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**Impact San Antonio Kicks Off 'Drive for Five' Membership Campaign
*Organization Seeks Women of All Backgrounds to Build a Circle of Philanthropy***

Since 2004, Impact San Antonio has awarded nonprofit agencies more than \$1.7 million thanks to the collective strength of women committed to impacting and enriching lives throughout the city and surrounding areas.

Members, either individually or in groups up to four people, contribute \$1,000 annually with 100 percent of donations pooled to create five \$100,000 grants awarded to nonprofits in one of five focus areas: Arts & Culture, Education, Environment/Recreation/Preservation, Family, and Health & Wellness.

Now until May 31, Impact San Antonio encourages women from all walks of life to join the organization during its "Drive for Five" membership campaign. Those interested can learn more about Impact San Antonio by visiting www.impactsanantonio.org or call (210) 617-3280 or email impactinfo@impactsanantonio.org. Two membership recruitment events remain, one on April 7 at the San Antonio Playhouse, and a final membership event May 19 at The Veranda.

"The only way we can reach our goal to award five \$100,000 grants this year is through the strength of 500 members," President Beverley McClure said. "So we welcome women of all ages and backgrounds to join us in this Drive to help advance women's philanthropy in our community."

Knowing that many women do not always have extra time to commit to participating with a civic organization, members can be as involved or uninvolved as they choose. "Membership is on your own terms," McClure said. "If all you have time to do is write a check, that's fine. However, we also have great opportunities for those who prefer to become more involved such as serving on our various committees or networking with other like-minded women."

In addition, members have an equal vote for the nonprofits that receive grants, McClure said. By empowering women as the decision makers and allowing them to see the impact their collective efforts have on local needs, Impact San Antonio inspires a lifelong passion for philanthropy.

Moreover, because Impact San Antonio does not have an office or administrative staff all administrative work, such as website maintenance, grant applications and training, event planning, marketing and accounting, is done by board members, volunteers and members.

"Every penny of the members' \$1,000 donation goes to grants," McClure said. "Operational costs are covered by donations from sources, such as sponsorships, Impact Plus members who contribute more than \$1,000 and Friends of Impact."

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McClure reminds nonprofits to apply for grants beginning May 1 with a submission deadline of 5 p.m. May 31. Applications can be found on the website. If the organization reaches its Drive for Five goal, then five recipients will be awarded \$100,000 during the annual Grant Award Night on Oct. 19.

“We believe that awarding a deserving nonprofit \$100,000 enables organizations to significantly impact the individuals and communities they serve,” she said.

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