



MONTHLY NEWS APRIL 2024



IN THIS ISSUE

- Grants Team prepares you to vote for 2024 funding recipients.
- Co-Presidents reveal our Star Volunteer Award winner.
- Blood Drive draws donors to help stem national shortage.
- Full slate of upcoming events enlighten and inspire—from learning how to reduce food waste to meeting our grant finalists to sharing favorite reads.
- March Spotlight speaker focuses on the status of Sonoma County women and brings a special guest.

GRANTS UPDATE



Let's get ready to vote!

Our Grant Review Committees have been hard at work these last months studying applications, attending site visits, and considering which of the many wonderful proposals they will present to members at our Meet the Finalists event on April 20.

For this, our 15th anniversary year, we'll award a record \$350,000 in funding. In addition to awarding at least 13 Impetus Grants, we are very excited to launch our new Encore Grant program, which will award one Impetus Grant recipient a second year of funding in the same amount. The Encore Grant recipient also will have the option to select one woman from among its staff, board, or volunteers to become a fully paid, voting member of Impact100 Sonoma for two years.

Because grant voting includes this new component, we encourage you to review the voting instructions **HERE**. The process for making your Impetus Grant and Encore Grant selections will become clear when you receive your online ballot via ElectionBuddy.

We always recommend that Meet the Finalists event attendees bring tissues, as well as a pencil or pen for annotating the printed program. But even if you can't attend, you can still choose with confidence. Starting the same day, you'll be able to access full proposal summaries in the Member Portal of our website, linked via the home page or your ElectionBuddy email.

CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

The calendar may say it's spring, but as we write this, it's still gray and rainy. Let's hope April brings bud-break, daffodils, and warmer weather.

We salute our Grant Review and Financial Review Committees on completing their important work and hope you're planning to join us at the Sebastiani Theatre on Saturday morning, April 20, for our inspiring Meet the Finalists event. Please be sure to cast your vote online, and then join us at Hanna Center on Saturday morning, May 4, at our 15th Annual Grant Awards Celebration.

We are thrilled to announce that Impact100 Sonoma has chosen **Kathy Bloch** as our Sonoma Valley Catalyst Fund Star Volunteer. Kathy serves on our board as Grants Oversight Co-Chair and is a longtime, vibrant, and steady leader of our Grants Team. She has helped train Grant Review Committee members, has helped implement our new grant management software system, has participated in many, many events, and continues to be a key contributor to the organization in countless ways.

Kathy will join other honorees from local nonprofits at the 14th Annual Star Volunteer Awards ceremony celebrating volunteerism in the valley on Sunday, April 28, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Hanna Center auditorium. The event is hosted by Sonoma Valley Catalyst Fund and co-sponsored by Community Foundation Sonoma County and CarePartners. Congratulations Kathy! We are proud for you to represent us.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our Meet the Finalists event and 15th Annual Grant Awards Celebration!



Claudia Sims and **Debbe Noto**, Co-Presidents, congratulate **Kathy Bloch**, Star Volunteer Award recipient.

The Sonoma Index-Tribune

Impact100 Sonoma leaders and grant recipients were featured in a front-page profile that appeared in *The Sonoma Index-Tribune* on Friday, April 5. Read the full story [HERE](#).

VOLUNTEER OPENINGS



Member Engagement and Education Event Leaders

The Engagement and Education Team seeks committee members with enthusiasm, ideas, organizational skills, and a can-do attitude. We especially need those who are willing to lead an event such as a Farmers Market Meetup, Summer Patio Party, or Spotlight Series gathering—a valuable role that takes only two to three hours per month. Come join us and meet other fun and friendly members. For details, contact **Sherry Preiss** at shpreiss@aol.com.

Events Team Members

The Events Team needs help with preparations, setup, and breakdown, for the Annual Awards Celebration on May 4, 8:30 AM. You'll receive only one email that invites you to choose your assignment. For the last event, volunteers gathered for an "Assembly Party" that made the work fun. We simply can't do this without you! To join the team, contact **Karen Sherman** at ks@axlecom.com.

Impact100 Cares—About YOU!

If you or a member you know is going through a difficult life transition such as a family loss or serious illness or is celebrating a milestone event, the Impact Cares team is standing by to offer encouragement or cheer.

To reach out, contact **Mary Jane Stolte** at 415-518-3389 or mjstolte7@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Successful Blood Drive Helps Reduce National Shortage

On March 15, our blood drive in partnership with the American Red Cross drew 24 donors and collected 21 units (about 21 pints) of blood to help reduce the U.S. supply shortage, the lowest in 20 years. We thank the Sonoma Community Center for again hosting this event, and our volunteers and donors for their support.

Our next blood drive is slated for **Friday, November 8, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM** at the Sonoma Community Center. To help ensure all slots are filled, we will keep a walk-in list for those who might not want to commit in advance but still donate.



Red Cross volunteer **Jillian Delano** (left) helped **Bobbie Collins** (right) and **Cheryl Shimek** check in blood donors.



Button Up for Impact!

Word of mouth is our greatest member-recruitment tool. Pick up a button and wear it out in the community and at our events. Get yours the next time you check in or contact Membership Co-Chair **Stephanie Chakmak** at thechakmaks@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Thursday, April 25, 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Spotlight Series/

Food Justice: Cultivating Community through Healthy Food



Learn how you can act to heal our planet by reducing food waste. In honor of Earth Month, we'll welcome Community Outreach and Development Director **Kelly Conrad of Farm to Pantry**. She'll explain how this small but mighty nonprofit—a 2023 grant recipient—unites communities to help end food injustice and reverse global warming by rescuing locally grown food that would otherwise go wasted and providing it to Sonoma County people in need. She'll highlight the status of food insecurity in the valley and innovative approaches to addressing the issue.

Learn more about **Kelly Conrad** [HERE](#).

Learn more about **Farm to Pantry** [HERE](#).

See your invitation or register [HERE](#) for this free event at the Pueblo Serena Clubhouse. **Bring a prospective member!**



To suggest topics for future Spotlight events, contact Sherry Preiss at shpreiss@aol.com.

- **Expand** your knowledge about the needs and concerns of our community and the wider world.
- **Experience** new ideas, perspectives, and ways of thinking while interacting with local leaders engaged in unique, inspiring work that fuels and informs our philanthropic commitment.
- **Extend** your network while enriching your membership experience.



Saturday, April 20

9:30 AM Check-in, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Presentations

Meet the Finalists

Get inspired and informed! Help decide your vote by meeting our 2024 Impetus Grant and Encore Grant finalists at the Sebastiani Theatre. Come hear them summarize their missions and proposals. Then learn how to cast your ballot online for our 2024 Grant Awards. See your invitation or register **HERE**.

Morning beverages and light snacks will be served. This is a members-only event.

Thank you to our host and sponsor, [Sebastiani Theatre](#).



**Saturday, April 20, through Tuesday, April 30, 9:00 PM PDT
Online Voting for 2024 Grant Recipients!**

Review voting instructions [HERE](#) and watch for your ElectionBuddy email.



**Friday, April 26, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
NextGen Book Exchange with Sonoma Valley Woman's Club**

Give those good reads on your shelf a second life while widening your literary horizons. Bring your books and bags or boxes to the Sonoma Valley Woman's Club on 1st Street East—and browse away! Excess books will be distributed to valley lending libraries. A \$5 donation is suggested. For details contact **Amy Gallagher** at amymgallagher@gmail.com or **Emma McCulloch** at dremmamcculloch@gmail.com.



Saturday, May 4

9:30 AM Check-in, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM Presentations

15th Annual Grant Awards Celebration

Join fellow members and the community at Hanna Center to honor our 2024 Impetus Grant honorees. Find out which nonprofits will receive our record \$350,000 in funding—and which one will receive our inaugural Encore Grant. It will be an anniversary celebration to remember! Watch for your invitation.

OUT AND ABOUT

Spotlight Series Continues with Focus on Status of Sonoma County Women

On March 28, in honor of Women's History Month, some 37 attendees welcomed **Joanne M. Brown**, MSW, JD, from the Commission on the Status of Women in Sonoma County to the Pueblo Serena Clubhouse. She summarized the advisory panel's role, history, and current initiatives. She also presented key findings from the **2020 Voices of Sonoma County Women Report** and stressed the importance of the **Sonoma County Child Care & Children's Health Initiative**, a November ballot measure.

See her presentation slides [HERE](#).

Learn more about **Joanne Brown** [HERE](#) and [HERE](#).

Read the 2020 **Voices of Sonoma County Women Report** [HERE](#).

Learn more about the **Sonoma County Child Care & Children's Health Initiative** [HERE](#).



Joanne Brown offered this advice for amplifying our voices: continue to be active in Impact100 Sonoma; don't neglect your interests, which contain unrecognized skills; watch for implicit bias in work that comes before you; volunteer in schools and help

young women see a path ahead; get involved in local government; and read your local newspapers and hold them accountable.



Special guest District 1 Supervisor-Elect **Rebecca Hermosillo** introduced herself to the audience and engaged with constituents. The Sonoma Valley native and daughter of Mexican immigrants will be the first Latina to serve on the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors when she succeeds **Susan Gorin** in 2025. Learn more about Rebecca **HERE**.

15th ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTES



"We are very grateful to be part of the Impact100 family. Gracias! You have helped to uplift the Latinx voices in our community."

–**Maite Iturri, Food for All (Comida para Todos), 2023 Impetus Grant Recipient**

"Your funding will support our efforts in opening up a world of possibilities for the youth we serve, in turn creating safer and healthier communities. Thank you again for supporting our mission and for caring about the youth in Sonoma Valley. We could not do it without you!"

–Susie Gallo, Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance, 2023 Impetus Grant Recipient