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From Our Founder



A few random thoughts....

I really enjoy combing through the Member Survey each year. The devil's in the details... literally. And, I want to be sure that we are paying attention to the right things. You can read more about the Member Survey feedback in the newsletter this month. It is gratifying to know that our members are VERY satisfied with their Impact Austin experience. We can always improve, and you will see those action items listed in the article.

While we do not advertise Impact Austin as a 'social' organization, our members really appreciate getting to know each other as they serve on committees and participate in our member-wide events. Our next event is scheduled for Monday, October

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Membership Update

It's Coffee Season!

It's not too late to RSVP! Tomorrow is your first opportunity to bring a friend to an Impact Austin coffee.

When: Tuesday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Back Door to the Trade

7301 Burnet Road (Behind Tuesday Morning)

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Heather Toolin of Sonno Domestic Living is opening her showroom to us and generously providing refreshments. The goal of the evening is to spread awareness of Impact Austin, its mission, goals, and successes.

The Agenda for the Evening Includes:

Impact Austin Story - *Becky Griner & Cynthia Hoff*

Girls Giving Grants Story - *Oriana Wright*

Community Partner Perspective - *Amy Mills, Executive*



18, at 7 p.m. Please mark your calendar to hear Kevin Salwen speak about his book: *THE POWER OF HALF*. Click on this link (<http://www.thepowerofhalf.com/Why-we-wrote-the-Power-of-Half>) to learn why he and his daughter co-wrote the book. It's quite compelling and may convince you to bring your entire family to hear the story! Don't forget to register online.

The board continues to make progress on the transition. Each board member is working on small-team assignments, and more information will be coming after the board convenes to make decisions based on recommendations from the small teams.

Question: How can I help Impact Austin...even though I have little free time to volunteer? Answer: Bring a friend to a coffee!

Happy Fall!

-Rebecca Powers
Founder and CEO

Mark Your Calendar

Speaker Series

Kevin Salwen,

The Power of Half

October 18, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Congregation Agudas
 Achim

\$25 includes book
The Power of Half

Member Spotlight

by Lorie Marrero

Director, Emancipet

Our membership recruitment depends on our members to enthusiastically share not only the Impact Austin story but their own personal Impact Austin story. In 2010 almost 80% of our members reported that they first learned of Impact Austin through an Impact Austin member or by attending a coffee. If you cannot attend the Community Coffee tomorrow night, please plan to join us at any of our In-home Coffees or attend the November 10th Community Coffee at Sonno Domestic Living.

If you have any questions, please contact Becky Griner at bgriner@impact-austin.org or 512-917-5712.

Save The Date!

Speaker Series: October 18th, 7 p.m. at
 Congregation Agudas Achim

Impact Austin is delighted to bring Kevin Salwen, co-author of *The Power of Half* to Austin on October 18th, 7 p.m. at Congregation Agudas Achim for the annual Impact Austin Speaker Series. This highly inspirational and entertaining event is perfect for the whole family. Bring your friends, spouses, kids, and other loved-ones to hear the story of the Salwen family's journey to give back - in a HUGE way! You won't want to miss this emotionally uplifting opportunity - registration is now open and the \$25 registration fee includes a copy of the book! Be on the lookout for your e-invitation later this week.

Registration Now Open!

[Click Here to Register](#)



When a friend told me about Impact Austin and how it works, I immediately got very excited, because this model of philanthropy is so creative, powerful and effective! I enthusiastically joined and consider myself an evangelist for our group wherever I go.

Along with all of the good this model does for the community, what is possibly overlooked is how it changes the accessibility of being "a philanthropist." I always grew up thinking that philanthropists were only people like Bill Gates or Andrew Carnegie-not me. Now when I find myself sitting on a plane reviewing a stack of Impact Austin grant finalists, I definitely have that feeling that I am a philanthropist too. The more people that identify themselves this way, the better for our world--and with Girls Giving Grants in the picture, that identity can start even sooner.

I got to learn more about one of our Community Partners, Goodwill Industries of Central Texas, when they were awarded a grant. Through that exposure and other factors, I decided I wanted to partner with Goodwill in a bigger way. I now contribute my time as the national spokesperson for Goodwill Industries International and ambassador of the Donate Movement [\[http://donate.goodwill.org\]](http://donate.goodwill.org), and I am spending time with our local Goodwill serving as an advisor to their board's development committee. I'd love for our Impact



Kevin, Hannah, Joseph, and Joan Salwen

To learn more about the Salwens and their journey to give back, click [here](#) to watch a short video.

"Crazy, impetuous and utterly inspiring.... The Salwens offer an example of a family that came together to make a difference - for themselves as much as the people they were trying to help."
- Nicholas D. Kristof, *The New York Times*

Impact Through Involvement 2010 Member Survey Results

Thank you for completing the 2010 Member Survey. Your feedback helps us improve, and we take it very seriously.

227 responses: With 43% of our members completing the survey, we believe this is a fair representation of the overall membership.

Membership data:

1st year: 68	2nd year: 28
3rd year: 32	4th year: 17
5th year: 29	6th year: 21
7th year: 32	

82 served on FAC this year: 94% had a good experience
63 served on FAC previously

Austin members to read what I wrote about the Donate Movement here: <http://tinyurl.com/lorieschallenge>

I credit Impact Austin for helping me think bigger about giving back. I am passionate about spreading our model around the country and the world so that more people can proudly say, "I am a philanthropist."

NEW for FY2011 -We want to know who your favorite Community Partner is and why. The members of Impact Austin would love to hear from you!

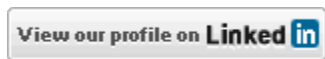
To share your story, please email Laura Green at newsletter@impact-austin.org

In Your Mailbox

On September 20th, we are mailing our **Annual Brochure and Letter** to members. Be on the lookout for this in your mailbox next week. Also, please consider passing the brochure along to a friend you think may be interested in learning more about Impact Austin.

Connect with Us

We invite you to visit us online at www.impact-austin.org and connect with Impact Austin's social media community. This is a great way to keep in touch with other Impact Austin members and stay up-to-date on our current events. Please join us on:



And don't forget to check out [Rebecca's Blog](#)

Our Mission

74 never served on FAC

48 served on committee other than an FAC this year: 96% had a good experience

10 did not volunteer this year

Respondents said:

98% were satisfied with the 10 grant finalists

96% were satisfied with the 5 chosen as Community Partners

75% read all or most of the finalist reports

84% agreed that finalist reports contributed significantly to decision making

Two most important benefits derived from volunteering:

1. Giving back to community
2. Supporting Impact Austin and helping it improve

Three most important aspects of being Impact Austin member:

1. Making an impact and a difference in the community
2. Meeting other Impact Austin members
3. Connecting with the community, more contact with local non-profits.

36% have volunteered and/or made a financial contribution to an organization learned about through membership in Impact Austin.

75% learned about Impact Austin from the founder and/or another member

Top three reasons for joining Impact Austin:

1. 100% of my \$1000 donation goes to the Community Partners
2. Because it's a women's philanthropic organization
3. To get to know other women I might not meet otherwise

Demographics of respondents:

Age: (10 respondents skipped this question)

20's - 30's: 19

40's: 55

50's: 97

60's: 37

70's - 80's: 9

75% have lived in Austin more than 10 years

Demographics:

96% Caucasian

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

Our Vision

Our vision is that 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."

Our Values

Transparency - We are an open book.

Excellence - We are thorough, professional and go above and beyond.

Inclusiveness - We are open to all women.

Democracy - Each member has an equal voice.

Integrity - We are honest and ethical.

Respect - We consider the impact of our words and actions on others.

Accountability - We say what we're going to do and we do it.

Innovation - We are creative, but prudent risk-takers.

Continuous Improvement - Through feedback and other input, we are always improving.

1% Asian
1% Hispanic
1% Multi-racial
1% Other

Employment Categories:

For profit business: 60%

Stay at home: 13%

Retired: 12%

Volunteer: 8%

Nonprofit: 7%

Actions being taken, based on member feedback:

Grants Committee:

1. Increase percent of members who read the finalist reports.
2. Make it possible for seasoned FAC members to 'exempt' out of training that is repetitive.
3. Ensure all members of FACs have positive experience.
4. Improve financial training for FAC members.
5. Train FAC Chairs to be impartial leaders on their committees.

Membership Development:

1. Add 'Impact Austin on the Move' field trip program to this year's schedule to give members an opportunity to see their money at work in the community and to give members a chance to spend time getting to know each other better.

Marketing:

1. Evaluate current delivery methods of information to members.
2. Help Impact Austin be more visible in the community and emphasize that, as a thoughtful, learning organization, we also understand the importance of the social component for our members.

Girls Giving Grants (G3) Update

G3 Kicks off its 6th Year!



2009 - 2010 G3 Members

On **Sunday, Sept 19th from 2:00-3:00 p.m.**, G3 will hold a membership recruiting event at Velocity Electronics, 2208 Energy Drive, Austin, TX 78758. Membership is open to girls in grades 8 through 12 in the Austin area who are willing to make the required \$100 donation and a commitment of time and energy from October 2010 through April 2011. G3 members are eligible to receive up to 30 hours community service credit through their participation in Girls Giving Grants.



G3 ARC members preparing for their semi-finalist presentation

If you or someone you know is interested in G3, please contact Dina Mavridis at dmavridis@girlsgivinggrants.org.

Membership deadline is September 24!

For more information, visit: www.girlsgivinggrants.org

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