

# Newsletter

Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation

June 2014

## IWCF Awards \$167,215 in 2014 Pooled-Fund Grants



**Artisans4Hope**  
*Growth and Development*  
\$18,543



**Boise Urban Garden School**  
*Education Facility*  
\$29,714.50



**The Cabin**  
*Expressive Writing Program for At-Risk Youth*  
\$15,000



**Family Advocates**  
*Development of Parents Anonymous® Group in Ada and Canyon Counties*  
\$29,957.50



**Idaho Shakespeare Festival**  
*Van for ISF's Educational Tours ITY and Shakespeareance*  
\$20,000



**Junior Achievement of Idaho**  
*Expanded Financial Literacy for Youth in SW Idaho*  
\$23,000



**One Stone**  
*Leadership Mentoring Program*  
\$12,500



**Terry Reilly Health Services**  
*Retinal Camera for Diabetic Eye Screenings*  
\$18,500

**Congratulations  
to our 2014  
Grantees!**

*Positive change through thoughtful giving*

From the

# Board

We've just celebrated our 13th year of investing in Southwest Idaho. Thank you!

IWCF was originally formed with the idea of educated philanthropy and having a significant impact across a broad spectrum of the needs of our community. In our first two years as a start-up organization, members decided to remain committed to that philosophy, but to only fund a single organization with a \$19,750 and a \$32,750 grant, rather than to spread the available funds over all five areas. As we've grown and had more money, we've been able to fund more organizations across all Interest Areas.

Over the past two or three years, we've looked at how similar grant-makers provide funding and listened to what the local nonprofits have told us. We learned that a higher focus on "bold new ventures" was sometimes causing already effective groups to start entire new projects rather than expanding an existing successful program, so we rebalanced our thinking. After years of priding ourselves on funding "only programs," we learned the hard reality that programs can't exist without staff, heat and lights, so have begun to include some administrative costs in the grants we provide.

After looking hard at grant-making organizations in other communities, we'd like to make a one-year trial effort to implement some of the ideas we've learned through the Women's Collective Giving Network. Other groups of similar size are funding \$50,000-\$100,000 multiyear-grants. Considering recent membership trends, we feel comfortable proposing \$30,000 grants to spend over 1-3 years, hoping to offer stability to smaller organizations and increased flexibility in how they do their good works. We should have additional money to fund something smaller, so must decide as a group how we would grant that money during the pilot year.

We've spent a lot of time considering this. For more details on the proposal please see the "Next Steps in Grants" article in this newsletter.

We've gotten feedback from some of our grantees and applicants and want to get feedback from as much of the membership as possible, before moving forward. If you haven't participated in the Grants Forum discussion groups, please call Helen Carter, Dana Kehr, Kim Liebich, Susan Mauk or Susan Smith, so we can include your thoughts in the analysis.

In gratitude,

Your IWCF Board

## Thank You!

Kelly Andrus, Holland & Hart, LLP

Margi Babcock

Stephanie Bacon, Idaho Center for the Book

Bank of Cascades

Sherry Bithell

Boise State University

Beth Brigham

Katie Chesbro, Boise State University

Rochelle DeLong, Consilio

Margaret Gorrissen

Raquel Guglielmetti

Gail Kirkpatrick

Jim Kissler

Kim Liebich

Susan Roberts, Consilio

Susan Smith

Driek Zirinsky

## Welcome New Members!

Since February 2014

Amy Brown

Carol Cavanaugh

Mimi Cunningham

Andy Gibson

Lee Landin

Marilyn Locander

Susan May

Jodi Reynolds

Kathy Scott

Maryann Wilson

# Welcome and Farewell to Board Members

*Jena Vasconcellos, Board Development*

IWCF's Board of Directors will have three new members in the 2014-2015 year.

**Terry Anderson** is joining the Board in the position of Secretary. Terry is a Founding Member of IWCF and a retired attorney with a stellar resume. She will also head the Governance Committee.

**Jillian Huang** comes in as Member-at-Large, having demonstrated her leadership skills on the Education Committee. She spent many years as a public librarian, and has summited mountains in Borneo and Japan, among other accomplishments.

**Lori Mers** has been leading the Board through strategic planning sessions this year. She is now joining the Board as a Member-at-Large, using her marketing skills, as well, to enhance IWCF's role and visibility in the community.

**Susan Mauk**, who served as Secretary for the past several years, will chair the Board Development committee. She also will continue on the Grants Steering Committee. Susan has law and counseling degrees, and brings much expertise to her Board positions.

Three members are leaving the Board. We appreciate their dedication.

**Jackie Groves** contributed a plethora of ideas, advice and enthusiasm in her position as Member-at-Large and will continue to do so on other committees.

**Tena Lokken** has served fabulously as past Education Chair, Fall Symposium lead and Member-at-Large. We are excited to have her continued energy and contributions with future committees as well.

**Jena Vasconcellos** led the Board Development committee for several terms and participated in numerous IWCF activities. We won't let her get very far away.

## The 2014-2015 list Board of Directors follows:

<b>President</b>	Dana Kehr
<b>Vice President</b>	Suzanne Lierz
<b>Secretary</b>	Terry Anderson
<b>Treasurer</b>	Debbie Johnson
<b>Operations Manager</b>	Ginny Miller
<b>Arrangements</b>	Jan Riener
<b>Marketing &amp; Comm.</b>	Beth Markley
<b>Education</b>	Vicki Kreimeyer
<b>Grants</b>	Helen Carter
<b>Membership</b>	Susan Smith
<b>Board Development</b>	Susan Mauk
<b>Member at Large</b>	Heather Jauregui
<b>Member at Large</b>	Kim Liebich
<b>Member at Large</b>	Jo Anne Minnick
<b>Member at Large</b>	Jillian Huang
<b>Member at Large</b>	Lori Mers

This is YOUR Board, get to know them. IWCF is stronger when everyone uses their voice. Please contact them with ideas, comments or suggestions.

## 2014 - 2015 IWCF Board



Front row: Heather Jauregui, Helen Carter, Jo Anne Minnick, Susan Smith, Susan Mauk, Jan Reiner Back  
row: Lori Mers, Beth Markley, Suzanne Lierz, Dana Kehr, Vicki Kreimeyer, Kim Liebich, Terry Anderson  
Missing: Ginny Miller, Debbie Johnson

*Photo courtesy of Diane Ronayne*

*Positive change through thoughtful giving*

# IWCF 2014 Fall Symposium

features Tererai Trent, PhD

When: Wednesday, October 15, 2014

9:00 a.m.-11:15 a.m. - Morning Breakouts

11:30 a.m.-1:30 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! She now teaches others how to dream with purpose.

Save the date and plan to bring a friend or two to hear Dr. Tererai Trent. Sponsorships and table reservations can be made now on the IWCF website. An email will be sent in August to remind you to make individual reservations.

**Become a Sponsor or Table Captain**

sign up at [IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org](http://IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org)

## Annual Meeting 2014

photos courtesy of Diane Ronayne



## “Half the Sky” Discussion

Jillian Huang, Board Member-at-Large

How is girls’ education connected to the cycle of poverty around the world? What challenges do charitable organizations face when attempting to address education in poverty environments? What can we do to maintain awareness of our wider world and, particularly, the inspiration we feel to make a difference?

Thirty-two members of IWCF met at Life’s Kitchen to discuss questions such as these on March 3. In groups of eight, we tackled the issues raised in the book “Half the Sky,” by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. For one hour, participants shared impressions of the book and ideas regarding what change we could affect in our own community.

During the course of our discussion, we talked about the tenacity of women all over the world who pursue their education despite all odds, and the commonalities found in those stories of perseverance. Sometimes, tragedies make us feel unable to make a move, and without first-hand information, we feel concerned about the on-site NGO. Some suggested that we should be educated about the needs in our own country before moving out into the world, to better understand how we can help. We expressed a desire to fund projects that respect and honor various cultures, both here and around the world. Members agreed that IWCF helps each of us make a difference in our communities without being experts in every need/grant area. We are all inspired by human contact and the opportunity to respond to the needs of others.

We shared ideas for symposium breakout sessions at the end of the discussion, including local speakers on topics such as refugee resettlement in Boise, teen pregnancy, family planning, sex trafficking locally, educational challenges for girls in Idaho,

and international teaching and nonprofit giving opportunities. It was also suggested that IWCF explore the possibility of an international grant and that we send a delegation of members overseas to learn about various organizations and report back.

This book discussion program leads the way for the IWCF Fall 2014 Symposium on October 15, for which Dr. Tererai Trent will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Trent’s story is featured in “Half the Sky” and has inspired audiences around the globe. She was a favorite guest of Oprah Winfrey and has spoken at many conferences on humanitarian and education issues. (See <http://tererairtrent.org/> for more information.)

Bookmarks were given to all participants, courtesy of the Symposium Committee. Thanks to Vicki Kreimeyer for leading the Education Committee members in this program planning, and to Erin King and the staff at Life’s Kitchen for a delicious lunch.



Attendees discuss the book “Half the Sky” featuring Dr. Tererai Trent.

*photos courtesy of Robin Hanford*

## Ecology of the Foothills

Vicki Kreimeyer, Education Chair

The final 2013-14 IWCF Education Program, Ecology of the Foothills, featured speakers who talked about Idaho geology, native plant and animal species, and wildland fire.

Chris Cromwell, BLM Prescriber Fire and Fuels Specialist, discussed how fire is integral to the foothills ecosystem, as well as how it affects lives and property. Non-native grass and plant species allow foothill fires to grow more quickly and provide more fuel than native plants. Herbicides slow

cheat grass growth and goats eat it in controlled grazing programs, he said, but don’t remove cheat grass entirely.

Cromwell noted that 68 percent of fires are human-started—either along roads or railroads, from vehicle exhaust pipes, or other causes. When a large fire starts, firefighters prioritize life, property and natural resources (grass, land) in that order, he said.

He suggested homeowners keep their yards clean and green, create survivable space, keep large vegetation a distance from the home, and use non-combustible building materials.

*Continued on page 6*

*Positive change through thoughtful giving*

# Next Steps in Grants

*Members of the Board*

Our history of grant making has had a consistent theme: doing the most we could with what we had. Following our mission of fostering "... educated philanthropy through collaboration, pooled resources and individual giving to positively impact the community," we've leveraged our resources to have the most significant effects possible.

From the beginning, the focus has been on funding grants across the broad spectrum of our community's needs. But, given limited resources, our founders decided to start by funding a single grant for a significant amount for the first two years. Gradually, we've grown to a point where we can pretty much rely on a certain amount of funding for our pooled-fund grants. This has gotten us to a point at which we can finally make grants of a standard, significant amount. We'd like to try it for one year to see how it works and decide whether to continue.

How would this work? The proposal we're considering is to fund a \$30,000 grant in each of our five Interest Areas. This allows us to continue to make grants across the broad spectrum of community needs, but make a greater, more long-lasting difference. The idea is to allow nonprofits to tell us the best way to support their projects: Do they need all the money in the first year? If not, they can elect to spread it over two or even up to three years.

We've surveyed several nonprofits. All of them have told us they routinely come to us for their larger grant needs – grants they can't find easily elsewhere. Large and small, they're also telling us that a multi-year grant is extremely hard to come by, but is a real gift – allowing them to go to "the next level" of their growth and providing sustainability. One small nonprofit described it this way: "... Year one of a grant just gets us started, where we get organized. Year two is really the pilot year. Year three really gets us up and puts legs under our program."

In addition, we should have some amount of pooled-fund grants in excess of the \$150,000 to be committed to these five grants. There are many good options we can explore for how to expend this money. Do we just fund the grant that came in #6? Do we fund one small project? Do we look at a burning community need? Do we look at funding something that's "top of mind" with a lot of members? We need your help in deciding that.

What we're hearing from the nonprofits is that they'd love the security of multi-year funding. What we're hoping is that our

pilot year of trying this out will prove successful; if not, we can pull back. What we need is your advice on how to make this most effective. If you weren't able to participate in one of the small group discussions in June, please call one of the people listed in the Letter from the Board and give us your ideas. Thanks!

*Ecology of the Foothills continued from page 5*



*Photo courtesy of Robin Hanford*

Allie Anderson, GK-12 Fellow and BSU graduate student in Raptor Biology, spoke about her work with raptors and other wildlife

in the Boise foothills. The Boise Front Range is unique in that animals have the opportunity to move between elevations in search of food. Anderson described the toxins found in common desert vegetation like sagebrush, bitterbrush and rabbit brush. Only certain species can tolerate the toxins and are therefore critical to foothill ecology. Risks to the foothills include invasive plant species, grazing, climate change, fire, habitat loss due to human expansion, and increased trail use. But, she said, Boise does a great job of preserving open space in the foothills.

Amanda Drewicz, Ph.D Geosciences graduate student at BSU and GK-12 Fellow, studies derives clues about the origins of the foothills from the teeth of large animals from the Pleistocene era. The same factors that drive climate change now can also be observed from studying the Pleistocene era, she said. Drewicz described the creation of the eastern Snake River Plain, as well as Lake Idaho and described how today it would cover the entire city and reach almost to the top of Table Rock.

Thank you to center staff for their fascinating presentations and for spending extra time hiking with us. Thanks also to IWCF Education Committee members for organizing this event.

# Strategic Planning Update

by Lori Mers, Board Member-at-Large

The 2013-2014 year has been a very exciting one for IWCF on many levels, one of which has been strategic planning! Your Executive Committee and Board have been actively engaged in a series of workshops throughout the past year to update our Three-year Strategic Plan.

One very important component of this process is making sure that you, our members, are included and informed about the thoughts that have gone into this plan. Over the next several months, we will bring you up to speed on the work done to set the stage for where we are headed over the next three years. As always, we eagerly welcome your thoughts and comments.

In this first message, we want to share a very pivotal concept that set the foundation for many of our workshop discussions: The Nonprofit Organizational Life Cycle.

As the New Hampshire Center for Nonprofits describes it, “Organizations are like people. They often move through several different stages of development – from Start-Up to Growing (sometimes called the Adolescent stage) to Mature, and sometimes to a stage of Stagnation or Decline. Just like

people, organizations rarely do this in a neat, orderly and predictable fashion.

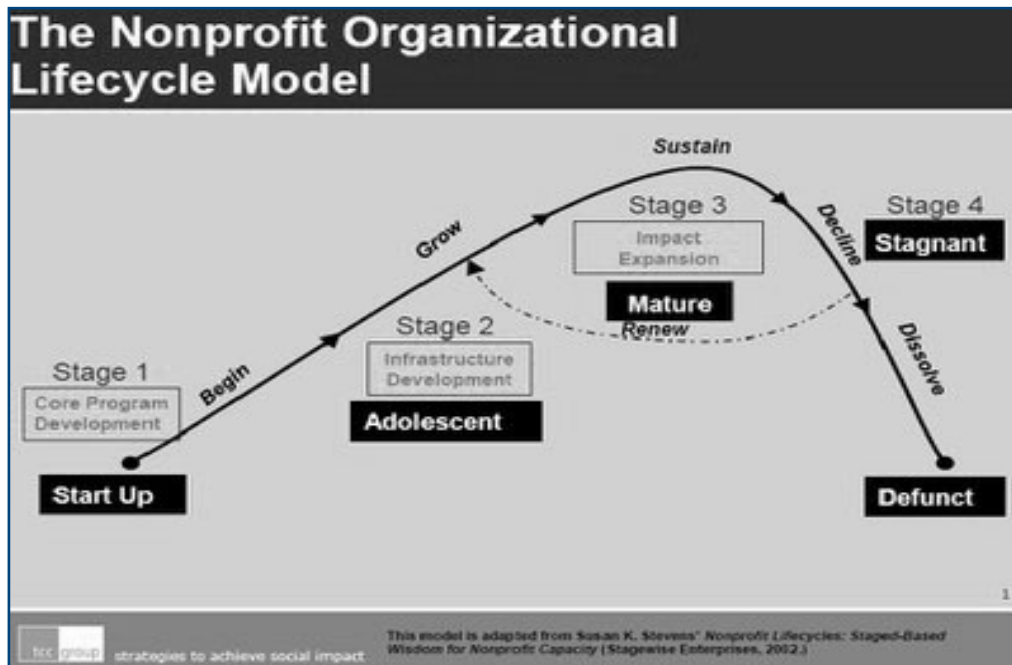
The Life Cycle categories focus on an organization’s ability to achieve its mission as the key determinant of its stage of development.”

Using this concept, IWCF fits many characteristics of a mature organization. Given this placement in the nonprofit organizational life cycle, it’s time to expand, renew and grow our impact in the community to make it even more significant: Developing partnerships with other nonprofits, using technology and reaching future generations are key now.

Therefore, our strategic goals will reflect this stage of the life cycle. We also have an eye on a danger of hitting the stagnation cycle - losing sight of the market - which is causing us to reassess how we approach our grants process.

In our next message, we will outline the workshop topics we worked through to ultimately bring us to a point where we could begin discussing three-year strategic goals to be used as our roadmap for prioritizing yearly tactics/activities.

Stay tuned!





**Idaho  
Women's  
Charitable  
Foundation**

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## Articles Featured Inside

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## *Save the Date!* 2014 Fall Symposium

*Wednesday, October 15, 2014*

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

BSU Student Union Building  
Jordan Ballroom

## *Reminder:*

**IWCF Office Closed for July**

(June 27 - August 5)

Phone messages will be checked  
every few days.

## **Grants Note: The LOI process is changing.**

**Please be aware that the new deadline is October 5, 2014 for letters of inquiry.**

**More information will be available on our website soon.**

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

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[www.IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org](http://www.IdahoWomensCharitableFoundation.org)