



NEWS UPDATE

FEBRUARY 2019



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Have a Friend who'd like to Join Impact100?

If someone you know would like to join but has financial restrictions, have them contact [Membership](#) to learn about making monthly payments by check, bank account or PayPal. It's best to make arrangements early in the year because the full \$1,000 donation must be complete by next January's membership deadline. If your friend begins the process now, she will be invited to all 2019 gatherings, and vote in 2020.

That's almost two years for one -- we hope your friends will join us!

6th Annual Suite D Dinner:

Don't miss this members-only evening of laughter and deepening friendships – and sumptuous food and wine! This year member Zanne Clark will interview Karen Collins, a local civic leader in environmental, outdoor recreation and women's healthcare issues who was recently named Sonoma's 2019 Alcaldessa, or honorary mayor.

Register [HERE](#) using password: **Impact2019**.

Quick Calendar:

February 21 - Annual Suite D Dinner, 5:30 – 9:00 pm, Suite D, 8th Street East, Sonoma, See Announcements, above. Register [HERE](#) using password: **Impact2019**.

March 9 – Member Engagement, The Million Dollar Quartet, 2:00 – 4:30 pm, 6th Street Playhouse, Santa Rosa. Watch for your invitation to this rocking new musical. Limited to 20 members.

March 16 - 2018 Grant Recipients Update, 9:30 am - Noon, Vintage House, Hear directly from 2018 grant recipients how your grant dollars are supporting Sonoma Valley. Mark your calendar and watch for an invitation.

CO-PRESIDENTS LETTER

The celebratory atmosphere at the 2019 all-members Annual Meeting on January 26 was palpable. It's always exciting to get our members together, and the fact that we were kicking off our 10th anniversary year heightened the excitement. Many thanks go to Tracy Reynes and the Events Committee for the grand fare and libations that greeted us.

Judith Walsh, Co-President and Governance Chair, honored our founding members and past board members. After nine years and over \$2,000,000 funded to Sonoma Valley nonprofits, they should be very proud. Founding member Ann Reder remembered some of our organization's major milestones, and Sonoma Mayor Amy Harrington read and presented a City of Sonoma Proclamation recognizing ten years of service by Impact100 to the people, resources and environment of our community.

We were honored to host Colleen Willoughby, who is credited with creating the model of collective grant giving, as our keynote speaker. Colleen spoke movingly of her life's work engaging women in active, hands-on philanthropy. Many thanks to Celia Canfield and Wendy Hoffman for bringing Colleen to Sonoma and making it such a meaningful presentation.

Claudia Sims, Grants Oversight Chair, announced that an Anniversary Grant of \$50,000 will be awarded in June as well as the Impact Grant and Community Grants. Vianette Contreras and Betzy Chavez updated us on our growing NextGen Program. Helen Bohl, Treasurer, announced that we ended 2018 in the black, with a small surplus. Thank you

treasurer, announced that we ended 2018 in the black, that's a small surprise. Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets or donated to Members Plus- You made the difference in meeting our budget. We are also grateful for a generous donation of \$10,000 from the Erickson Foundation. Read more in the Annual Meeting article, below.

In my remarks on where our organization stands now, I explained the challenges of managing year-to-year with an unpredictable income stream. With the goal of being responsible stewards of your donations, the board has voted to follow in the footsteps of many collective giving organizations and institute a mandatory operations fee to be paid yearly by each member. However, since we ended 2018 in good financial shape, we voted to postpone the fee for at least a year. Also, the board voted to maintain a reserve fund of \$40K. An ad hoc committee will be formed to make recommendations regarding the use of funds that are surplus to the reserve. Stay tuned!

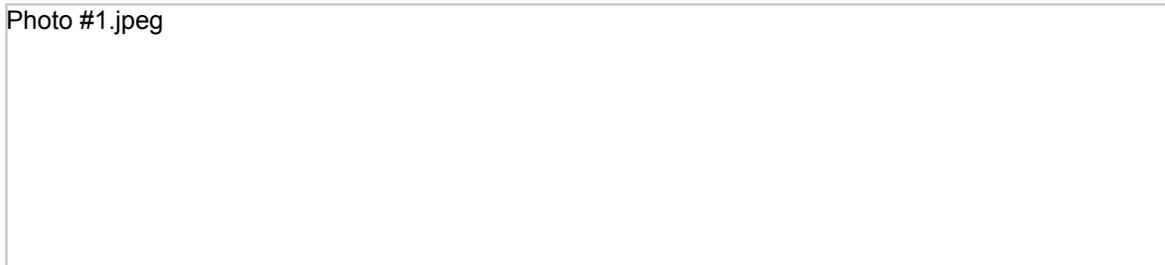
The meeting's crescendo came when Gera Vaz and Sarah Carroll, Membership, announced that we have \$314,000 in grant funds for 2019! With a record 66 new members, we are now 319-strong, a number that reflects our new shared membership program. Thank you Gera and Sarah for your tireless work to engage and inspire us! And thank you to all our members for your heartfelt support of Sonoma Valley nonprofits. See you at an upcoming event!

Lynne Lancaster, Co-President



2019: Ten Years of Impact Record Membership and Grant Dollars

Photo #1.jpeg



Sonoma Mayor Amy Harrington offered a Proclamation honoring ten years of service.

2019 marks the 10th anniversary of Impact100 Sonoma and the energy during the all-members Annual Meeting on January 26 was as effusive and celebratory as a fireworks show. Congratulations to all our members. This is your success. This is your legacy to Sonoma Valley.

Wreathed in a mayoral sash, Sonoma Mayor Amy Harrington honored the anniversary

milestone by presenting a City Proclamation congratulating our organization for ten years of exemplary stewardship and support of nonprofit organizations that serve the people, resources and environment of Sonoma Valley, and for empowering women of all ages and backgrounds to become leaders of the community and beyond.

Gera Vaz and Sarah Carroll got right to the numbers:

2019

319 Members (including shared memberships)

means we have

\$314,000 to fund grants in June 2019!

That will make

\$2,376,000 Grant Dollars Awarded since 2009

Wow!

The meeting's keynote speaker, Colleen Willoughby, has dedicated the last decades of her life to educating and empowering women to work collectively to change the world. Organizations Colleen either founded or co-founded include the Seattle CityClub, the Washington Women's Foundation and the Women's Collective Giving Grantmakers Network (WCGN, now Catalyst).

 After her keynote address. Colleen Willoughby, left, was interviewed by member Wendy Hoffman.

Colleen explained, "Collective giving gives women, or anyone, the opportunity to be a philanthropist for transformative results because of the leveraged activity of many donors pooling their funds. Women together will build on opportunities to make things better, stronger and more beautiful for the futures of our children, our God daughters and those yet unborn. God gave us a world to be loved. We must grasp the golden ring and bring that promise back to life. Women's collective giving funds will be a player."

After her talk, Colleen was interviewed by Wendy Hoffman and took questions from members. Asked how collective giving transforms women grant-givers, Colleen quoted Seattle philanthropist Sam Stroum's definition of philanthropy: "Philanthropy is a connection between the head and the heart. It has little to do with the pocketbook."

 Colleen Willoughby made a \$500 donation to the NextGen Program. Left to right: Betzy Chavez, Colleen, Lynne Lancaster and Vianette Contreras.

In gratitude for her traveling to Sonoma and sharing her words of wisdom and experience, Impact100 gave Colleen a \$500 honorarium. That gesture was immediately returned when she donated it to the NextGen Program which provides 2-year scholarships for young women to join Impact100. Clearly Colleen walks her talk. As women in philanthropy, we are indebted to her in ways we can't even know.

Members Suzy Tung, Patti Hutchins, Marcia Charles-Mo, Lynne Lancaster, Mirja Muncy Mary Lee Rybar

Touching on the 10th Anniversary theme of “Where We’ve Been, Where We Are, and Where We’re Going”, founding member Ann Reder recounted some of the milestones of the past ten years:

- 2009 Founding of Impact100
- 2010 1st Impact Grant
- 2011 1st Community Grants
- 2014 Over \$1 Million in grants
- 2015 1st July 4th Parade
- 2016 Found NextGen Program
- 2016 Receive the Sonoma Co. Community Champion Award
- 2017 Receive a Spotlight Award from WCGN
- 2018 Over \$2 Million in grants
- 2018 New Impact100 Branding
- 2018 Membership nearly triples
- 2019 Onward and Upward – Congratulations one and All!

These are just a few highlights of our evolving organization. Members who were able to attend the Annual Meeting received a Milestone hand-out that includes in more detail the growth of Impact100. Click [HERE](#) to view the Timeline.

 Admin. Asst. Chelsea Gregory and Sarah Carroll, Membership, selling Impact100 t-shirts and visors.

Treasurer Helen Bohl shared Where We are Now, financially speaking. Thanks to an unexpected \$10,000 donation from the Erickson Foundation, our entrepreneurial membership team that organized raffles and Impact100 visor and t-shirt sales, and the angels of Members *Plus* who contributed beyond their basic membership donation to help fund our organization’s operating expenses, we ended 2018 with a small surplus. Currently, fewer than half of our members contribute to Members *Plus*. If you can financially, please take a moment now to support the running of our organization so we can continue our good work to benefit the community. It’s easy. Just click [HERE](#).

Members Harriet Derwingson, Mabeth Sanderson, Piper Abodeely, Allyson Wiley-Weekes, Kim Schuh and Lucy Weiger

In the Co-Presidents Letter, above, Lynne Lancaster explains Where We are Now as an organization as a whole. So that leaves the question, Where are We Going? Stay tuned to hear details about a 5-Year Visioning Meeting during which we will dream and dare and guide Impact100 to further success in the years to come.

Members Hope Nisson, Ellen Murphy, Marilyn Albright, Pat Grillos, Susan Staggs and Debbe Noto

Thanks to all our members – those who only provide those vital grant dollars through their membership donations (we are proud to be a no-guilt organization!!!), those who contribute more to help run the organization, and those who become involved in making

it all work – Impact100 Sonoma has matured from an upstart start-up to a community powerhouse of women leaders creating *a thriving Sonoma Valley*. Onward!

Members Liz Tunney Williams, Joanne Warren, Sandee Crisp, Kay Heigel, Jan Erickson and Diana Sanson

Contact Us

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