

A Note from the President

Ahh. Summer! The change of seasons provides such a wonderful dichotomy: the comfort of the predictable juxtaposed with the promise and hope of change. At Impact Austin, we have just ended our traditional grants season, our predictable and repeatable process of the grant review committees' work leading to our collective member selection of new Community Partners. In early June, we had the promise of our Annual Meeting (seeing old friends, meeting new members and anticipating our newest grant partners) and our Check Presentation Ceremony at City Hall. This summer, Impact Austin also looks forward to the future, including the debut of our fifth grant, our Social Innovation Grant (SIG). We anticipate the presentation of our finalists for this grant and the vote to follow at our Town Hall Meeting on November 6th.



Susan Palombo
2019 Impact Austin President

In summer, we also enjoy the brief luxury of a reset, personally as members, and organizationally. Summer is our moment to celebrate the year's accomplishments as we dive into improvements for the upcoming year and transitions to new volunteer leaders. We thank those who have contributed so much to our organization's purpose and welcome and on-board our incoming leaders.

As our city evolves and grows, Impact Austin must position itself for the future - to create welcoming and inclusive experiences for all. Please share [feedback](#) on your Impact Austin experience; I welcome your opinions. Furthermore, I hope you will become as involved as your interest and bandwidth allow. Our volunteer roles range from one-time plug-ins to multi-year leadership and board commitments. If you don't see a role that fits your needs on our website, just reach out to [Christina](#) or [Suhailah](#) and ask.

With our new member portal, we can locate other Impact Austin members quickly and conveniently. Try it out and connect with Impact Austin friends. And please take the time to update your own profile.

Join with me in thanking our many and amazing FY 2019 volunteers for a terrific year, and help me welcome our new leadership team for our FY 2020 kickoff. We so appreciate each of you. Our community depends upon our collective strength to address the needs of Central Texas.

(Editor's Note: Susan's introduction was edited for this newsletter. To read her entire message, including all those specifically thanked, please read our [blog](#).)

Impact Austin members and guests returned to Temple Beth Shalom on June 3 for our Annual Meeting. Attendees enjoyed an Opening Reception sponsored by Katherine Mudge of Enoch Keever. Delicious passed hors d'oeuvres and beverages were served by Bowties to Blue Jeans Catering, while members greeted friends and interviewed grant finalists.



The program included Impact Austin updates (the new Social Innovation Grant, our DEI initiative, the new member portal, and membership recruitment) and presentations by our finalists. Membership votes were cast by ballot and cell phone, then tabulated while members retired to the Dessert Reception sponsored by current and past board members. (Thank you, Rebecca Powers, Kali' Rourke, Mary Blegen, Susan Palombo, Lauren Paver, Nancy Word, Mary Campana, Sarah Harris, and Jenny Cotner).

See our [Facebook photo album](#) for terrific images of the event. Then go to our website to find out all the details about new Community Partners: [Austin Bat Cave](#), [Con Mi MADRE](#), [American Gateways](#), and [half Helen Foundation](#).

2019 Grants Presented on Impact Austin Day

\$400,000 in High-Impact Grants Awarded

Council Members Alison Alter, Gregorio Casar, and Jimmy Flannigan welcomed Impact Austin members and Community Partners to Austin City Hall for our annual Check Presentation Ceremony. Alison Alter, also a member of Impact Austin, presented the City Proclamation declaring June 10 to be Impact Austin Day. Speakers for the event included Council Member Alter, Executive Director Christina Gorczynski, Grants Co-Chairs Laura Kane and Becky Austen, and Community Partner representatives.



Four new Community Partners received \$100,000 grants in the focus areas of Education, Community, Health and Well-Being, as well as the Catalyst Grant. [Photos](#) and [Facebook Live](#) interviews recorded the ceremony and the community impact that partners will achieve from their grants. The event was sponsored by Impact Austin Founder Rebecca Powers, and the pre-program refreshments were provided by member Suzanne Daniels and Brentwood Social House.

g3 Awards Largest Grant Ever

Girls Giving Grants (g3) President Hailey Justiz announced news of their largest grant to date at Impact Austin's Annual Meeting. She presented the \$8,800 award on June 10 to The Refuge for DMST. [Read more](#) about how this grant will support teens exploited by human trafficking.



Since 2006, g3 has awarded more than \$80,000 to the Greater Austin community. [Enrollment](#) for the 2019-20 class is now open through September 20 to girls in grades 8-12.

Social Innovation Grant Committee Update

SIG Committee Launches Thought Leader Survey, Invites Members

The Social Innovation Grant Committee's mission is to identify the issues and potential collaboratives that can advance equity for women and girls of color in Central Texas. To discover who is working in this space, a survey was sent to 500 Central Texas thought leaders in June. The questions included what issues need to be addressed, who is addressing them, and what is being accomplished.

Immediately, a flood of answers came in, including issues such as abuse, affordability, child care, cultural development, discrimination, education, employment, food, gender bias, healthcare, immigration, language, leadership, security, racism, and sexual violence. More than 50 organizations were mentioned as working on such issues, and about 50 equity leaders were identified. Finally, several respondents thanked Impact Austin for this important work.

These results will help the SIG Committee determine which nonprofits will be invited to apply for the \$110,000 grant that Impact Austin members will vote on during the November 6th Townhall. However, lots of exciting research and evaluation has to be done first, so the SIG Committee is seeking additional members, especially for its Selection and Grant Review Committees, which are headed by Anju Mahendroo, also the co-chair of the SIG.

Members who expressed interest at the annual meeting and thereafter are being contacted now. If you are interested in additional information, please reach to [Anju](#) or if you would like to participate you can add your name [here](#).

Endowment Creates Permanence for Impact Austin

The Rebecca Warren Powers Endowment for Impact Austin was established in the Spring of 2016. Rebecca Powers made the first private donation to the fund in honor of the five members who founded Impact Austin with her in 2003. Impact Austin seeded the endowment and established our fund with the Austin Community Foundation, (ACF), a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, to ensure it will always be managed by professional money managers.

Impact Austin leadership gave long and careful consideration to establishing an endowment and taking this step to ensure the permanence of our organization. The endowment also provides a vehicle through which supporters can make major gifts beyond cash. Some examples can include stock, required minimum distributions from IRA's, life insurance and gifts through wills and trusts. As the endowment grows over time, the annual distributions of investment income to Impact Austin (up to 5% of the market value of the fund) will support our operations and the grantmaking mission of Impact Austin.

The Austin Community Foundation manages endowments for more than 70 local nonprofits as well as individual donors. Their robust Gift Acceptance Policy also includes transfers from existing Donor Advised Funds under their management. Impact Austin has made meaningful annual giving accessible to women from nearly all socioeconomic backgrounds and we want the endowment to offer the same access.

We are so enthusiastic about what the future holds for Impact Austin and welcome gifts from anyone who would like to support the work done by our amazing organization. Donors wishing to support The Rebecca Warren Powers Endowment for Impact Austin should make their check payable to **Austin Community Foundation** and include the endowment's name in the memo section. The check should then be mailed to: ACF, 4315 Guadalupe Street, Suite 300, Austin, TX, 78751.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss a donation to the endowment, please contact [Sara Pantin](#), Endowment Committee Chair or [Christina Gorczynski](#), Executive Director.

Board of Directors News

New Directors, New Officers

With the close of FY 2019, Impact Austin's Board of Directors will see a shift in members and officers. Most notably, Lauren Paver will conclude her two-year tenure as President with kudos from the organization; read more about her work as Impact Austin's leader on our [blog](#). Vice President Susan Palombo will assume board leadership. Thank you, Susan!



Graduating from Board service with deepest appreciation are Rebecca Powers and Mary Blegen. Joining President Susan Palombo on the FY 2020 Board of Directors:

Mary Campana, Director
Jenny Cotner, Director
Deanna DeHaven, Director
Jessica Forrest, Treasurer
Sarah Harris, Secretary
Allison Marshall, Director
Katherine Mudge, Director
Nancy Mutscher, Director
Lauren Paver, Immediate Past President

Find out all about our new directors [here](#).

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee

The DEI committee has been working hard to get Impact Austin's mission, vision and values in line with the diversity, equity and inclusion values that we want to strive for. Meet Janice Friesen, one of the committee members in the trenches of guiding our organization through this evolution in our [Member Spotlight!](#)



Philanthropy Education

Have you ever wanted to serve on a nonprofit board of directors? Would you like to support a cause or special organization in this way? Impact Austin is partnering with Mission Capital, Austin Young Chamber, and I Live Here, I Give Here to teach the essentials of service on a nonprofit board of directors. Together, we're cultivating the next generation of philanthropists, board members, and community leaders.

You're invited to join an informative one-day workshop on August 12 at the UT Club. The program runs from 10:00AM to 5:00PM. Lunch is provided and a networking happy hour follows the program. Impact Austin Executive Director Christina Gorczynski will be among the presenters; she especially welcomes your attendance!

Through July 8, Impact Austin members may [register](#) for this workshop and receive a discount by using the promo code IA2019COMP.



Board Internship

Shape the future of Central Texas.

Apply by July 8 at ilivehereigivehere.org
with discount code **IA2019COMP**.

On the Calendar

Important Dates

November 6 - Town Hall Meeting / Vote for Social Innovation Grant

Ongoing - Zone Events are happening throughout the year, [find one](#) near you

Follow and Promote us on Social Media

When you "like" and "tag" and repost our social media posts, you help to promote Impact Austin to a wider audience and potential members. Please **#JoinImpactAustin** on your social media platforms!



**SHARE OUR POSTS,
SHARE OUR IMPACT**

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter,
Instagram and LinkedIn



@ImpactATX @Impact_ATX @impact_austin Impact Austin

Check Out Our Blog

Aside from emails like this, we have a team of amazing individuals who work hard to always keep you up to date with what is happening at Impact Austin. If you have not been to our blog lately, now is a great time to take another look! [HERE](#) you will find event info, press releases, member profiles and so much more!

We're Listening

We'd love to hear from you...what do you want to learn more about? What type of information is useful for you? Contact us at contact@impactaustin.org.



JOIN TODAY

