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# NEWS

For Extraordinary Members



## From Our Founder



A recent page from my diary....

*Today, I walked with a friend as the sun came up. We mixed laughter with talk about our families, upcoming vacations, the books we're currently reading and anything else that came to mind. Taking time for 'me' feels really good. Must continue this practice!*

*Shortly after 9am, the phone rang...a woman in Boston asked for advice as she helps her giving circle repurpose itself in a way that more aligns with the Impact Austin model. It's fun to share our success and help others along the way.*

*I put the finishing touches on a presentation about 'member retention' for the first 'Women's*

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## Save The Date

### Spring into Recruiting for Impact Austin!

Please join us in sharing the Impact Austin story by bringing your friends to our first Community Coffee for 2011!

**Wednesday, April 20th  
6:30-8 p.m.**

[Collectic Home](#)

Austin's Upscale Interior Showroom

2785 Bee Caves Road

Austin, TX 78746

[map](#)

[Click here to RSVP](#)



*Collective Giving Leadership Forum' in San Diego. My mind wandered as I thought about the day Austin would host this conference. I'm reminded of our mission statement that says we are 'a progressive leader in women's philanthropy'.*

*I packed my suitcase in anticipation of being 'fed' by the 90+ women attending the Forum. But, I think I'm more excited that Phil will join me after the conference, and we'll spend a few days together in San Diego...no smart phones, no email, no distractions. I like this new chapter!!*

*Slowing down is not natural for me, but I'm learning its benefits. Sleep comes easier. I'm actually 'present' in conversations with Phil. Distractions are few, and life is unfolding just as it should. I continue to explore what's next...and, it's still coming into view.*

All of this reminds me that, if not for the Beyond Impact campaign and the funds we're raising to invest in our future, I'd still be tied to my desk answering emails and managing the day-to-day business of Impact Austin. Thanks to all who have contributed and those who are still considering making a pledge. It matters to me, and it matters for our future!

With appreciation and gratitude,

- Rebecca Powers, Founder

## Mark Your Calendar

### **Beyond**

### **Impact Meetings**

**March 28, 2011 ([RSVP](#))**

or

**April 7, 2011 ([RSVP](#))**

or

**April 20, 2011 ([RSVP](#))**

**7:00 p.m.**

The home of Kay Wilemon

4608 Mantle Dr.

Austin, TX 78746

### **Community Coffee**

**Wednesday, April 20, 2011**

Contact Becky Griner at [bgriner@impact-austin.org](mailto:bgriner@impact-austin.org) with questions or for additional information.

## Beyond Impact Campaign

### Invest in Our Future!

Many of you have now heard first-hand about the Beyond Impact campaign to raise funds to finance Impact Austin's investment in its quality programs and the organization's infrastructure. Through the campaign, you have the opportunity to invest in this exciting and critical phase of our growth. We are no longer in start-up mode. We have run "skinny" for almost 8 years and now it's time to take the next step that will help ensure our sustainability. Having pledges in place for the next three years will allow our new full time executive director to get acclimated to Impact Austin and to our culture before creating a comprehensive future funding strategy.

#### Why you should invest:

- Continue our success and build on our foundation of excellence
- Sustain our business model and maintain quality programs
- Improve our ability to expand grant opportunities
- Pay for the caliber of leadership that Impact Austin members have come to expect and hire a full time executive director
- Thrive past our founder's day-to-day presence
- And it's simply good business!

Campaign Goal: \$200,000 per year for 3 years (FY2012, FY2013, and FY2014) to be raised through one time or multi-year gifts from members for a total of \$600,000.

#### Our success so far:

- More than fifty members have already committed \$270,000 in pledges for the next three years
- We are at 45% of our goal of \$600,000!
- We have told the Beyond Impact story at the Town Hall meetings and at every FAC meeting.
- We are contacting every member who said "I want to help!"

#### Other ways to participate:

- Find a friend or family member who will honor you by donating to our future.
- Honor a special person, your daughter, your mother, your best friend by giving to Beyond Impact. We will send them an announcement of this honor and tell them all about Impact Austin!

**6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (RSVP)**

Collectic Home  
Austin's Upscale Interior  
Showroom  
2785 Bee Caves Road  
Austin, TX 78746

### **Annual Meeting**

**Monday, June 6, 2011**

**6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Congregation Agudas Achim  
7300 Hart Lane  
Austin, TX 78731

### **Member Spotlight**

Lauren Paver



Lauren Paver has been selected as a 2011 "Woman on Her Toes" by the [Ballet Austin Guild](#), and will receive an award during the event which will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 7th. Lauren is being honored for her outstanding volunteer efforts with Impact Austin.

Lauren became a member of Impact Austin in 2008 and immediately joined a focus area committee. The following year, Lauren joined the marketing committee, and as Marketing Chair built an amazing team that has greatly increased the level and quality of print, electronic, and video collateral that serves to remind our members why Impact Austin is a great organization to support and expands our visibility in the community by highlighting our grant recipients and the great work

To learn more about investing in our future and how to participate in the Beyond Impact Campaign, we will be hosting informational coffees and we look forward to seeing you there:

- **April 7<sup>th</sup>** ([R.S.V.P. here](#) by April 3rd)
- **April 20<sup>th</sup>** ([R.S.V.P. here](#) by April 16th)

Where: Home of Kay Wilemon at 4608 Mantle Dr., Austin, TX 78746 [Map](#) (512) 732-2355

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Alternatively, if you are ready to invest in the Beyond Impact Campaign you can [go online](#) or complete and mail the attached [Beyond Impact Austin Campaign pledge form](#).

Lastly, to those of you who have already invested in Beyond Impact, and those who might have stretched their budget to join Impact Austin, we thank you! To those who are still out there who can further support Impact Austin through this campaign, we urge you to sign up now with a pledge for a period of 1 to 3 years.

For additional information or questions, please contact [nancyword@gmail.com](mailto:nancyword@gmail.com)

Nancy Word and Kay Wilemon  
Beyond Impact Campaign

"When we use what we have to support our highest ideals and commitments and express our deepest values, our experiences of our own true wealth expands." *The Soul of Money* by Lynne Twist

## **Community Partner Spotlight**

### Communities In Schools of Central Texas

#### **The XY-Zone brings hope to adolescent males at Bastrop High School**

The young men of Bastrop High School have benefited tremendously from the targeted funding provided by Impact Austin, which enabled [Communities In Schools](#) to expand its proven XY-Zone Program to a community where there are few resources for adolescent males.

The XY-Zone at Bastrop High School has been impressive! The program's holistic approach to serving boys at risk of dropping out with case management, individual and group guidance, and academic support has exceeded our expectations for this new

they do. She now uses her skills and non-profit experience to serve on both the Executive Director Transition Committee and the Beyond Impact Committee.

On March 23rd, Lauren was featured in the "Up the Ladder" section of the Austin American Statesman for her recent promotion to COO of the [United Way Capital Area](#).

Congratulations, Lauren!

**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](mailto:newsletter@impact-austin.org)

## Help Wanted

### Membership Development

Membership Committee is expanding and needs your help! We have opportunities in member recruitment, engagement and education as well as volunteer management and event planning and execution.

If you are interested in joining the Membership Committee, please email Meg Arnold, Membership Development Chair, at [marnold@impact-austin.org](mailto:marnold@impact-austin.org).

## Help Wanted

### Public Relations

The Impact Austin Marketing Committee needs YOU! We are looking for a member who is interested in assisting with Public Relations activities around the Annual Meeting. **This is a month-long project spanning from mid-May until mid-June.** The activities include (but are not limited to):

- Draft and distribute 2011 Community Partner press release.
- Assist with arrangement of the 2011 Community Partner grant award presentation ceremony.
- Follow up with the Impact Austin and 2011 Community Partner media contacts in an effort to drive media

location. School records show the following outstanding outcomes for the young men in the program at Bastrop during the fall semester:

- 90% of students have improved or maintained in academics
- 94% have improved or maintained in rates of attendance
- 93% have improved or maintained in behavior

Service learning projects are an essential part of the program, and the young men in the XY-Zone program have had a truly positive impact on the Bastrop community through their volunteer efforts at the Bastrop Food Pantry and two Bastrop Nursing Homes. In March, young men from our program will begin mentoring students at the middle and elementary schools that feed into Bastrop High School and the younger kids that attend the Boys & Girls Club after school program.

This year, Live in Peace was celebrated from January 17-21 and it was a great event! This week-long cross campus service project raises awareness about violence in schools and communities, and promotes peaceful interactions and safe environments. The students from the XY-Zone had other students sign a pledge, stating **"Violence in any form is wrong! Today, I choose to make a friend and not an enemy."** The XY-Zone collected nearly 7,500 signatures, and gave out 10,000 Live In Peace stickers on ten different campuses.

To close out Live In Peace week, the XY-Zone program made its 3rd annual trip to Houston to visit the Holocaust museum (see picture below). The young men were moved by the pictures and events shown and described at the Holocaust museum, and were incredibly touched by the speech given to them by one of the museum volunteers, who told his own story of survival during the Holocaust, WWII, and establishing the State of Israel. It was a trip that none of the young men will soon forget.

attendance for the grant award presentation ceremony and create media coverage around our 2011 grants.

Public relations experience is ideal, but not necessary. If you have time for a month-long project and want to help make the 2011 Annual Meeting a huge success, this role is for you!

To learn more or express interest, please contact Laura Green, Marketing Chair, at [lgreen@impact-austin.org](mailto:lgreen@impact-austin.org) or 512.659.5308.

## Connect with Us

We invite you to visit us online at [www.impact-austin.org](http://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:

Find us on Facebook 

View our profile on LinkedIn 

View all our amazing videos on Impact Austin's [YouTube Channel](#).

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

## 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.

## 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."



XY-Zone Coordinators and students from Crockett and Bastrop High Schools pictured with Holocaust survivor Zoly Zahir

To learn more about the XY-Zone program, please visit or contact:

Robert Bachicha, Senior Program Coordinator, (512) 464-9730  
[rbachciha@cisaustin.org](mailto:rbachciha@cisaustin.org)

Communities In Schools of Central Texas website:

<http://www.cisaustin.org>

XY-Zone page: <http://www.cisaustin.org/page-xy-zone.cfm>

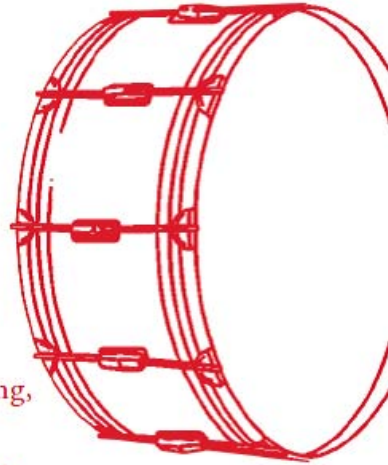
## Badgerdog Literary Publishing

"Love Is" is the winning poem from Badgerdog's creative writing workshops' 2011 spring poem contest. The nonprofit [Badgerdog Literary Publishing](#) places professional writers in Austin-area schools and publishes student work biannually. Badgerdog was Impact Austin's 2010 Culture grant recipient.

Badgerdog will host their Community Wide Reading and Book Release Party on Saturday, May 21, from 10 am - noon, at St. David's Episcopal Church (301 e. 8th Street). Students benefitting from the Impact Austin grant will be part of this program-wide culminating event, where students read before a large general audience and sign books afterward.

# Love Is

Love is like friendship, but  
it is a little bit stronger.  
If a man gives a woman  
a heart and a very red ruby ring,  
that shows his love for her.  
Sometimes, if they go on a date  
and they love each other, the man  
might ask if she wants to share  
a plate of chocolate– and whip-cream–  
covered strawberries. At the end,  
his heart will beat as loud as a bass drum.



JESSIE PORTER, ORTEGA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Executive Director Transition Update

### Steps Toward Hiring a Permanent ED

The CEO Transition Committee has been busy working with [InterSource Recruiting](#) and Donna Benson-Chan, Impact Austin Interim Executive Director, on two primary activities to help us toward our goal of hiring a qualified Executive Director to take Impact Austin into its next phase of growth.

These activities include an internal assessment to guide the focus of the board and the new Executive Director over the next year. The assessment has proven beneficial in helping us determine where we could improve our infrastructure and to identify the competencies and skill sets needed in our first paid, full-time Executive Director. With this ground work laid, the next step is to begin the interview process, which is currently planned to take place in April. The goal is to have an Executive Director hired in time to meet the Impact Austin membership at our Annual Meeting in June.

Please stay tuned to the Impact Austin newsletter for future details and information. For questions please contact Diane McCartney,

Chair, Transition Committee at [dlmccartney@gmail.com](mailto:dlmccartney@gmail.com) or 512.922.0274.

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