



PO Box 1903,
Fairhope, Alabama 36532

Impact 100 Baldwin County Membership Matters

March 2016

Calendar

Membership Drive Events Bring a friend to Join Us!

Mar 22 Smashed Grape
4:30-6:30
2770 South McKenzie, Foley

Mar 24 The Windmill Market
4:30-6:30
85 North Bancroft St., Fairhope

Mar 22 Grant Workshop
8:30-12:00
Robertsdale Annex
22251 Palmer Street, Robertsdale

Apr 19 Member Celebration
James P. Nix Center
1 Bayou Dr., Fairhope



Be sure to check out and "Like" our Facebook page, **Impact 100 Baldwin County**.



WE WANT YOU!
to help us make an even bigger **IMPACT** in Baldwin County.
Recruit a new member today.
But, hurry, our Membership Drive ends **March 31!**

From our President

As we head into the final days of the 2016 membership campaign, consider our Impact 100 logo - concentric circles radiating outward. This is a beautiful symbol of the "ripple effect" our organization wants to have in the community! But I think it is also representative of the reach of our members drawing in other women to join our mission. Having joined Impact 100 as a founding member in 2008, I have watched and marveled at the growth of our community impact as well as our membership. The Impact 100 model, known as collective giving, is unique in the world of philanthropy. Keep sharing the story of this unique concept and help us end this membership campaign with more members than ever, ready to make an IMPACT in Baldwin County!

-Miranda Schrubbe

*Beginning with this month's **Membership Matters**, we will periodically explore something we are calling "IMPACTful Philanthropy." We hope the series will help put your membership, our grants and our activities into context and help you better understand just how, as an Impact member, you are making a huge difference. Thank you for your membership - and thank you for the IMPACT you make every single day. We hope you enjoy the series.*

IMPACTFUL Philanthropy

Me? A philanthropist???

Yes, you. You are, indeed, a philanthropist.

"Philanthropy" is kind of a high-falutin' word that conjures up visions of a Rockefeller, a Kennedy or Bill and Melinda Gates. We don't often see ourselves that way. But, as a member of Impact 100, that's EXACTLY what you are. You and your membership contribution are the critical pieces which allow us to make grants with tremendous impact. And, just like the concentric rings of our logo represent, you are helping make an impact not just for 1 year, not even for 5, but for years and years to come. It's what we're calling "IMPACTful Philanthropy."

Over the years, Impact has granted almost \$1.8 million to area nonprofits. Our grants change and improve lives every day. Some of our grants support programs which take a long-term approach to community problem-solving. Others are relatively "simple" and purchase badly needed items like musical instruments or high-resolution sonar equipment.

But the impact of those grants doesn't just stop with, say, the purchase of equipment. Every time yet-another child picks up an instrument we funded, every time the Search and Rescue Team uses their new sonar equipment to recover the body of a loved one and bring peace and certainty to a grieving family, it's because of you. You are making that possible.

So, you, a philanthropist? Yes, indeed - and philanthropy looks good on you, too.

Women Making an Impact

Aimee Risser

As this year's membership drive enters its final days, we asked Aimee Risser, Impact member and CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Alabama, to share her thoughts about why membership is important, both personally and to our community.

Aimee is a woman whose passion for the organization she directs, the Little Sister she mentors, and the difference Impact 100 makes is readily apparent. She has a unique perspective as an Impact member and the director of a nonprofit organization, and she loves how the two roles complement each other.



Aimee speaking at Nolan's membership drive event.

A Daphne resident and mother of two, Aimee first learned about Impact when her organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters, applied for a grant. As she learned more about Impact and got to know the members, there was no question, she

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had to join. “When I was exposed to something so impactful, I immediately knew I wanted to be a part of it.”

She enjoys the friendships she's developed and the comradery she shares with Impact members. “I'm not from here. I'm not a local. I love, love, love the opportunity to personally meet amazing women of all backgrounds and all ages. I love (Impact's) great, unique blend of women. Where else would this happen? We already have something in common. We share a mission with each other.”

That shared mission? Making a measurable impact and a big difference in people's lives.

She points to Impact's Big Brothers Big Sisters grant as a perfect example. The purpose of our grant was to help create 100 new matches between “Bigs” and “Littles.” However, Aimee says, it's not just those 100 children whose lives were forever changed. So were the lives of everyone in their family.

“There are so many lives tied to each match that the impact (of Impact's grant) is exponential.” It's helping participants break out of cycles of self-destructive behaviors and empowering them to reach their full potential and become contributing adults. Which sounds like a really good example of IMPACTful philanthropy, don't you agree?

Looking forward to 2016 Grants and Focus Groups

By Nancye Wolfe

March is a busy time for Impact 100 Baldwin County. Our membership drive has kicked into high gear with our March 31st deadline fast approaching. We eagerly await announcement of our final membership numbers (at the Impact Celebration on April 19th). This announcement, after all, will tell us the number and amount of grants we will be able to award in November to nonprofits serving Baldwin County.

To date, our Impact in Baldwin County has been great. Since 2008, the women of Impact have awarded 19 grants totaling \$1,774,000. Sadly, we have had to say “no” to over 200 applications because we couldn't fund those projects.

If you want to become more involved in Impact 100 and learn about the important contributions nonprofits make to our communities, now is the time to consider serving on a focus group.

On April 19th, we will be celebrating our membership and kicking off our mission to award our 2016 grants. Our focus group chairs will be on hand to answer your questions and help you sign up. The groups will meet regularly from mid-June until the end of August. Focus group members will review the grant applications, conduct site visits, and select the finalists to be presented at the annual meeting.

This is an exciting time to be an Impact 100 member - I hope to see you April 19th.



Aimee enjoys making a difference both through her Impact membership and as a Big Sister to Little Sister, Kim. Pictured above are Aimee and Kim when they first met, and, more recently, with Kim, now a Citadel student.

IMPACTful Philanthropy at Work - Grantee Spotlight

Shepherd's Place

Shepherd's Place is a program for adults with Alzheimer's, dementia, Parkinson's, stroke or traumatic brain injury. It operates in Fairhope four days a week and provides participants with a safe and secure place to enjoy fellowship, make new friends, learn and have fun. Participants get to have fun and enjoy programs such as art, music, games, hear guest speakers, and exercise. Impact awarded Shepherd's Place a \$92,000 grant to build handicap-accessible bathrooms, which are almost completed.



According to Susie Caminiti, Shepherd's Place Foundation member, "When someone is diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's, it is a huge personal loss. The diagnosis steals their memory, their dignity, and their independence. Being able to come to Shepherd's Place not only provides a safe and enjoyable atmosphere for the participants, but it also provides a needed break for their caregivers... It's a lot like a social club for our participants and their caregivers know that their loved one is being well taken care of and having fun."

Caring for a family member with memory issues can be an especially exhausting and stressful, full-time job. Shepherd's Place provides a welcome opportunity for them to shed their caretaker role for a little while. They have some time to recharge, read a book, go to the grocery store, or just go for a walk.

The Impact 100 grant awarded to Shepherd's Place may technically have been made to build handicap accessible bathrooms, but its impact actually goes much further than the toilet stalls and other items the grant helped purchase. According to Susie, "Impact 100 has given us so much more than bathrooms. It's allowed (our) participants to retain their dignity and respect, and their privacy. That's so important - to everyone." With the new accessible bathrooms, some participants will not need assistance every time they use the restroom.

When Nancy Fleming, Impact's grant liaison to the project, was asked to comment on our grant, she said, "The thing I've learned about Shepherd's Place is the true ripple effect our grant has. Not only does it affect the people involved, but it also affects their families. The participants get to be in a comfortable place with their friends, and their caregivers get a chance for a break, knowing that their loved one is safe and secure." "It's a win-win all the way around."

Photos courtesy of Shepherd's Place.

