



NEWS

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IMPACT 100 Pensacola Bay Area, a women's philanthropy group, having completed its 2011 membership drive on March 1, 2011, announced its highest membership to date at an event this evening, successfully concluding its 2011 drive with 645 members. The organization will award six \$107,500 grants to not-for-profits in a two county area at its annual meeting on October 16, 2011. The grants will be awarded in five focus areas: arts and culture; education; environment, recreation and preservation; family; and health and wellness.

IMPACT 100 Pensacola Bay Area started in 2004 as an idea prompted by a People magazine article and discussed among four women. Today, it is one of the largest charitable organizations in the Pensacola Bay area and in October 2011 will have awarded over \$3.5 million providing much needed enhancements and new growth opportunities to non-profit organizations.

The idea was simple; to recruit a minimum of 100 women who would each give \$1,000 so that collectively they could pool their resources and give \$100,000 to fund a community need. In 2004, the newly formed board recruited 233 women to become members of IMPACT and IMPACT 100 was born. Each year, through its grant review process, IMPACT 100 gives non-profits an opportunity to inform members about their organizational goals and expand the community of support. Even organizations that have not received a grant award have benefitted through individual member contributions, new and energized board members and increased collaborative projects. The overall impact to Pensacola Bay area has been a well informed and increasingly growing group of philanthropic women learning about and making positive impacts in their community.

IMPACT 100 Pensacola Bay Area has been the most successful IMPACT in the country and has helped many new IMPACT 100 organizations form around the United States. IMPACT 100 Pensacola Bay Area has continued to succeed for various reasons including the idea that collectively we can make a significant impact in our community, or the fact that IMPACT members have a direct say in where their money is allocated. IMPACT members also can decide their level of involvement, including just writing a check and visiting for finalists or reading and evaluating grants and visiting non profits. 100% of each member's

contribution is pooled and awarded to non-profit organizations. It is clear that collective and informed financial giving does make a difference in the lives of others and enhances the wellbeing of an entire community.

This past February, IMPACT 100 Pensacola Bay proudly received the Freedom Foundation of Valley Forge National Community Award for organizations that "go above and beyond the call of duty" on a local, regional or national level.

Further information is also available on the IMPACT 100 website at www.impact100pensacola.org