

Philanthropy Northwest

E-Story



JANUARY 2008

SHARING STORIES ACROSS THE REGION

Throughout our 30th Anniversary, Philanthropy Northwest members were profiled in monthly E-Stories. This special series honored our six-state region's philanthropic past, celebrated current grantmaking activities, and shone a light on the future of philanthropy in the Northwest. As a result of our members' positive response, Philanthropy Northwest will continue to publish quarterly E-stories that demonstrate the scope, depth, and impact of giving in the region. Coming in March: Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation.

Thank you for sharing your stories with us!

IMPACTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATED PHILANTHROPY: IDAHO WOMEN'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

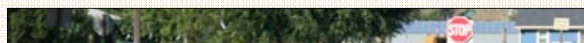
Inspired by the work of the Washington Women's Foundation, the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation (IWCF) was founded in the fall of 2001 by a group of philanthropically-minded women. The Boise-based membership has grown to more than 225 members in the last seven years, joining Philanthropy Northwest last year.

IWCF members make an annual contribution to the organization and collaboratively research and select recipients to receive grants from pooled funds. Grants are awarded throughout southwestern Idaho to projects that address a critical community need, develop a bold venture or create new approaches to time-worn problems. IWCF's principal funding areas include basic needs, education, health, environment and cultural arts.

By encouraging women to participate in the grantmaking process and actively attend philanthropic events, like a 2008 lecture series on health and education, IWCF hopes to inspire women to combine their resources, collaborate and practice educated philanthropy to make a positive difference in their community. IWCF's grant to Homedale Elementary School, described below, typifies the type of far-reaching effect the foundation hopes to achieve, even with small grants, by addressing an immediate problem and envisioning how a project will work in the future. According to IWCF president Susan Smith, "IWCF members don't just give back. They 'give forward' — ahead of the need — to make a real impact."



IWCF grant recipients in 2006 and 2007. The foundation has granted \$571, 860 in individual grants and pooled funds since its first granting cycle in 2002.



TAKING SOUND STEPS: HOMEDALE TRACK



Proud Homedale residents walked an inaugural lap around the new track during the opening celebration.



Children with physical disabilities can participate in the Walkin', Talkin', Trojans walking club at the track.

TAKING SOUND STEPS: HOMEDALE TRACK

When Dan Moore began teaching at the elementary school in Homedale — a small, rural town in western Idaho — student recreational activities were limited. As the school's physical education specialist, Dan founded the Walkin', Talkin', Trojans walking club to encourage students to be more physically active. According to Dan, the club was successful, but it highlighted the poor condition of the school's playground area. "We were just in real need of a smooth surface that could be used year-round without the problems that come from walking on mud and weeds."

Dan hoped to build an all-purpose and all-weather track for student and community use. Through his involvement in a large rural health grant for local elementary schools, Dan met members of IWCF. In 2007, Homedale Elementary School was awarded a \$22,500 grant from IWCF to build a quarter-mile track, which would benefit students as well as the larger Homedale community, including teachers in a walking club and senior citizens in a foster grandparents walking program. On September 21, 2007, students, teachers, city government officials, the local police department and members of IWCF demonstrated their support for the community-wide project by taking an inaugural lap around the track at the grand opening ceremony.

Since the opening, more than 6,500 miles have been logged on the track, with a school goal of more than 10,000 miles for 2008. In a town without sports facilities or sidewalks, the Homedale track gives students a safe place to walk – an activity "they can do anywhere in the world and learn to do while they're young, so that hopefully they will realize its benefits in the long-run." According to Dan, "the Idaho Women's Charitable Foundation grant was a gift to the entire Homedale community, not just the elementary school. The track is the first step in bringing our rural community together around a healthy, family-friendly activity."



Philanthropy Northwest

2505 Third Avenue, Suite 200

Seattle, Washington 98121

Ph: 206-443-8430 Fax: 206-441-4622

Toll Free: 877-PNW-ASK2

www.PhilanthropyNW.org

info@PhilanthropyNW.org

To unsubscribe, please contact info@PhilanthropyNW.org.