



Monthly News

SEPTEMBER 2022



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- Impact100 Sonoma announces Star Volunteer of the Year.
- Co-Presidents urge attendance at our “party with a purpose.”
- Board amends vision statement to better reflect DEI commitment.
- Two Board volunteer opportunities open the door to leadership, plus Communications calls all creatives.
- No excuses for staying home! Fall events offer something for everyone.
- Grants team gears up for 2023 with enthusiasm and expanded resources.



Dana Simpson-Stokes Named Star Volunteer of the Year

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the selection of Dana Simpson-Stokes as Impact100's Star Volunteer for 2022. The Sonoma Valley Catalyst Fund (now merged with Sonoma Valley Fund) will host the 13th annual Star Volunteer Awards celebration on Sunday, October 9, at the Hanna Center auditorium, where Dana will join honorees from dozens of other nonprofits onstage. The Star awards enable nonprofits to recognize a volunteer who has made a significant contribution to the organization and the community during 2021.

Dana has served on the Impact100 Board for more than five years, leading the Grants team for the last three. She adapted the grants process and structure through Covid, spearheading a pivot to an updated grants strategy that reflects Sonoma Valley's current needs. Her tireless efforts have resulted in substantial upgrades to the grants process, including online applications, shortened applications, and now a new grants management system. Her background in the arts has made her a creative and innovative leader, contributing significantly to our Impact100 core mission.



At the August Board meeting, Co-Presidents Claudia Sims (left) and Debbe Noto (right) congratulated Grants Oversight Co-Chair Dana Simpson-Stokes on her selection as Impact100 Sonoma's 2022 Star Volunteer.

CO-PRESIDENTS CORNER

The Impact100 Sonoma Annual Garden Party is almost here (see details below under Upcoming Events). The invitations are out, and we hope you'll join us! Why is this "party with a purpose" so important?

It provides an opportunity for us to:

- Enjoy the lovely Armstrong Estates garden and patio of a generous member.
- Savor delicious appetizers and beverages, and even meet the chef.
- Visit with other Impact100 Sonoma members and their guests.
- Renew your membership for 2023.
- **Bring a friend** to meet other members and perhaps join for 2023.
- Hear about the Grants strategy for 2023.

Renew or Join: Remember **100%** of our membership donations go to fund grants!

One final note of encouragement: you know those nice outdoor party clothes lurking in the back of your closet? This is an opportunity to wear them!

We look forward to greeting you—**and your guests**—on September 24.



Debbe Noto and Claudia Sims, Co-Presidents

Revised Vision Statement: A **Just and Thriving Sonoma Valley**

At the August meeting, the Board of Directors approved a change to Impact100 Sonoma's vision statement to reflect our commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. We hope the extension of our vision from A Thriving Sonoma Valley to **A Just and Thriving Sonoma Valley** reminds us of that commitment every time we see or hear it. For your reference, our DEI statement appears below.

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

As a nonprofit organization with a mission to improve the quality of life in our community, it is essential that we confront the effects of racism and discrimination, accept that we have work to do, and recognize that we bear collective responsibility for dismantling systemic racism and injustice in our community. Therefore, we are committed to:

1. Creating an organizational culture and set of values that reflect the principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice.
2. Ensuring our staffing, spaces, programming, outreach, communications, Board membership, and other organizational aspects are welcoming and inclusive of different perspectives.
3. Actively working to center and engage marginalized voices.
4. Making this work ongoing by adopting an equity lens in strategic planning.

VOLUNTEER OPENINGS



Board Secretary

Get involved at the highest level, even if you have limited time to commit. The Secretary attends and participates in Board Meetings, documents the proceedings, and works with the Co-Presidents and other leaders to finalize and post the minutes. All you need is a notepad, a pen (or a laptop)—and a voice! For more information, contact Ann Iverson at anniverson55@gmail.com.

Treasurer Shadow

If you're curious about Board service, shadowing a current chair is the perfect way to get started. The Treasurer is responsible for financial strategy and reporting, budgets, bills, banking, insurance, tax filings, grants contracts and disbursements, and other essential money matters that keep Impact100 thriving. A background in finance, accounting, banking, or related field makes you an ideal candidate. For more information, contact Marney Malik at marney.malik@gmail.com.

Communications Team Members

Help get the word out about Impact100. The Communications team is responsible for newsletters, press releases, event invitations, social media, the website, and more. If

you have a background in project management, marketing, public relations, advertising, journalism, online promotion, or other related field, we need your creative talent. For more information, contact Molly Detwiler at msdetwiler@aol.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 24, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM - Annual Garden Party

Reconnect, renew, and recruit as we kick off Impact100 Sonoma's 2023 membership drive at a beautiful home in Armstrong Estates. Invite a prospective member (or two!) to meet our talented leaders and mingle over drinks and appetizers, including Italian delicacies presented in person by Chef Andrea Marino of Salumeria Ovello. Cost: \$25. Invitations are out, interest is high, and attendance is limited, so register you and your guest(s) now if you haven't already.



Tuesday, September 27, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM - Sonoma Farmers Market

Turning leaves. Fall produce. Pumpkin spice. After a glorious summer of meetups on the Sonoma Plaza, it's time to close out the season with a salute to the autumn harvest. Bring family and friends, an appetizer to share, your favorite beverage, and a lawn chair or blanket if you'd like. Mark your calendar now and watch for your invitation soon.

Thursday, September 29, 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM - NEW Spotlight Series: Paws For Life

Understand crucial issues affecting our community through this new speaker series, continuing monthly at the Pueblo Serena Clubhouse on 5th Street West. Join fellow members for lively late afternoons of learning and conversation with nonprofit leaders engaged in unique, inspiring work.

First up is **Jon Grobman**, director of Paws For Life K9 Rescue, an organization dedicated to placing dogs in need with incarcerated trainers in California State Prisons. Jon will share his own transformative journey from troubled youth to prison inmate to empathetic leader, and how caring for animals offers hope and redemption in the most

inhumane of circumstances. Watch for your invitation and sign up immediately, as attendance will be limited for this free event.



Thursday, October 27, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM - Mixer at Three Sticks Wines

Bring prospective members to Three Sticks Wines for a fun and fabulous recruitment mixer at the historic Vallejo-Casteñada Adobe on West Spain Street, just off the Plaza. The former home of Salvador Vallejo, brother of General Mariano Vallejo, has been lovingly restored as a Sonoma landmark and upscale wine-tasting venue. Mark your calendar now and watch for your invitation in the weeks ahead.

Thursday, November 3, 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM - Spotlight Series: GENup

Sonoma Impact100's new speaker series at the Pueblo Serena Clubhouse continues with representatives from GENup Sonoma, our school district's chapter of a California-based, nationwide, student-led social justice organization and student-activist coalition advocating for educational equity. Learn how valley youth are creating change through grassroots organizing and the relentless pursuit of local policy reform. Watch for your invitation in the weeks ahead for this free, limited-attendance event.

OUT AND ABOUT

They came, they saw, they flamingled! At the Tuesday evening Farmers Market on August 23, NextGen co-hosts Amy Gallagher (left) and Emma McCulloch warmly welcomed members, family, and friends to join them among a flamboyance of flamingos.



GRANTS UPDATE

Cheryl Hannon has joined the Grants team in a key new role designed to enhance grants administration. As Grant Review Committee Resource Chair, Cheryl will oversee training for the Grants Review Committees and evaluate the grants cycle for process improvements.

The Grants team is also hard at work adopting a new grants management platform. Like many of our nonprofit partners, we at Impact100 need technology support to improve our ability to execute our core mission. At the suggestion of several partners, the team evaluated and now plans to implement grants management software to simplify the application process and facilitate grants tracking and review. In fact, the chosen software is the same as that used by two other important local funders: Community Foundation Sonoma County and Sonoma Valley Catalyst Fund. So it's already familiar to many valley nonprofits, which should ease the transition.

At the Annual Garden Party on September 24, the Grants team will reveal Impact100's 2023 Grants strategy and officially open registration for Grant Review Committees. Look for members wearing the buttons that say "Ask Me About Grants." And then introduce your guests!





Contact Us

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