

Newsletter of the Washington Women's Foundation Summer 2009



Dear Members,
Summer greetings from the Foundation! We hope you'll enjoy reading here about the exciting programs we have planned for the fall, and some of our recent highlights.

The biggest highlight of the summer was the announcement of our Pooled Grant Awards. **Thanks to the generosity of each of you**, WWF has now granted more than **\$9.3 million** to support our community in Washington State, \$4.7 in pooled grants and \$4.6 in individual grants - see the article on the next page.

Additionally, membership in the Foundation has recently crossed the "500 member" threshold. Even in this economy, the mission of the Foundation and our hands-on participatory model of collective philanthropy is resonating with more and more women. **Please spread the word and invite a friend or colleague to join us in our work!**

We are especially grateful to all the members who participated in the **2009 Member Survey**. We appreciate your feedback and suggestions, and we are actively using your recommendations as we establish priorities for the upcoming year.

Enjoy the rest of summer, and see you in the fall!

Carla E. Lewis, President

Washington Women's Foundation



Annual Meeting
Tuesday, September 29
4:00—5:30 p.m.

2100 Bldg, First Floor

Business Meeting: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Social time with light refreshments: 5:00 - 5:30 p.m.

All members welcome! Please RSVP:

www.wawomensfoundation.org/calendar-of-events/

or call Emily at 206.340.1710.

Join us to hear about the business of the Foundation, our 2008 financial highlights and how to participate on our committees. We will also hold the annual election of directors to the WWF board.

The Governance committee has received many nominations for members to be considered as directors (deadline for nominations is August 15, 2009). A slate of nominees for Director positions will be presented to the WWF membership at this meeting.

Notice of the meeting, along with a proxy, will be mailed to each member in accordance with our bylaws. Votes may be cast by proxy by return mail, or in person on September 29th. We will also have some 'social time' for members to re-connect after a busy summer.

Coming Up at WWF

To learn more about these events and register online, visit www.wawomensfoundation.org/calendar-of-events

Wing Luke Museum - Neighborhood Gathering September 25

Tour the beautiful Wing Luke Museum in its fascinating new location. If you haven't had the chance to visit this cultural institution, it's a must-see experience! We will publicize details soon.

Education Forum: Impact Assessment

October 13, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., 2100 Bldg, First Floor

The hot topic in philanthropy today is impact, and our forum will enhance your skill in measuring success. A panel of evaluative experts will build skills in the art of evaluation, analysis, and communication about impact and success.

'Van Tour' to visit Grantees

Late October

Experience firsthand the impact of a WWF grant! We are taking a 'test drive' by planning back-to-back site visits to two organizations that were awarded past grants. Open to all WWF members on a space-available basis. Watch your email and our website for more information.

2009 Discovery Days **Save the Date!**

Our hallmark educational event

Enhance your knowledge of the critical issues facing our community and how your philanthropic dollars can make the most impact. The committee is at work setting up a roster of engaging, informative speakers - more details to come!

November 12, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

November 17, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



Thank you to WWF Summer Intern Annie Zamojski

Summer is a busy time for WWF staff, as we wrap up one program year and prepare for the year ahead. We especially appreciate the work of our summer intern, Annie Zamojski.

Annie, an alumna of Lakeside School and a sophomore in the undergraduate program at the Wharton School of Business at University of Pennsylvania, has been assisting us with marketing research, website updates, database work and other special projects. Thank you for your hard work, Annie, and we will miss you!

CALL FOR COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

We are ramping up for the 2009-2010 program year to start in September. We invite all members to consider joining any of these groups – we'd love to have you!
Committees meet September through June, unless otherwise noted.

DISCOVERY DAYS PLANNING COMMITTEE

Develops panels of expert speakers for Discovery Days, two days of educational sessions covering the five grant funding areas (arts, education, environment, health, and human services). Topics focus on emerging, urgent community issues and trends, and how philanthropy can best address them.

Active June – November

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Enhances members' knowledge of philanthropy and community issues by planning two forums, two outings to local organizations, and a book discussion. Meetings include a relevant reading and lively, engaging discussion.

First Tuesday each month, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Builds and stewards a vital, diverse and satisfied membership. Provides opportunities for members to connect to one another and the community, such as Neighborhood Gatherings and receptions for new and prospective members.

Second Wednesday each month, 12:00 – 1:30 pm

INCLUSIVENESS INITIATIVE

Develops community connections to foster the growth of a diverse membership that includes a range of perspectives, opinions, and experiences to fulfill our mission to be more effective grant makers and philanthropists.

Third Tuesday each month, 9:30 – 11:00 am

NEW! INTERNATIONAL AFFINITY GROUP

Connects members with an interest in international development and philanthropy. Group members share experiences and enhance their knowledge of international issues through informal discussions and readings. Fall meeting dates:

September 2 & November 4, 12:00 - 1:30 pm

The WWF Emeritus Board

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has formalized an Emeritus Board to honor and recognize past directors for their distinguished service on the Board, and/ or for their significant and sustained support of WWF. Members of the Emeritus Board continue to serve WWF by offering their endorsement and serving as Ambassadors of WWF, helping us to extend our reach in the philanthropic and nonprofit community, and to engage with potential new members. We seek strategic guidance and input from the Emeritus Board and anticipate convening the group one or two times a year.



Dorothy Mann

The Board of Directors has elected two new Emeritus Board members — we welcome **Dorothy Mann** and **Dorothy Loucks Nelson**! Dorothy and Dorothy each served on the WWF Board for many years, and we are grateful for their continued support and confidence in our work. They join founding board members Sue Lile Hunter and Faye Sarkowsky on the Emeritus Board.



Dorothy Loucks Nelson

GRANT COMMITTEE

Researches and nominates candidate organizations for the pooled fund ballot that the entire membership votes on in June. Through a six-month 'curriculum' starting in January 2010, members analyze proposals, engage in discussion and conduct site visits as part of their work.

Open to all WWF members — no experience necessary!

January: Kick-Off & Research

One large meeting plus 3 or 4 small work group meetings.

March/April: Grant Evaluation

One training workshop plus 3 or 4 small work group meetings, and a Grant Showcase open to all members.

May: Site Visits (optional, though highly recommended)

One training workshop plus 3 full days for 5 site visits, one Site Visit team meeting, and a Grant Showcase meeting (open to all members).

The complete Grant 2010 schedule is available online.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (IAC)

Monitors the progress of Foundation grants, communicates the impact of these grants to the membership, provides feedback to the Grant Committee, and strengthens relationships with our grantees. To serve on IAC, we ask that members first participate in site visits through the Grant Committee.

Second Wednesday, 2:30 – 4:00 pm, January – June plus Orientation in October 2009

TO JOIN ANY COMMITTEE:

Contact Megan Davies at megan@wawomensfoundation.org, or call the office at 206.340.1710.

INTRODUCING the 2009-2010

Committee Cabinet Leadership Team

The Committee Cabinet is comprised of the leaders of our operating committees; they ensure all committees are working in collaboration toward Foundation goals. The Cabinet Chair is an *ex officio* voting member of the Board of Directors.

Mary Stevens, Committee Cabinet Chair

Raleigh Bowden, Inclusiveness Initiative Chair

Nancy Price & Donna Holpainen, Membership Chair and Vice-Chair

Kathleen Davis & Kathleen O'Connor, Education Chair and Vice-Chair

Cindy Shurtleff & Amy Michael, Impact Assessment Chair and Vice Chair

Susie Tull, Barbara Fielden, & Roxanne Scott, Grants Chair, Vice Chair, and Past Chair

Carrie George & Cathy Hillenbrand, Discovery Days Co-Chairs

Recent Happenings @ WWF

Book Club – March 18 & March 24

Over 60 members and guests engaged in two lively discussions about immigrant and refugee issues in the book *The Middle of Everywhere: Helping Refugees Enter the American Community* by Mary Pipher. **Someireh Amirfaiz** of Refugee Women's Alliance, **Jorge Baron** of Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, and representatives from **New Futures' ReachOut** Program and **Washington CASH**, enriched the discussion with issues pertinent to the Seattle area.

What Can We Do: New Philanthropy Skills for Turbulent Times – May 4

WWF Board Member **Maggie Walker** and **Sue Coliton** of the Paul G. Allen Foundation presented on the special challenges now facing the nonprofit community and how philanthropy makes a difference. A workshop-style session gave members the chance to brainstorm and reflect on ways to make the most impact with dollars and time.

Neighborhood Gathering: Brunch and Brain Science

On April 19th, WWF member **Elizabeth Aylward**, PhD, generously hosted a brunch and spoke about her work as a pediatric neuroscience researcher at Seattle Children's Research Institute. She led WWF members in a discussion of the latest cutting-edge brain research, fascinating developments in our knowledge of brain functions, and where philanthropic dollars can make the most impact in medical research.



WWF members met "Big Al", a Fur Seal at the Aquarium

Summer Outing: Seattle Aquarium - July 16

Foundation members and their families gathered at the Seattle Aquarium for our annual Summer Outing.

Along with observing adorable sea mammals and experiencing a dive show in the brand new Aquarium tank, WWF members learned about the Aquarium's new efforts to educate the community on marine conservation. It was a fun-filled event!

Grant Awards Celebration 2009

Our Award Celebration on June 17 was a festive culmination of the six-month WWF grant process. We were able to honor these five organizations with grants totaling **\$475,000** and express our confidence in their great work:

Arts & Culture: Northwest African American Museum, \$87,500

Education: College Access Now, \$100,000

Environment: Cascade Land Conservancy, \$87,500

Health: King County Sexual Assault Resource Center, \$100,000

Human Services: The Mockingbird Society, \$100,000

More than 130 people were on hand to hear the announcements and cheer when the large checks were awarded.



NW African American Museum receives a big check!

Two organizations that have just wrapped up their three-year WWF grants also gave a brief overview of the tremendous impact of the

funds on their organizations: EarthCorps (\$75,000 for their volunteer mobilization program) and The Vera Project (\$75,000 support during their move to a new venue.) We gratefully acknowledge our two sponsors of this uplifting evening: *Davis Wright Tremaine* and *Jacobson Jarvis & Co.* Thank you!

Kudos to our own Foundation Members!

Linda Larson, named the new Board Chair of Public Radio International

Kate McKinney, DDS, selected as one of Puget Sound Business Journal's *40 Under 40*, which honors leaders under the age of 40 who excel in their industry and show dynamic leadership

Sarah Merner and **Lynn Ryder**, featured as community donors in The Seattle Foundation's *Healthy Communities Report*.

Kathleen O'Connor, interviewed on *King5 News UpFront* on the topic of healthcare reform - now available online (ask us for the link!)

Benita Staadacker: the play commissioned by Benita and her husband, *Becky's New Car*, was one of six finalists for the 2009 Harold and Mimi Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award, for the best new scripts produced professionally outside New York City in 2008

Colleen Willoughby received the prestigious Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award from the Association of Junior Leagues International for exceptional volunteer service to the Seattle community.

Always Seeking Member Kudos

Please send news of your or other members' accomplishments to Megan Davies: megan@wawomensfoundation.org

Grantee Spotlights: Our Community Investments at Work

In response to member feedback, we will regularly highlight the exciting accomplishments of the terrific organizations that WWF has funded over the years. Let us know what you think!

EarthCorps – 2006 Environment Grant

Nearly 100 environmental and community-based organizations call on EarthCorps to recruit, train, and lead volunteers in hands-on environmental projects that directly benefit the region's land, air, and water. This past year EarthCorps volunteers helped the efforts of two local environmental initiatives: the *Green Seattle Partnership*, a 20-year initiative to restore 2,500 acres of severely impacted forest in Seattle's parks, and the *Alliance for Puget Sound*, an initiative to restore 100 miles of Puget Sound shoreline in three years. EarthCorps held 79 *Green Seattle* events in 2008, where **thousands of volunteers planted, removed, and maintained hundreds of thousands of square feet of urban forests and natural areas.**

With our three-year, \$75,000 grant, EarthCorps is piloting innovative ways to cultivate, educate and engage volunteers – and leverage its expertise in stewarding our local environment. In 2008 EarthCorps expanded its volunteer programs to Kirkland and Tacoma, expanded partnerships with 20 area schools for in-classroom and in-the-field service days, and instituted the *EarthCorps Volunteer Crew*, a unique hands-on training program for young adults specializing in professional volunteer management. **EarthCorps also recently merged with Seattle Urban Nature (SUN),** a



EarthCorps Volunteers

forest mapping and monitoring organization. Using GPS / GIS to survey and analyze ecosystems, EarthCorps will now pair habitat monitoring with a strong volunteer base to develop new forest restoration solutions around Puget Sound.

www.earthcorps.org



The Volunteer Van funded by WWF!

Team Read – 2006 Education Grant

Through its innovative approach to tutoring, Team Read coordinated high school students to tutor 354 2nd and 3rd grade students in reading during the 2008-2009 school year. The students with the greatest need for literacy support learned to read at or above grade level: **97% of referring teachers reported increased reading skills for their participating students.** Moreover, the positive relationships that result between the older tutors and young ones are an important factor in students' reading success; students show an overall increase in their sense of accomplishment and self-confidence.



Teenage tutors also benefit from participating in Team Read's *Core Tutoring Program*: they develop their tutoring and mentoring skills, learn the rewards of community service, prepare for future employment, and are compensated through hourly pay, deferred college tuition, or service learning hours. Many of Team Read's tutors were once students in the program as youngsters, and greatly benefited from its success.



With the help of our three-year, \$100,000 grant, Team Read was able to further develop a new program, *Reading Leaders*. A natural extension of their cross-age tutoring model, *Reading Leaders* pairs 1st and 2nd grade struggling readers with 4th and 5th grade tutors. **Not only did the younger kids become stronger, engaged readers, but over half of the older tutors were once tutees themselves,** and the transition from tutee to tutor is a powerful and positive experience for these young students.

www.teamread.org

Welcome New WWF Members!

Luann Bice	Genevieve Morton
DeeAnn Burman	Sara Muchinsky
Julie Coleman	Mai Norden
Leslie Decker	Judith Ramey
Cheryl Fitzpatrick Greene	Kathy Rumberger
Anne Fontaine	Kim Brown Seely
Darcy Hollie	Tricia Stromberg
Patsy Huntington	Lynn Thomsen
Nora Kenway	Julie Turner
Norma Klorfine	Olivia Voigts
Sallie Lin	Kathleen Washienko
Cassandra Manuelito-Kerkvliet	Leslie Young

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

to Foundation members who have recently hosted Prospective Member events:

Rhoda Altom
Susan Belanich
Diane Carroll
Karen Collins
Jana Foushée

Kaycee Krysty
Jeannie Nordstrom
Nancy Price
Kris Shanafelt

Contact Megan at WWF if you are interested in hosting an event in your home or work place to encourage your friends to learn more about the benefits of WWF membership!