



MONTHLY NEWS

September 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

- Grants Team has a new initiative in store for 2024, with GRC signups starting soon.
- Co-Presidents urge you to renew and recruit for a memorable 15th anniversary.
- Garden Party, blood drive, and first fall Spotlight event highlight upcoming events.

GRANTS UPDATE



The Grants Team might seem quiet in the summer, but as soon as we hand out checks in April, we're laying the groundwork for the year ahead. Here's what you can look forward to this fall.

First, we've been busy lining up our 2024 Grants Team. We have a full slate of Grant Review Committee (GRC) Co-Leaders, some new, some veterans, and all excited about the new grantmaking season. Already on the job is **Leslie Blankenship**, who has stepped in as Grants Oversight Assistant Chair. Leslie is shadowing Co-Chairs **Kathy Bloch** and **Dana Simpson-Stokes** to learn more about their roles and responsibilities.

You might recall that, based on recommendations from an independent ad hoc committee, for 2023 we opted to continue offering multiple Impetus Grants of up to \$25,000 for the foreseeable future. Per committee findings, we also invested in a new grant-management software system that has received rave reviews from nonprofits and volunteers alike and set us up to succeed well into the future.

In preparation for our 15th anniversary year, we've pursued more of the study's recommendations. A strategy group comprising Kathy, Dana, Leslie, **Marney Malik**, **Debby Kweller**, and **Dian Duvall**, assisted by **Barbara Talbott** and representatives of the Catalyst Fund, developed and proposed a special new grant initiative that was approved by the Impact100 Sonoma Board in July. We'll make the big announcement at the Annual Garden Party on September 23—yet another reason to attend!

Now is also the time to consider serving on a 2024 GRC or the Financial Review Committee (FRC), from January through April. **Signups begin right after the Garden Party and close December 1.** Watch for your invitation letter and learn more [HERE](#).



CO-PRESIDENTS CORNER

September conjures many happy images—back-to-school routines, the return of football season, and, here in wine country, the grape harvest. This month also marks the kickoff of our 2024 grants season and annual membership drive, when we encourage members to renew and to recruit more women to join our giving circle.

We'll make it all official at our Annual Garden Party on Saturday afternoon, September 23. In a few weeks we'll gather in the extraordinary home gardens of Impact100 members **Penney Magrane** and **Joan Howley, MD**. (More details appear below.) This membership campaign is even more special because we'll also celebrate our 15th anniversary in 2024 by showcasing our accomplishments, recognizing our nonprofit and community partners, and thanking you, our member donors.

As you consider renewing your membership or recruiting friends, we want to remind you that the annual minimum donation for 2024 is \$1,200. Of that amount, \$1,000 goes exclusively to fund grants, while the remaining \$200 goes to help cover essential operating expenses. Impact100 Sonoma is growing. Since our founding in 2009, our membership has tripled, and running our organization has become more technically complex. Operating expenses include basics such as insurance, post-office box and licensing fees, venue rentals, general administration, and a web-based enrollment and accounting system. More recently we have addressed the need for grant management software and bookkeeping assistance.

One such operating essential is **Jennifer Taylor**, our remote, part-time administrator, with us since 2019. Last month several board members had the opportunity to meet with her in person. We all benefit from her cheerful, professional assistance and can-do spirit. She is definitely a key resource as we head into our 2024 membership campaign and milestone year. Thank you, Jen, for your countless contributions.

We can't wait to see you all at the Garden Party or around the Plaza!



Debbe Noto and **Claudia Sims**, Co-Presidents



Jennifer Taylor, Administrator

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



Let's celebrate our 15th anniversary by making 2024 a record year! Join our board leaders and many others in renewing your membership **before** the Annual Garden Party on September 23. **Renew [HERE](#) today!**

VOLUNTEER OPENINGS



Events Team Members

Want to get more involved without ongoing commitments? The Events Team needs help with preparation details, setup, and breakdown for member parties and meetings. You'll receive only one email before each event that invites you to choose your assignment. So help out when you can and have fun doing it! For more information, contact **Karen Sherman** at ks@axlecom.com.

Membership Team Members

With our annual membership drive getting underway, the Membership Committee seeks volunteers to help with Vote 2024 recruitment parties, followup calls to prospective and renewing members, and other opportunities to keep Impact100 Sonoma growing. If you have a few hours to spare in the fall, contact **Sandee Crisp** at sandeeandrod@gmail.com to learn more.

Impact100 Cares—About YOU!

If you or a member you know is going through a difficult life transition such as a family loss or serious illness or is celebrating a milestone event, the Impact Cares team is standing by to offer encouragement or cheer.

To reach out, contact **Mary Jane Stolte** at 415-518-3389 or mjstolte7@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday, September 22, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM **Impact100 Sonoma/American Red Cross Blood Drive**

We're teaming up once again with the American Red Cross for a blood drive at the Sonoma Community Center. Of our 31 donor slots, **20** remain available. Let's make sure all are filled for this important cause! To make an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code **Impact100 Sonoma**.

We also need **four volunteers** to help check in and direct donors, two for each shift. If you're available from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM or 12:30 PM to 3:00 PM, contact **Bobbie Collins** at bobbie.collins4@gmail.com.

Learn more details about the event here: [Impact100 Sonoma Flyer Give Blood.pdf](#)

Learn details about donating, eligibility, and other requirements here: [Impact100 Sonoma Give Blood Questions.pdf](#) or call 866-236-2376.



Saturday, September 23, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Annual Garden Party

Come kick off the Impact100 Sonoma 2024 membership drive and 15th-anniversary grants year in the expansive, breathtaking garden of renowned Sonoma residential landscape designer **Penney Magrane** and **Joan Howley, MD**. Invite a prospective member (or several!) to mingle over enticing drinks and appetizers. See your invitation or register yourself and your guest(s) [HERE](#) for this popular, limited-attendance event. \$25 for members, no charge for guests.

Earn a Raffle Ticket for Every Prospective Member You Bring!

The more guests you bring, the more chances you'll get to take home a gift bag. The drawing will take place near the end of the event, and you need not be present to win.

Thank you to our beverage sponsors!



LAROCHELLE

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CIDER SHOP
& TAP ROOM

west shore
WINE CO.



Tuesday, September 26, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Farmers Market Meetup **CANCELED**

We won't have a designated place to gather, but visit the horseshoe to see friends, listen to music, buy produce, and support our arts community as the mayor proclaims it Sonoma Valley Museum of Art Appreciation Day. **See you next summer!**



Wednesday, September 27, 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Spotlight Series/Public Safety in Today's Sonoma Valley
with Sonoma Police Chief Brandon Cutting

Explore and discuss critical issues of the day at our ongoing Spotlight Series at the Pueblo Serena Clubhouse on 5th Street West.

Our first guest of the new season will be **Brandon Cutting**, named Sonoma Police Chief in December 2022 after a rapid rise through the ranks of the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department. He'll give an enlightening presentation and address your questions about public safety in our community, including the specific challenges of valley policing, the current risks, and how you can be more aware.

See your invitation or register [HERE](#) for this free, members-only event.

Learn more about **Brandon Cutting** [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).



Saturday, October 21

9:30 AM Check-in, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Presentations

Grant Recipients Update Meeting

In April we honored the 16 recipients of our 2023 Impetus Grants. Now join us at Andrews Hall, Sonoma Community Center, to learn how those nonprofit partners are putting our record \$337,400 in funding to work in the community. Prepare to be moved and inspired. Bring tissues. Better still, bring a prospective member (or several!) to witness the power of women giving as one. Mark your calendar and watch for your invitation to this free, limited-attendance event.



Thursday, November 2, 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Spotlight Series/Food Security

Mark your calendar! Explore and discuss critical issues of the day at our ongoing Spotlight Series at the Pueblo Serena Clubhouse on 5th Street West. Watch for your invitation to this free, members-only event.



To suggest topics for future Spotlight events, contact **Sherry Preiss** at shpreiss@aol.com.



Tuesday, December 5, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Annual Holiday Party

Save the date! Come toast the season with Impact100 friends at **Hanson of Sonoma Distillery**. Bring a prospective member, mingle over drinks and appetizers, celebrate our successes, and get set for a glorious 15th anniversary year. More details to come.

