



The newsletter for women making a difference together in Baldwin County

Summer • June—July 2019

Membership Matters

**In This Issue We're Focusing
on Process and Results:
Spotlight on Focus Group Leadership & Rules
Features on Completed Grant Projects**



*A Word
from
Ann*

*Ann Rumley,
Impact 100 Baldwin County
President 2019*

Summer is here! I hope you are enjoying the season and staying cool.

One of summer's "coolest" activities is the work done by Impact 100's Focus Groups. Our five category teams of volunteers review each non-profit grant application and conduct the crucial site visits.

I admire each of our Focus Group members. They have accepted the enormous responsibility of objectively and ethically selecting, from dozens of well-deserving nonprofit organizations, the 10 best qualifying applicants to present for the final vote in November. Thank you for what you are doing this summer so Impact 100 can award five \$101,000 grants this fall!

Ann



The Baldwin County Child Advocacy Center's CARE House, the 2017 grant recipient in Health & Wellness, has completed construction of its 3,000 square foot building expansion. It provides office space for staff and volunteers as well as a play/lounge area for children, a confidential waiting area, a teaching room, and additional parking. Congratulations, CARE House!



Spotlight— Focus Group Chairs and Co-Chairs

What does it take to chair/co-chair a Focus Group?

Oh, not much: just the willingness to give your time, your energy, and your unflinching leadership!

These women lead the discussion of applications in the Focus Groups, assign site-visit teams, and help prepare the Executive Summaries for the finalists. During the July/August timeframe, they bring perspective, direction, and support to those who participate in the rigorous evaluation process.

This year, we have two members new to the role of chair and one new co-chair.

With 41 grant applications in hand, Focus Groups are sure to have a broad range of grant applicants to consider.

Hooray for these leaders and their groups!



2019 Focus Group Leadership From left: Michelle Orr, Sheila Hale, Sandy Stepan, Moren Braswell, Nancy Lambe, Miranda Schrubbe, Nickie Olson, Abby Hamilton. Inset clockwise from top left: Anne Irving, Elizabeth Cole, Ann B. Davis, and Linda Glaze.

Confidentiality, Conduct, and Conflicts: Huh?

The first responsibility of Impact 100 Baldwin County is to its members — to help assure that their donation is given to the best grant applicants. Our second responsibility is to the grant applicants themselves — to treat them ethically, respectfully and fairly throughout our grant application, review and selection process. This second responsibility is why we have written Policies and Procedures for Focus Groups. ([Click here to read Policies](#)) In fact, it's so important that we have each Focus Group (FG) participant sign a Conflict of Interest and a Confidentiality form before she is given access to the online grant applications in her focus area.

Among other things, these policy guidelines include:

- **Confidentiality:** What is discussed in a specific FG may not be shared with anyone else outside of that group — member or non-member, FG participant or not.
- **Code of Conduct:** Members are expected to act ethically. Attempting to affect the outcome of finalists and unprofessional interactions with nonprofit applicants are definitely not cool and are totally unacceptable.
- **Conflict of Interest:** A member cannot serve in a group if she or an immediate family member is an employee or a board member of a 501(c)(3) applicant. A member cannot serve in a group where they gain direct financial benefit from a grant award.

Fortunately, our members embrace and respect these guidelines which helps Impact 100 retain and enhance its sterling reputation in Baldwin County.

Arts & Culture

Chair - Michelle Orr, Co-chair - Nickie Olson • Thursdays 4 pm Caldwell Banker Reehl Properties, Fairhope

Education

Chair - Anne Irving, Co-chair - Elizabeth Cole • Thursdays 10 am Daphne Public Library, Daphne

Environment, Recreation & Preservation

Chair - Linda Glaze, Co-chair - Moren Braswell Wednesdays 10 am Fairhope Recreation Center

Family

Chair - Sheila Hale, Co-chair - Abby Hamilton • Tuesdays 5:30 pm New Life Assembly of God Church, Spanish Fort

Health & Wellness

Chair - Miranda Schrubbe, Co-chair - Ann B. Davis Mondays 2 pm Foley Public Library

Baldwin County Education Coalition— Laying a Foundation for Success

What makes the Baldwin County Education Coalition’s project “Opening Minds and Doors Through Child Literacy” a success?

- When that one student thrives and is rarely seen without a book in her hand.
- When the transfer student, reading below grade level, is proficient in reading by year’s end.
- When two students are seen sharing decoding strategies at recess.



Grant recipients in 2017, the Education Coalition project provided professional development and materials for the Baldwin County school system’s Scholastic Guided Reading Initiative. The pilot program began in the Fall of 2016, focusing on all the elementary and intermediate schools in Bay Minette, Foley and Robertsdale. These schools had the lowest reading proficiency scores on both local and state assessments.

Impact 100 Baldwin County’s \$90,000 grant funded 24 *Guided Reading Short Read* sets for each school and training for the teachers. Terry Burkle, who serves as the Coalition’s Executive Director, said that all teachers have been trained and the Guided Reading program is in every school, elementary through high school, in Baldwin County.

“Our teachers and educators are very grateful for the support from Impact 100 Baldwin County. With the grant, we were able

to speed up our implementation of the program which is important as it lays the foundation for a child’s success in the future.”

And the results...measured improvement county wide! Dr. Destiny McCryndle, Silverhill Elementary School’s Instructional Coach, said: “Our school has seen mass improvement from students. Through the Guided Reading program, we can provide small group instruction to similar students who have similar reading behaviors and levels.”

Silverhill Elementary was No. 3 in the state for improvement, exceeding their reading goal by 130%.

—Amanda Green Mitchell



Member Spotlight— **Five Things Jan Pruitt Is Happy To Tell You**

What led you to support Impact 100?

I learned about Impact 100 at the first meeting of a women's club I attended after I moved to Baldwin County in late 2012. (Thanks, Rebecca Canale!) My budget didn't allow me to join in 2013, but I knew I wanted to be part of a group of women who accomplished so much by thinking big and by putting their money where their thoughts were.

I joined in 2014 and plan to remain as long as I live here—even though, so far, I've gotten my heart broken every year when some of my particular favorite applications didn't receive a grant. But, because I have faith in our process, I know all our grants go to worthy recipients. We just need to be able to give MORE of them!



Jan Pruitt has been a member of Impact 100 Baldwin County since 2014, and is Co-Chair of the Communications Committee. Jan serves on the board and is responsible for the design of our materials. She's looking for an eventual successor, so if you've got skills with Publisher and/or Adobe design/illustration programs and want to serve in this way, call her at 251-550-8898 or email her at pruitt.jan@gmail.com.

If you were going to be stranded on a desert island with your basic needs met, what would you take for fun?

Oh, that's easy. All the watercolor supplies I've collected and have rarely taken the time to use. But I love the times I have used them!

What's your best piece of life advice?

Take a breath. Stay focused. Stay current. If you have a problem with staying focused and current, read Tim Urban on procrastination. (But be warned: his language can be rough.) I'm constantly struggling to follow my own good advice, but Tim gives me hope. And a good dose of self-awareness and laughter.

What one thing do you think Impact 100 Baldwin County needs to do to have the most impact it can?

Communicate, communicate, communicate. Everything else—membership, effective processes, the high-impact results of having high membership and good processes in place—stems from how well we articulate and share our mission and the difference we are making. We're not only working for this year's grant cycle, but to make carrying on this work as seamless and well-informed as possible for coming generations of Impact 100 Baldwin County membership and leadership.

If you were a casserole, what kind would you be?

Okay, now you're asking the hard ones. Hmm. Definitely something unabashedly cheesy and with just a hint of spice. The casserole I WISH I could be (so I'd know what was in it) is an eggplant casserole my late mother used to make in the 1970's. My dad's garden row of eggplant went crazy one year and we were eating eggplant at almost every meal. My mother cooked it every way she could find. The casserole I'm thinking of didn't have tomatoes in it, and was actually kind of gray (not at all my mom's usual style), but it was delicious. I think it included saltines, and maybe mushrooms. Come to think of it, maybe a can of cream of mushroom soup, that classic casserole ingredient. Anybody, if you've got such a vintage recipe, let me know.

No rules. No agenda. Just fun!

Join us for Just for Fun,
Impact's monthly social get-togethers.

These events are for current members, guests and 2020 member prospects. Feel free to bring a friend and join us.

July 30 - 4:30 (Cocktails)
SUNSET POINTE
803 North Section Street
Fairhope

August 6 - 4:30pm
CYBELE'S
382 Fairhope Avenue
Fairhope
Sip and Shop, 25% off.
Cocktails
and hors d'oeuvres.

August 20 - NOON
YO HO RUM & TACOS
4851 Wharf Pkwy East
The Wharf, Orange Beach

September 10 - NOON
TIN TOP
6232 Bon Secour Hwy
Bon Secour

September 24 - 4:30pm
Fall Social Couples Event
BLUE GILL
3775 Battleship Pkwy (on
the Causeway)
Spanish Fort

October 16- 5:00pm
GREEN GATES MARKET
(downtown store)
150 North Section Street
Fairhope
Sip and Shop, 10% off.
Cocktails
and hors d'oeuvres.
Hostesses:
Cathy Brumback, Rebecca
Canale, Sharon Dearing

November 12 - 4:30pm
PIGGLY WIGGLY
WINE TASTING (\$20)
Food, fun and wine, hosted
by Susan Cox
86 Plantation Pointe
Fairhope
*(We must have at least
20 people, maximum of 42.
This is a lot of fun and Susan
does an excellent job.)*

December 6 - NOON
**Come Celebrate
the Holidays!**
FAIRHOPE YACHT CLUB
101 Volanta Avenue
Fairhope

If you plan to attend, please let Jerry Ann McCarron know
so there will be enough seating.

Email her at jerryann470@gmail.com
or call/text her at 251-510-6790.

We will try to accommodate last-minute guests, too.

Women from across the country and around the world will meet in Pensacola on October 27-29 for the **2019 Impact 100 Global Conference**. Impact 100 Baldwin County is hosting the conference with the Pensacola chapter—the gathering promises to be a great one! Go to <http://www.impact-100global.org/the-2019-conference/> for more information.

Impact 100 Baldwin County Board of Directors 2019

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