



## ***Frequently Asked Questions for Impact 100 Greater Indianapolis***

### **Our Process**

#### **How does Impact 100 work?**

Impact 100 awards high-impact grants to nonprofits in the Greater Indianapolis area by:

- Engaging at least 100 women in giving \$1000 each year.
- Educating members about community issues and nonprofits addressing those issues most effectively.
- Using Focus Area Committees comprised of members who choose to be involved in the grant process.
- Awarding at least one annual grant of \$100,000 to a local nonprofit determined by a vote of the membership.

#### **What types of organizations does Impact 100 fund?**

Impact 100 believes every member of our community should have access to a clean, safe environment, cultural enrichment, family services and quality education and healthcare. To support that belief, we fund nonprofit organizations in the Greater Indianapolis area that fall into one of our five Focus Areas:

- Arts & Culture
- Education
- Environment
- Family
- Health & Wellness.

#### **What types of projects does Impact 100 fund?**

Impact 100 funds projects addressing critical needs, undertaking new ventures, and proposing innovative ways to solve social problems and to create a more civil and respectful climate in our community. We encourage all greater Indianapolis nonprofits with the vision and capacity to manage a gift of this size to apply.

#### **How do you decide who is awarded the grants?**

Each year, we solicit grant applications from hundreds of nonprofit organizations in our five focus areas. We form five committees made up of our members, one for each focus area. Each committee is chaired by an Impact 100 member trained in facilitating the grant review process. The committee accepts and evaluates grant applications – by researching and visiting applicants – to arrive at their committee's finalist. At our annual meeting the finalists give a short presentation, and the members vote to determine who wins that year's \$100,000 grant.

#### **Why does Impact 100 award the \$100,000 grant to a single organization?**

It's simple, a grant of this size makes a large impact. Pooling our members' resources allows Impact 100 members to be part of funding a project that has an impact on our community.

### **Membership**

#### **What is the membership fee?**

The annual membership fee is \$1000.

#### **What are my obligations if I join?**

Our only requirement is a \$1000 donation. You have the option to serve on one of the committees evaluating grant applications. And we hope you'll vote for a grant recipient in June.

#### **What is the timing for becoming a member and awarding a grant?**

Members join throughout each calendar year, but no later than December 31. The number of women who have donated \$1000 by December 31 determines the grant amounts that will be awarded the following June.

#### **How much of membership fees go toward the grants versus administrative expenses?**

A full 100% of Impact 100 membership contributions –every dollar – is awarded in grants to nonprofit organizations.

#### **How does Impact 100 pay for administrative expenses?**

Our administrative costs are offset in four ways. "Friend" donations made by spouses and friends of members, employer matches, corporate sponsors, and others help underwrite operating expenses and are tax-deductible. Furthermore, bank interest is earned on membership donations between their receipt and the pay-out of the grant award, and these earnings also help to offset administrative costs. Finally, Impact 100 seeks in-kind donations so they can help whenever possible to minimize operating costs.

#### **How involved do I have to be as a member?**

Only two things are required to be a member: You must donate \$1000. You are then encouraged to make an informed decision when you vote for a grant recipient, either in person at the Annual Meeting or by absentee ballot. If you would like to be more involved, you may serve on a Focus Area Committee to review and evaluate grant proposals. You may want to attend site visits to some of the nonprofit applicants for the grant. You might decide to

join a committee to help plan the Annual Meeting, or brainstorm ideas for telling more women about Impact 100, or think of educational topics to present to our members. The choice is yours as to how involved you become.

#### **Is my donation to Impact 100 tax-deductible?**

Impact 100 Greater Indianapolis is an IRS recognized 501(C)(3) charitable organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the full extent permitted by law.

#### **Do I have to live in the Greater Indianapolis area to be a member?**

No. Members can live anywhere.

#### **What is a Shared or Syndicate Membership?**

While the greatest impact comes from each woman donating \$1000, Impact 100 Greater Indianapolis offers Shared or Syndicate memberships. This allows 2-4 women to pool their money into one membership. Each Shared/Syndicate member has full membership rights (serving on committees, attending events, etc.) with the exception that they may cast only one vote at the final dinner.

Shared or Syndicate Memberships can be family (sisters, mother/daughter, aunt/niece, etc.), friends, co-workers, or any group of 2-4 women who want to join without the full commitment. We may be able to help you find others if you are interested in this type of membership.

### **Paying Membership Fees**

#### **How do I pay the membership fees?**

Print and complete the [Membership Form](#), and mail it to the address on the form along with your check before December 31. Donations can also be made online, but please note there is an additional charge to cover the credit card processing fee. For more information go to <http://www.impact100indy.org/join/membership-info/>

#### **When are membership fees due?**

Membership forms and donations are due by December 31 in order to be included in the grants awarded the following June.

#### **Can I pay for my membership with a credit card?**

Yes, the [Membership Form](#) provides a space for credit card information, or you can use PayPal at Join Us.

If paying by credit card, please consider an additional \$30 to cover our credit card processing fees. Since 100% of your membership fees go to our annual grants, any credit card fees come out of the Friends account.

#### **Can I pay for my membership in installments?**

Yes. We want to make joining Impact 100 as easy as possible. If you choose to make installment payments the full amount must be paid by the membership deadline of December 31. For more information, contact us at [info@Impact100indy.org](mailto:info@Impact100indy.org).

#### **Will you accept gifts of stock for a membership?**

We accept stock donations. Please follow the directions for making a stock gift in the **Join Impact > Donate Stock** section of our web site at [www.impact100indy.org](http://www.impact100indy.org). Or contact us at [info@Impact100indy.org](mailto:info@Impact100indy.org) if you prefer to discuss this option before moving forward.

#### **If my employer has a matching program, will you accept this donation?**

Yes, we gratefully accept employer matching gifts. Funds matching your \$1000 contribution play an important role, as they are applied toward administrative costs. Please note this on the Membership Form and let us know if you will need documentation from Impact 100 in order to apply for the matching gift.

#### **Can I designate Impact 100 on my United Way donation form?**

Yes, this is a great way to support both United Way and Impact 100. Two things to note: any employer matches will go to the United Way general fund (not to Impact 100), and you are encouraged to give an extra \$50 to cover United Way administrative fees.

#### **I want to give more than \$1000. Do I get more than one vote?**

No. Every member gets one vote even if they give more than \$1000. You can choose to donate addition funds to cover administrative costs or to go into the grant pool as additional grant money. You also have the option of sponsoring another woman to be an Impact 100 voting member.

#### **Can I make an in-kind donation of services or products to cover my \$1000 donation?**

No, however we do accept in-kind donations to offset our administrative costs.

### **Friends and Supporters**

#### **If I can't make a donation of \$1000, is there a role for me?**

Members and nonmembers are always welcome to make a non-voting donation into the grant pool or to be a Friend of Impact 100 by making a donation to support administrative expenses. Please contact us at [info@Impact100indy.org](mailto:info@Impact100indy.org) to discuss these options.

#### **Can men participate in Impact 100?**

Men can participate directly as a Friend of Impact 100 or they may encourage the women they know to participate as members. A man may also choose to sponsor a friend or family member by paying her membership fees.