



# ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Dear Members and Friends:

Our fiscal year 2014 was full of important changes at Impact Austin as we started our second decade of grant making in Central Texas. With 500 members, we awarded five \$100,000 grants in June. Of our members, 134 of you worked on a Focus Area

Committee and fulfilled our commitment to empower women to be philanthropists in their community. We continue to enjoy the volunteer work that more than 250 of you give on the various teams that help make Impact Austin a vibrant, volunteer-driven organization.

Our second year of the “Stepping Up to Meet Our Future” strategic plan marked an important milestone in our quest to be innovative grant makers, while creating financial sustainability. A new website and logo; the appointment of Donna Benson-Chan as Executive Director; and a pilot catalyst grant program in 2015 illustrate our commitment to being a dynamic organization. Updates on our progress are available on Impact Austin’s blog.

I want to thank you for your efforts in making 2014 another great year at Impact Austin. Your membership and contributions consistently enrich the lives of the people of Central Texas.

Rebekah Bonde  
President, 2015 Board of Directors

## 2014 OPERATIONS LEADERSHIP

**Donna Benson-Chan,**  
*Executive Director*

**Mary McGovern,**  
*Executive Administrator*

**Valerie Kirk,** *Financial Administrator*

**Connie Lawyer,** *Grants Chair*

**Laura Green,** *Marketing Chair*

**Melynda Caudle,**  
*Membership Development Chair*

**Dina Mavridis,**  
*Girls Giving Grants Chair*

**Betsy Blair,**  
*Volunteer Management co-Chair*

**Melissa Gray,**  
*Volunteer Management co-Chair*

## 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Lorene Phillips,** *President*

**Rebekah Bonde,**  
*Vice President and Treasurer*

**Valerie Kirk,** *Secretary*

**Jacqueline Rixen,** *Past President*

**Lisa Allen,** *Director*

**Patricia Burgess,** *Director*

**Sarah Elliott,** *Director*

**Laura Kane,** *Director*

**Paula Klante,** *Director*

**Diane McCartney,** *Director*

**Sara Pantin,** *Director*

**Lauren Paver,** *Director*

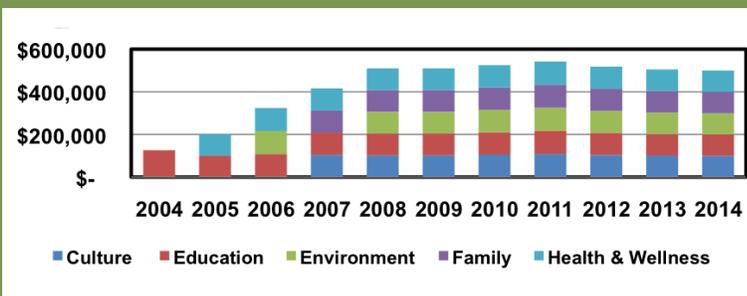
**Kali' Rourke,** *Director*

## OUR MISSION

*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.*

## A REVIEW OF 2014 GRANT MAKING

On June 16, 2014, the members of Impact Austin awarded five grants of \$100,000 each to the following Austin-area nonprofits: Anthropos Arts, Ann Richards School Foundation, Austin Youth River Watch, CASA of Travis County, and Samaritan Center. Since our founding in 2003, Impact Austin has distributed \$4,677,000, bettering the lives of thousands of Central Texans.



## GIRLS GIVING GRANTS

In April 2014, Impact Austin's youth initiative, Girls Giving Grants (g3), selected its Community Partner, Helping Hand Home for Children, an organization that provides a place to heal for abused, neglected, and abandoned children. The \$5,200 grant supports the Kids Closet program, which provides new and seasonally appropriate clothes to 70 children each year. G3 is open to girls in grades 8-12, with the individual annual membership fee of \$100 pooled to maximize its impact on the Central Texas community. Since 2006, g3 has distributed over \$40,000 in grants.



## MEMBER AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Impact Austin organized several events throughout the year. In the fall of 2013, Impact Austin hosted six Membership Community Coffees at various local businesses, as well as Membership Orientation for new members. In January 2014, Impact Austin held its annual Discovery Day, featuring several experts' views on the most pressing issues facing the Central Texas community, with an emphasis on our focus areas: culture, education, environment, family, and health & wellness. In February 2014, we held an all member meeting to discuss our 2014 – 2016 strategic plan, Stepping Up to Meet Our Future, and held Volunteer Days in April 2014. The fiscal year culminated in the Annual Meeting, held in June 2014 at Topfer Theatre at ZACH Theatre.



## Culture | ANTHROPOS ARTS

Anthropos Arts connects low-income youth with Austin's best musicians for free music lessons, mentoring, workshops, and performance opportunities in some of Austin's best-known venues. The Teaching More Reaching More initiative increases the number of students served from 110 to 150 and doubles the number of lessons for every student.



## Education | Ann Richards School Foundation

Ann Richards School (ARS) is an all-girls public school serving grades 6 through 12, with 75% of the students from Title One (low-income feeder schools) schools. The ARS MakerSpace is a cutting-edge, hands-on, project-based center that provides a tinkering space to transform projects from concept to creation and allows students to deepen their understanding of science, technology, engineering, and math.



## Environment | Austin Youth River Watch

Austin Youth River Watch combines environmental education with drop-out prevention, providing a safe place for teenagers to grow and gain confidence, while learning to be active stewards of our planet. The River Watchers Restoring Austin Streams program will engage students in week-long, hands-on stream restoration projects, such as bank stabilization, vegetation management, and trail building, including a weekend 'work day' with community volunteers led by the students.



## Family | CASA of Travis County

CASA of Travis County promotes and protects the best interests of abused and neglected children by training volunteers to advocate for them in courts, schools, and the community. The Trauma-Informed Care in the Foster Care System project intends to improve and standardize the level of skills for providers through a collaborative training system, with the overarching goal of helping foster youth heal more quickly from the trauma of abuse and neglect.



## Health & Wellness | Samaritan Center

The Samaritan Center's mission is to provide professional counseling, integrative medicine, and community education to prevent and treat abuse, teach healthy life skills, and strengthen families. The Integrated Health Care for a Healthier Community project will address the problem of a fragmented health care system by providing telepsychiatry services and providing a full-time case manager. The telepsychiatry care will provide access to time-sensitive psychiatric assessments, medication adjustments and prescription.



**\$500,000**

**Grant funding awarded  
in 2014**

**\$4,677,000**

**Total grants awarded  
since 2003**

**500**

**Active Members in fiscal  
year 2014**

**134**

**Number of members serving on  
Focus Area Committees**

**114**

**Number of Letters of Inquiry**

**266**

**Attendance at our 2014  
Annual Meeting**

Impact Austin's fiscal year 2014 ran from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. An independent audit was conducted by Gindler, Chappell, Morrison, & Co. P.C. The complete audited financial statements and the auditor's report can be found on our website at <http://www.impactaustin.org/news-events/categories/c/financial-reports>

## OUR VISION

*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."*



P.O. BOX 28148 | AUSTIN, TX 78755 | (512) 335-5540 | [WWW.IMPACTAUSTIN.ORG](http://WWW.IMPACTAUSTIN.ORG)