



Membership Matters

March/
Mid-April
2020

The newsletter for women making a difference together in Baldwin County



Miracle League of Coastal Alabama: From Benchwarmers to Superstars

No one wants to be a benchwarmer, sitting and watching while others play. Thanks to Miracle League, special needs kids and adults no longer need to be benchwarmers! At the soon-to-be finished Miracle League Park Summerdale, Baldwin County children with special needs will get off the sidelines and join in the fun. With the help from a 2018 Impact 100 grant, new playground equipment will soon be installed.

The park, when complete, will include a special needs baseball field and playground that will allow special needs families and the community to play together. Included in the park will be a zip line, wheelchair swing, and a big pavilion with picnic tables for parties and gatherings designed to be as inclusive as possible.

The idea is to draw the community to a ball field and have able-bodied people work as buddies with the special needs kids. This effort will get local civic organizations, student teams and groups together, fostering relationships between the special needs community and the rest of the population.

The town of Summerdale donated 10 acres, and the site will be ready soon for the installation of the playground equipment. The Miracle League will continue to raise funds, as the park cannot open until the infrastructure (i.e., parking, walkways) is finished. This will hopefully be complete within one and a half years.

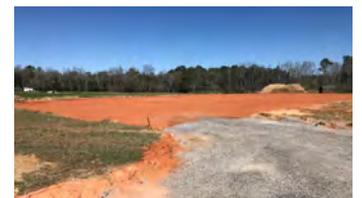
According to Bruce White, president of Miracle League of Coastal Alabama, "We've had four grants in the \$100K range. Grants like these make the project happen. This (Impact 100) grant, along with others, allowed us to move forward. The effect is tremendous; it gives us something for the people to see and assures them that we are going to complete it."

Having a child with special needs, parents are familiar with their children being left out of certain activities, making a challenging situation even more difficult. When they are able to participate in typical play activities, it brightens days for those children, their parents, siblings, and the general community—and the smiles never stop!

For these children and their parents, the ability to fully participate is invaluable. When the park is finished, these children will feel like superstars!

Grantee Spotlight

The Miracle League of Coastal Alabama, Inc. was first organized in 2004 under the guidelines of The National Miracle League. Its mission is to provide disabled children and adults with recreational opportunities such as baseball fields, playgrounds, and other special equipment that meets their unique needs. There are 300 Miracle League Parks in the U.S. with the nearest in Pensacola.



The ground is prepared!

Suzanne Thornburg
2020 Impact 100 Baldwin
County President



**Hello, ladies, and
happy spring!**

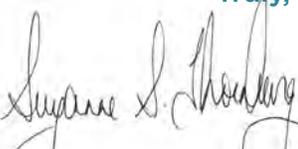
As we move toward the end of our 2020 membership campaign, I want to thank so many for all of the countless efforts and true commitment to recruit a record membership for Impact 100 Baldwin County. We have a terrific group of ants (or queen bees) that dedicate many hours organizing our socials and membership drive events.

March 31 will be here before we know it, so I am asking you to assist in rounding out a strong year for Impact 100. We have our last membership social event on March 17 at 4:30pm at M&F Casuals.* Won't you please invite a neighbor, friend, coworker, fellow church member or family member to join you there?

Another fantastic event we will be hosting this month is our annual grant workshop for the non-profits. It's set on March 17 from 8:30am-12:00 noon. If you are able to attend or know of a nonprofit who would benefit attending this workshop, don't delay in registering. This month we will also hold our Just for Fun luncheon at Tamara's and our next *Girlfriends Guide to ...*(our new series on issues that pertain directly to women.) Invite a guest and come join us for one or all of these exciting events in March. Check the last page of this newsletter and watch social media for more information. Let's spread the word about the work we are doing and the efforts we are making to truly "transform" our communities!

**At press time, we learned that one more social has been scheduled. See the last page of this newsletter for details.*

Truly,


Suzanne S. Thornburg

Let's Make it A 'Plus One' Year!

Wasn't it great to be able to award five transformational grants last year?

What do you say we go for six this year?

Think back to November – remember all the outstanding choices we had with our 2019 grant finalists? Do you ever wish your other favorites could have gotten a grant, too?

Well, maybe that could happen if we increase our grantmaking again this year. Remember, the number of grants we are able to award is in direct relationship to the number of members we have. More members = more grants = more impact!

So, let's do it! Let's make this our most transformational year yet. We have 'til March 31 to make this year's membership drive the best one ever. If you haven't done so already, renew your own membership now, then invite a friend for lunch and tell her about Impact. Or bring her to one of our remaining socials, the Just for Fun at Tamara's, or invite her to join you at our new "Girlfriend's Guide to . . ." women's forum later this month. Let her meet all the other awesome change agents out there—the women of Impact. Help her understand the important work we are doing and that by joining us, she, too, can make a true IMPACT in her community.





Who's Who

(from left)

Sandy Stepan, former ICU nurse. Expert at being calm in a crisis while paying attention to details.

Topie Cassady, attorney and former social worker. Expert at analyzing volumes of data while seeing the big picture.

Nancy Lambe, engineer and former manufacturing plant manager. Expert at systems and smooth workflow.

The Grants leadership meet to discuss details of the upcoming Grant Workshop and subsequent Focus Groups.

Spotlight—Grants Committee

The Grants Committee is our direct link to Baldwin County nonprofits. The leadership works across the year to help assure a clear process, maximum nonprofit participation and an overall positive experience for all participants – members and nonprofits (NPs).

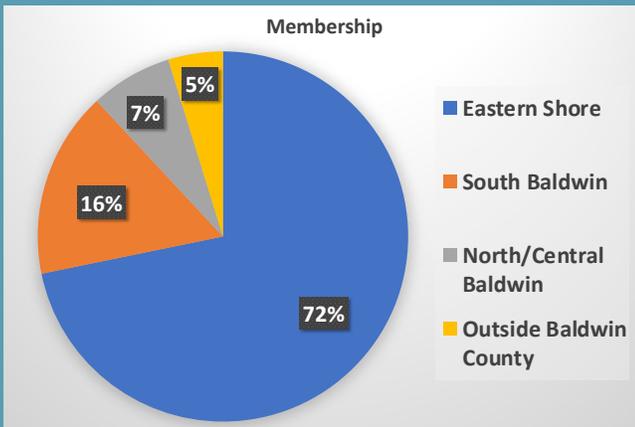
During this time of year, the team publicizes the grant application deadlines, solicits applications, stays in constant contact with NPs via 10 formal email communications, answers myriad questions, offers ample handholding for less experienced applicants, and produces the Grant Workshop. But that's not all!

Soon, they'll identify Focus Group chairs and co-chairs, encourage member participation in the FGs, input reams of data about member and NP participation, assure confidentiality and conflict of interest documents are signed by participants, and prepare Executive Summaries for distribution to members for voting. And, there's more!

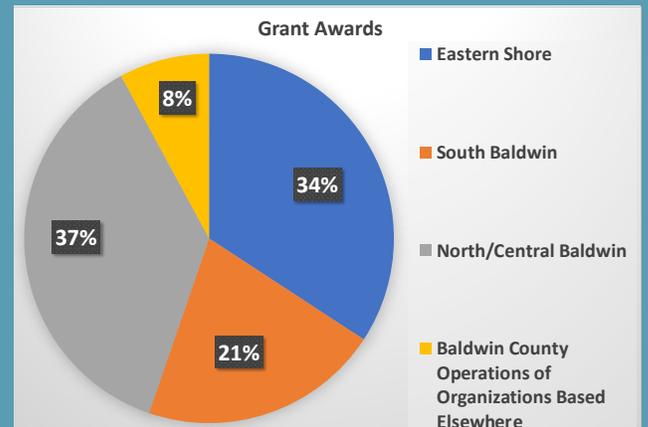
Since the actual awarding of grants is the Committee's ultimate goal, the Grant Awards gala is a huge deal. The Grants Committee works in close coordination with the Events Chair, Judy Thompson, to produce this amazing live event, complete with jubilation and (unfortunately) disappointment.

This threesome may start small, but the team expands to over 80 women when the Focus Groups begin meeting as participants are *ad hoc* members of the Grants Committee. Before joining the Board and the Grants Committee, Topie Cassady remarked, "Everything runs so smoothly, so professionally. It looks like they don't even need help." Now that she's on the grants team, she has discovered how much is actually involved ("They sure made it look easy!") and why the grants program gets better every year.

Where our members hail from



Where our grants go



Impact 100 Baldwin County Member Chesley Allegri packs some power into her commitment to serving the community.

Member Spotlight—

Chesley Allegri: Find something you love to do

What led you to support IMPACT 100?

Two things: The main reason was to be able to give back to the very local community in ways that we can visibly see. Giving a local organization \$100k or more is a game changer: giving \$1k is wonderful, but doesn't have near the impact, so being able to feel like I actually was part of something huge is really amazing.

Also, I think being able to have a say in where that \$100k goes is unique and important.

The opportunity to meet and work with a large group of women who are all very different, but all have a passion to give back to our community in a meaningful way.

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

Continue to make non-profits in the area aware of Impact 100 grants so that we have many great organizations applying each year and that they have the opportunity to receive a large grant.

If you were a cocktail, what kind would you be, and why?

A French 75 – it is classic, elegant, fun and bubbly! On a side note, since I love history, it was once dubbed the most powerful drink in the world as it was named after the famous field gun that was said to have helped France and the US win WWI.

If you were stranded on a desert island for a long time, but with your needs for food, water, and shelter met, what would you take along for entertainment?

Books, lots of books and my yoga mat.

What's your best piece of life advice?

Find something you love to do and you'll never work a day in your life.

Building on the success of our first community information forum partnering with USA Mitchell Cancer Institute, Impact 100 presents

The Girlfriend's Guide to ColoRectal Cancers

Tuesday, March 31, 5.30-6.30pm (doors open at 5pm)
Homestead Village Ballroom
924 Plantation Blvd., Fairhope

Speakers Panel

Dr. Annabelle Fonseca

surgical oncologist with USA Mitchell Cancer Institute

Dr. Barbara O'Brien

gastroenterologist with Gastroenterologists, PC of Foley

Plans are in the works for programs in April and May, so stay tuned!

Corporate donors help cover our administrative expenses so that every dollar of our membership donations goes into grants.

PATRONS



PARTNERS

COAST SEAFOOD



Thank you!

in • teg • ri • ty /in'tegrede/

- 1. The quality of being honest and having strong moral principles.**
- 2. The state of being whole and undivided.**

Integrity: everybody's talking about it these days, but what does it mean for you and Impact 100 Baldwin County? It means doing the right thing in a reliable way. Integrity is critical to Impact 100's success. Without it, our members wouldn't trust us with their money, the nonprofits wouldn't reveal proprietary information about themselves in their grant application, and sponsors wouldn't give us their financial support.

Our founders recognized the importance of integrity and confidentiality to our core values and established Policies and Procedures (P&P) to help guide our principles and operations. The founding women had the foresight to address many issues that would arise since, over time, most changes have been minor and related to growth in size, protection of member data (mailing list) for personal gain, emphasizing the confidentiality of the Executive Summary, etc. ([click here to read Policies & Procedures](#))

When grant recipients or members approach the board with a request, they turn to our Policies and Procedures for guidance and consistency. This transparency enhances our interactions with our members, grant applicants and sponsors. Fortunately, our members embrace our policies and respect the importance of what they deliver in terms of reliability and honesty.

Within the grant process, untold amounts of time are invested in reviewing the previous year's challenges and obstacles so these issues can be addressed before any confusion arises, thereby proactively guiding the process. We try to level the

playing field with a uniform and standardized grant application process and, through our Grant Workshop, explain how to complete the forms and requirements.

Confidence in our organization's integrity is particularly important for the nonprofit. We are asking them to reveal confidential information that could leave them exposed if the information was shared with competitors.

We help assure confidentiality by having each Focus Group member sign a formal document that reminds them of the importance of their role and their behavior. In our next newsletter, we'll take a more in-depth look at the integrity of the grant vetting process.

All members know the voting formula: one member = one vote. All members receive the same information in the form of the Executive Summaries and have the same voting deadlines. All are welcome to attend the Grant Awards and vote, but, if that's not possible, we provide an easy alternative with absentee voting. And, because we use paper ballots, no one can hack our system! It works smoothly and efficiently so that we can make our announcements with speed and confidence.

“Unlike other organizations, Impact 100 is not primarily a business networking group, rather it is women’s philanthropic organization committed to improving the lives of residents of Baldwin County.”
—Suzanne Thornburg

Grant Liaisons

The integrity of the system is further reinforced by our Grant Liaisons. One is assigned to each grant recipient and monitors their progress against the two-year window allowed for project completion. The grantee submits invoices to the Liaison who compares expenditures against the approved project budget, then submits the invoices for payment.

Protecting Members

Membership data is not to be used for solicitation or any other personal, professional, political or corporate business purpose. Support of the Impact 100 Mission by area businesses is necessary and actively encouraged. However, the use of that support by a business owner or employee of that business to enhance its own revenues is prohibited.

Impact 100 Baldwin County Members, as of February 29, 2020

New members are in blue

Claudia Ainsworth	Ann Davis	Martha Hopkins	Melanie Moore	Peggy Shack
Chesley Allegri	Margaret Davis	Stacey Howell	Mena Morgan	Braida Sharpe
Katherine Allen	Judy Dean	Betty Huff	Betsy Moseley	Susan Siegel
Vivian Allen	Sharon Dearing	Ginger Hyatt	Judy Motlow	Joey Skaff
Felisha Anderson	Wanda Dobson	Genie Inge	Gillette Muller	Lucia Smith
Wendy Archer	Sheila Dodson	Anne Irving	Barbara Mundy	Lucy Smith
Julie Bagwell	Gwen Dorriety	Betty Jackson	Mary Murchison	Mary Smith
Rachel Bailey	Vera Douglas	Kim Jardine	Anna Myers	Sallie Smith
Mandy Barber	Lucy Douty	Em Johnson	Weezie Myers	Teresa Smith
Jane Barnette	Heather Drago	Mimi Johnson	Toni Myers-Wineman	Joni Snyder-Roberson
Suzanne Barnhill	Lynda Drawing	Lexie Jones	Kim Neal	Helen Soule
Allison Beard	Ellen Dyas	Rose Keel	Margaret Neely	Shannon Spinks
Lee Beck	Carol Eberlein	Catherine Kiser	Pud Nelson	Heidi Stanley
Forest Bernardi	Jolane Edwards	Ann Klumb	Deborah Newberry	Machelle Starling
Lynn Biles	Pam Ewell	Micki Kohn	Judy Niemeyer	Nancy Staub
Karen Billups	Jane Feagin	Kathleen Kolb	Andie Noonan	Sandra Stepan
Lisa Blackmon	Michele Finn	Lauren Korb	Amy Norris	Sandra Stewart
Misty Blair	Ginny Fischbach	Theresa Korycan	Cindy Norton	Bailey Stitt
Tanya Fratto Blair	Sandra Fisher	Cindy Lacey	Melanie O'Donnell	Janie Stone
Judy Bonner	Andolyn Fitzgerald	Nancy Lambe	Sharon Olen	Susan Storey
Sally McLendon Boozier	Genelle Fountain	Marcel Laton	Nickie Olson	Ashley Strickland
Necie Borroni	Hillary Fowlkes	Kate Lavelle	Elizabeth Orr	Carolyn Strickland
Gloria Boutte	Debbie Freedman	Ellen Lee	Michelle Orr	Laurie Strite
Moren Braswell	Wendy Fuess	Monica Leonard	Brenda Parnell	Peri Summersell
Susie Bridges	Kim Gibson	Barbara Levitt	Linda Lou Parsons	Dianne Swanzy
Christine Bruenn	MaryBeth Gibson	Lenise Ligon	Anne McVay Pearson	Cathe Tappan
Cathy Brumback	Linda Glaze	Nancy Lindsay	Karen Pera	Ginger Taylor
Patricia Bruner	Beth Glisson	Dedra Lipscomb	Susan Perrine	Mary Alice Taylor
Kelly Bullington	Leslie Goldberg	Susan Lovelady	Jeanna Pilot	Susan Taylor
Andy Burton	Carol Gordon	Nancy Lutz	Jan Pruitt	Michelle Thomason
Kristy Bushaw	Jerry Lynn Graham	Norma Lynch	Karen Giu	Judy Thompson
Rita Byers	Debra Grear	Sherri Mack	Corinne Ramming	Laura Thompson
Sue Cade	Caroleen Green	Elizabeth Mancini	Teri Reddoch	Elizabeth Tonsmeire
Mary Calvin	Elizabeth Griffiths	Dawn Mathias	Kathryn Redstone	Sara Trione
Kim Campbell	Pamela Groner	Diann Matthews	DeeAnn Reed	Susan Turner
Katchie Cane	Bonnie Gulsby	Jerry Ann McCarron	Katrina Renfroe	Patty Tyler
Deb Carlson	Clarice Gustin	Melissa McCarty	Helen Renner	Billie Jo Underwood
Terri Carlton	Sheila Hale	Barbara McDaniel	Betty Riley	Alice Villadsen
Aeana Carpenter	Abby Hamilton	Sydney McDaniel	Mary Riser	Donna Walker
Trish Carr	Kit Hamilton	Jessica McDill	Frances Robinson	Susie Wallace
Utopia Cassady	Dale Blue Hansel	Melinda McGhee	Darlene Rockwell	Frieda Ward
Carol Cleverdon	Adele Hapworth	Meg McGovern	Brenda Rogers	Judy Weber
Jeanette Clodfelter	Karla Hardin	Susan McGowin	Lynn Ross	Lee Welch
Amy Cockrell	Melanie Harris	Gail McInnish	Christy Rowland	Mary Wells
Elizabeth Cole	Susan Hassler	Nancy McKinnon	Ann Rumley	Chan West
Jaime Cooper	Jacque Helms	Lucy McVay	Jamie Saad	Vickie Weyand
Joanne Cooper	Phyllis Helms	Susan McWilliams	Becky Sappington	Casey Gay Williams
Beth Craft	Veronica Herndon	Anne Meyercord	Beverly Schaffer	Lynn Wilson
Christy Crews	Katie Herrin	Ann Miller	Pauline Schrock	Missy Wilson
Cathy Crosby	Dottie Hill	Carol Miller	Miranda Schrubbe	Savan Wilson
Jackie Crum	Diane Hinote	Amanda Mitchell	Rita Scott	Nancy Wolfe
Jeanne Cummings	Sandy Hodgson	Gayle Mitchell	Donna Scully	Jeanne Yancey
Jackie Dahlman	Frances Holk-Jones	Lee Mitchell		Cindy Zebryk
Jamie Davidson	Celeste Hollands	Judy Moore		
	Beth Holman	Lucy Moore		

Upcoming Events

Grant Workshop

Tuesday, March 17
8:30am to noon
Baldwin County
Central Annex
2251 Palmer Street
Robertsdale

Impact Social

Tuesday, March 17
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
M & F Casuals
380 Fairhope Avenue
Fairhope

Impact Social

Monday, March 23
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Wolf Bay Lodge
20801 Mifflin Road
Foley

Girlfriends Guide to ColoRectal Cancers

Tuesday, March 31
5.30-6.30pm
(doors open at 5pm)
Homestead Village Ballroom
924 Plantation Blvd.
Fairhope

The Big Reveal

Membership Celebration
Monday, April 27
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Nix Center
1 Bayou Drive
Fairhope



impact100BaldwinCounty.org

Impact 100 Baldwin County
PO Drawer 1903
Fairhope, AL 36533

**Impact100Baldwin
County@gmail.com**

Just for Fun

No rules.
No agenda.
Just fun!

If you plan to attend, please let Jerry Ann McCarron know so there will be enough seating.
Email: jerryann470@gmail.com
or call/text: 251-510-6790.
We will try to accommodate last-minute guests, too.

Join in on Just for Fun, Impact's purely social events for current members, guests, and 2020 member prospects.

Wednesday, March 25

Noon
Tamara's
104 N Section St.
Fairhope

Wednesday, April 22

Noon
Jesse's
14770 Oak St
Magnolia Springs

Tuesday, May 5

Noon
Cactus Cantina
108 North Section St
Fairhope

Tuesday, May 26

4:30pm
Sunset Pointe
831 North Section
Fairhope

Impact 100 Baldwin County Board of Directors 2020

Executive Board

President
Suzanne Thornburg

VP, President-Elect
Lucy Smith

Recording Secretary
Barbara Levitt

Immediate Past
President and Advisory
Ann Rumley

Acting Treasurer
Elizabeth Cole

Member Secretary
Nancy Wolfe

Governance
and Advisory
Susan Lovelady

Directors

Necie Borroni
Topie Cassady
Sheila Dodson
Abby Hamilton
Veronica Herndon
Betty Huff

Anne Irving
Nancy Lambe
Jerry Ann McCarron
Jan Pruitt
Sandy Stepan
Judy Thompson



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make. As long as you Smile, that is! Log in to smile.amazon.com and designate Impact 100 Baldwin County as your charity of choice.

