



ACT of GIVING

FOUNDATION

2011
ANNUAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear friends and supporters,

Act of Giving is now in its 9th year as a 501(c)(3) giving circle and in total we've given over \$290,000 in grants! I still remember when we were first trying to figure out our name and the random thoughts we had about how to pool funds together as a group. It's a great privilege to witness the growth of our organization and we're proud of the meaningful way we give. Our process doesn't put a burden on struggling, smaller non-profits that do amazing work. Additionally, because we pool our giving each year, the power to leverage our individual or families' donation goes further and has more impact. It's a meaningful way to give together and to consider ways in which we can make a difference for organizations that have great passion for what they do and who they serve.

Act of Giving has impacted thousands of lives and programs through the grants we've given. From supporting radio programs that educate farmers and their children in Central America, to building the very first Room to Read library in Nepal, to helping provide a free place to wash clothes and shower to the homeless community in Seattle, our funds have made an important mark on the lives of people throughout the world. Reading the letters of appreciation from these

organizations is priceless. There are many more amazing programs that Act of Giving has supported through the years and we hope you'll take a moment to check them out on our new web site.

If this sounds interesting and something you want to be part of – you can be! It has been a standing joke that there is some sort of secret handshake you have to know in order to join Act of Giving. Not so, friends! We welcome new members and value the enthusiasm that they bring to the group. There are levels of participation for everyone and we welcome you to learn more and find ways you could join. We're a fun, diverse, easy-going, and caring group of individuals.

Our annual meetings are held in October and our grant theme selection process is generally held in February. We welcome interested people to attend one of our meetings and learn more. If you have questions or want to chat with a member, don't hesitate to email us at info@actofgiving.org.

Have a great year and we hope to see you soon at one of our events!

Helena Hillinga Haas
Executive Director

Who We Are

The Act of Giving Foundation is a volunteer-based, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to a vision of making the world a better place. We have a great time learning about nonprofits that are helping to make a difference in many lives and then making grants to support their projects.



2011 Act of Giving Members

Michelle & Rob Banga
Leah Boyan
Sharon Chin
Matt Crosby
Jean Edelhertz
Helena Haas
Dwight Hutchinson
Ross Kilburn
Jeanne Krikawa
Jim Malzewski
Kendra Morgan
Kathleen & Patrick Owens
Chris Peters
Katie Toft
Steve Shields
Tom Shields
Joe Van Hecke
Michael Van Sant



Grantmaking Events

Each year, Act of Giving hosts three major meetings; a Spring Kick-off, the Summer Grant Celebration and the Fall Annual Meeting. Everyone is welcome at these events and more information is always available online.

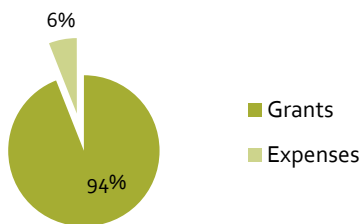


Summer Grant Celebration

At the 2011 summer celebration, we gathered to celebrate our grantees. Member, grantees, family and friends enjoyed a beautiful evening in Seattle.

2011 GRANTS & EXPENSES

In 2011, Act of Giving collected \$21,474 in contributions, distributed \$20,400 in grants and had \$1,243 in expenses, including the Summer Grant Celebration.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our website at www.actofgiving.org

Email us at info@actofgiving.org

2226 Eastlake Ave W, #168
Seattle, WA 98102

2011 Grantees

In 2011, Act of Giving members voted to award \$18,000 in grants to three impressive organizations. An additional \$2,400 was awarded at the Summer Grant Celebration.

Pat Graney Company, \$8,000

The Pat Graney Company is a non-profit dance troupe that teaches dance, expository writing, visual art and performance to women in Washington State prisons. The grant provided seed funding to develop Transitions, a new program that envisioned developing community mentors to help women make a sustained successful transition to their communities after serving their sentences. With the grant funds, the Company recruited its first wave of community volunteers, conducted mentorship training, and presented the program to several prisons. They are now adapting a community mentorship manual to incorporate the arts in post-release community integration, continuing mentor training with an orientation session at a Seattle work release program, and developing relationships with additional women’s corrections centers.

Sightlife, \$5,000

Founded in 1969, SightLife is the only non-profit global health organization and eye bank solely focused on eliminating corneal blindness in the U.S. and around the world. Driven by an entrepreneurial spirit as an eye bank, the organization leverages innovative technologies and best business practices to transform lives and unlock life’s possibilities for the corneal blind. SightLife works in partnership with surgeons and health organizations in more than 30 countries and SightLife and its partners combined provided more than 10,000 corneas for transplant in 2011.

EX3 Teen Center, \$5,000

EX3 is part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of King County, which is devoted entirely to teens grades 6 through 12 who have been identified as having risk factors for dropping out of school. The grant from Act of Giving funded a valuable one-on-one mentoring program for participating students that builds a trusting relationship as well as tracking attendance, behavior, grades and social competencies. The grant also supported student transportation costs to and from the program.

Summer Grant Slam, \$2,400

On a beautiful August 2011 summer night in Seattle, a group of non-profit loving individuals joined together to celebrate the three Act of Giving grants for 2011. In addition, the first ever “Grant Slam” was held and made for an exciting night with a surprising outcome.

After numerous past grantees gave their 60 second elevator pitch (some in the form of song, others in limerick, and all very touching) the attendees had the opportunity to vote for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Just before voting occurred two anonymous donors made it possible to give another \$400 grant which offered a 4th slot on the ballot. And the grants went to....

- \$1,000 – Outdoors for All
- \$600 – Urban Rest Stop
- \$400 – Washington CASH
- \$400 – Bike Works

Congratulations to all of the 2011 grantees!