting transit alternatives (i.e. bike lanes and commuting education); and market strategies/mechanisms (i.e. Cash for Clunkers, gas prices, sulfur dioxide cap-and-trade, and natural gas fleets). Future programs that could affect issues include carbon taxing, altering transit systems, additional tree canopy cover and creating more walkable communities.

Asked about their greatest obstacles and their hopes for the future, most of the speakers said population growth and overall increased consumption. Also, lack of funding and small staffs make it difficult to do their jobs as well as they would like to. They hope citizens become so passionate about preserving and improving the quality of the environment that they change their behaviors and are willing to pay for what they want to conserve and protect. To solve environmental problems, they encouraged public/private partnerships to invest more time, energy and resources, and integrate more technology, in 4Rs programs.

The Boise WaterShed (11818 W. Joplin Rd., off Chinden) is definitely worth a visit. Be sure to engage in the hands-on exhibits and note the works of public art, including photographs by IWCF member Diane Ronayne.

Useful Websites

Identifying recyclable trash and hazardous waste (Boise): <http://curbit.cityofboise.org/>

Real-time air quality monitoring: <http://airquality.deq.idaho.gov/>

Boise WaterShed: www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org

“LEED Dominates Idaho’s Green Building Certifications”: <http://idahostatesman.com/2014/01/15/2971522>

Positive change through thoughtful giving

Considering IWCF Grants

Report on Washington Women's Foundation Meeting by Susan Smith, Membership Chair

When IWCF was launched in 2001, our beginnings were based on the philanthropic model of the Washington Women's Foundation (WWF). Since our inception, we have followed in their footsteps as our organization has evolved.

We examine our pooled-grants process annually, with the intent of making it as effective and thorough as possible. This year, we decided to visit WWF in Seattle to have a closer look at their grant-making and discuss other topics of interest. Here is a brief recap of what we learned.

Pooled-Fund Grants

WWF and IWCF have the same criteria, but WWF makes one pooled-fund grant per giving area. WWF also funds occasional capital projects; operations of proven, sustainable organizations; and multi-year grants (2 to 3 years).

Each year, WWF conducts a community needs forum, which helps guide and prioritize grantmaking. WWF also has instituted a separate Impact Assessment Committee, which includes a nonprofit leader on its assessment teams.

Partner Grants

This pilot project invited members with grants committee experience to participate in a grant-making venture in specific initiatives outside the pooled-fund areas. A member had to either use her individual grant or contribute a certain amount of money beyond her basic membership obligation. WWF offered three initiatives: Global, Diversity and Innovation. The goal was to give members opportunities to do more research, practice more philanthropy and work directly with other community organizations.

Sponsorships

WWF solicits corporate sponsorships for their events, even for their annual meeting, and they also involve their sponsors in some of their educational offerings. Some members also have been sponsors. The sponsorship range is \$2,500 to \$5,000.

Community Partnerships

WWF has formed relationships with other philanthropic organizations in order to share resources and be a major participant in the Seattle philanthropic community.

The information we gathered in Seattle is particularly applicable to IWCF as we consider an expansion of our pooled-grants process and as we plan for our 2014 Fall Symposium, for which we will need both sponsors and partners.

It was gratifying and exhilarating for all of us to see new possibilities for what IWCF can accomplish as our foundation matures and grows. If you want to know more, please contact us: Dana Kehr, president; Helen Carter, grants co-chair; and Susan Smith, membership chair.

In Memory of Carol Lamet

We regret we will not have the opportunity to celebrate Carol Lamet's enthusiastic recent entrée into IWCF with her. She passed away in January. Carol had joined IWCF, in the fall, enclosing a five-year membership with her note: "I thank you and salute you for all your work. I only wished I had joined years ago but that was not possible then. Do know I have followed all the good that has been done. No need to say: 'keep up the good work' for it shines in the passion of all of you." Carol's husband, Daniel, has chosen to contribute the portion of her gift not already allocated to her chosen charitable designee to the Susan Smith Endowment Fund. We are, all of us, honored and humbled by Carol and Daniel's generosity.

Grants Committee Report

by Anne Hay and Helen Carter, Co-Chairs



The pooled funds grants committee is rolling along this year.

We received 86 Letters of Inquiry, of which 87 percent met our minimum requirements and were passed on to the interest area teams (Education, Health, Financial Stability, Cultural Arts and Environment). Our incredible team leaders have been guiding 55 women on our grants committee as they read and discussed all 75 letters of inquiry and reduced the number going on to a full proposal to about 30. This process is always exciting, largely because the women involved take such ownership of the task.

As she encouraged her team to prepare, one team leader said, “Most of you have sent me your initial rankings. Much appreciated! If you have not done so, please take the time to read, rank and send me those rankings. I am seeing definite trends. We should be able to narrow the field significantly in our first meeting tomorrow.” Then came the meeting, and shortly thereafter this message: “We had a very productive meeting and were able to complete our recommendations well ahead of schedule. We will not need to meet again until the grant proposals are available.”

This is a group of more than 10 women, dealing with more than 20 different letters of inquiry, and it sailed along smoothly, due to the joint efforts of the leader and the team itself. We are so blessed with our members!

The next step for the interest area teams, after letters go to the selected projects requesting complete applications, will be to read those applications and then meet again to decide which merit a site visit.

We look forward to meeting in mid-March with the entire grants team, including all the interest areas, to see which projects will need a site visit and to watch these enthusiastic and capable women organize themselves to take this next step. On April 15, they will decide the projects that will go on the ballot. All members will have an opportunity to hear about the ballot finalists at an evening meeting April 24, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (site to be announced).

If you have thought about working with the grants committee, there is still time to be part of the action. Please contact Anne Hay at annehay@allosys.com or (208) 761-7234, and let her know right away. We can always use another thoughtful voice in this important process.

Grants 2014 Mid-term Report continued from page 3

management successes come as small victories, such as ID cards or resumes, which can make or break an individual’s chances at moving forward with life.”

Southwest Idaho Mountain Biking Association (SWIMBA) received \$20,000 to purchase a mini-bulldozer for trail construction. They have encountered some obstacles, such as a price increase in the bulldozer itself, but some price savings for the “buckets” that are part of the machine. The organization has managed to leverage our donation and to partner with several regional trail-building entities. They have also helped to design and purchase a trailer made locally in order to transport the mini-dozer to and from work sites. In December, the bulldozer itself was still under order, scheduled to be delivered in January 2014. Plans for training in the use of this equipment are pending until the equipment is at hand.



SWIMBA's mini bulldozer

Ūsful Glassworks received \$25,000 to expand their production capacity. At the midyear, they were still in the process of adding and improving production equipment, after obtaining some useful and appropriate advice from BSU’s TechHelp group. With the new fire polisher and kiln, they will be able to increase their production from 100 to 500 items per day, which will allow them to employ more program participants. Since costs rose after the project began, they have leveraged our donation with funding from HP to make their equipment purchases possible. The goals of increasing production by 50 percent and serving at least 75 persons per year have not yet been met, but are planned for the second half of the year, after the equipment upgrades have been made.

Positive change through thoughtful giving



**Idaho
Women's
Charitable
Foundation**

P.O. Box 6164
Boise, Idaho 83707

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Join our Facebook page:

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Save the Date!

EDUCATION

Book Talk, "Half the Sky,"

March 3, 2014

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Life's Kitchen

The Ecology of the Foothills

April 29, 2014

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Foothills Learning Center

Fall Symposium

October 15, 2014

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

BSU Student Union Building, Jordan Ballroom

GRANTS

Pooled-Fund Grants - Site Visit Selection Meeting
March 12, 2014

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ESPAA

Pooled-Fund Grants - Ballot Decision Meeting
April 15, 2014

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ESPAA

Pooled-Fund Grants - Ballot Q & A with Social
April 24, 2014

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. TBA

Pooled-Fund Grants - Ballots Due to Office
April 28, 2014 Midnight

Annual Meeting and Pooled-Fund Grants Awards
May 19, 2014

5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. BSU, Student Union

**Please Let Us Know* - Any time you have a comment or question, feel free to contact us.

Office@IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org or (208) 343-4923

www.IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org