In Their Own Words

“We are truly grateful to IICF for their commitment to our organization and for investing in our local families. Habitat for Humanity does not build these homes – our community partners do. IICF, through its financial donation and volunteerism, empowers families to achieve stability and self-reliance through shelter!”

– Beth Wey Lyons, Senior Development Officer
South Shore Habitat for Humanity, Weymouth, MA

BY THE NUMBERS

Women in Insurance Conference Series: 2013-2018
Attendees: 6,100 from 10 Nations / 39 States
Industry-leading Speakers: 340+

UPCOMING EVENTS

6/29/2018
Southeast Division
Book Donation and Reading Day at ChildCareGroup
Dallas, TX

9/12/2018
Midwest Division
Missouri Chapter
Oktoberfest
St. Louis, MO DETAILS >

9/18/2018
Western Division
Insuring the Children Golf Tournament
Mission Viejo, CA DETAILS >

9/20/2018
Southeast Division
Georgia Chapter
Skyline Park Annual Benefit
Atlanta, GA DETAILS >

9/20/2018
Northeast Division
Boston Chapter
Ping Pong Tournament
Boston, MA Save the Date >

9/27/2018
Midwest Division
Ohio Chapter
Oktoberfest
Cleveland, OH Save the Date >

10/30/2018
Southeast Division
Houston Chapter
Sporting Clay Tournament
Houston, TX DETAILS >
More than 6,100 have attended IICF Women in Insurance Conference Series events since 2013, including 1,600 this month - exploring diversity, inclusion and innovation in the industry

- The time is now. - With greater diversity and inclusion comes greater financial performance. - Lower the ladder for others. - Use your seat at the table to make a difference. - Build resiliency. - Look for the raised hands. - Optimism is a strategy.

These are simply a few of the many empowering quotes and themes emanating from the 2018 Women in Insurance Regional Forums, where the business case for a fully inclusive workplace – where opportunities are available to all who seize them regardless of gender, ethnicity, age or orientation – was creatively explored among industry leaders and colleagues in New York, Chicago, Dallas and Los Angeles. Together we delved into challenges the industry faces relative to a transforming workforce, how to attract and develop talent, encouraging diversity of thought, and the many opportunities and new strategic directions the industry is headed through greater innovation and diversity and evolving leadership.

A record-setting audience of more than 1,620 women and men joined IICF and their colleagues throughout the month of June at the IICF Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and Western Division Forums, to hear dynamic keynote speakers and panelists, participate in engaging breakout sessions and workshop activities, and network with industry and other leaders in business, research and academia. With a wide array of topics ranging from the future of leadership in more collaborative, dispersed and technologically advanced environments and how to hone your personal leadership style, to recognizing your own value, unconscious bias, shaping your career trajectory and so much more, the IICF Regional Forums offered a platform to insurance executives at all stages in their careers to discuss the most relevant diversity, inclusion and leadership topics.
Many compelling statistics and projections were cited in the four Forums and one that resonated – that at the current rate it will take 217 years to close the gender gap – also significantly underscored the necessity of continuing to convene the industry on diversity and inclusion discussions, with both enlightened women and men at the table. As we move forward, the value of engaging a greater number of men – particularly those in leadership roles - in these discussions is clear. We encourage and welcome the involvement of men and women through the IICF conference series in exploring opportunities to educate, inspire and empower this strategic imperative.

Those who joined us across the U.S. this month, from 35 states and 5 countries, overwhelmingly indicate that attending an IICF Women in Insurance Regional Forum is extremely value or valuable, and nearly 100% would recommend colleagues attend one of these events in the future. The speakers at our conferences are cited in attendee surveys as one of the greatest reasons to attend, as these renowned leaders – including trailblazing C-Suite executives, an Olympic Gold Medalist, best-selling authors, a contributing correspondent on a top-rated morning show and prestigious academic scholars, share their expertise and experiences and offer actionable solutions and strategies that Forum attendees can apply to their own careers and workplaces.

As the philanthropic foundation of the insurance industry, IICF incorporated a charitable component into the Forums as well, related to the advancement of early childhood literacy, which is one of the Foundation’s international initiatives. Through the IICF Early Literacy Initiative, and in partnership with Sesame Workshop and insurance industry supporters, the latest donations of our "Book Buddies" storybooks for children was announced at the 2018 Women in Insurance Regional Forums. Nearly 15,000 storybooks will be distributed to children in underserved communities, facilitated by IICF nonprofit partners Bernie’s Book Bank in Chicago and Jumpstart in Los Angeles and San Francisco and others. Forum attendees also generously contributed to the cause through very successful book drives at the Chicago and Dallas events, where ChildCareGroup will be the beneficiary of five hundred donated books.

A text-to-give campaign at the Los Angeles Regional Forum raised more than $1,600 for the IICF Early Literacy Initiative. Yet more ways the insurance industry is giving back to the communities where we live and work, and underscoring an impactful point shared by Chicago keynote speaker and panelist Joan Lamm-Tennant, CEO of BlueMarble Micro that “Good business can have significant social impact. These are not Either/Ors.”

Barbara Bufkin, Executive Head of Business Development, Commercial Lines at Assurant and Chair of the IICF International Board of Governors, welcomed the industry and actively participated at all four of the 2018 Regional Forums, including leading fascinating panel
discussions at the Chicago and Dallas Forums. She also shared one of the most widely quoted and memorable thoughts of the conference series: “When passion meets purpose, that’s when the real work gets done!” Bufkin encouraged industry leaders and those advancing their careers to bring broad perspectives to their work, respecting divergent viewpoints and helping others by sharing meaningful experiences, and reminding us that “behind every successful woman is a tribe of supporting women.”

With today’s leaders managing a globally dispersed and more culturally unique workforce, IICF will continue to convene the industry on how we successfully transform these challenges into opportunities for an ever more inclusive and diverse workplace, where greater diversity continues to be a business imperative and driver of better business.

Thank you to all of our generous sponsors and special appreciation to our Four-Conference Premier Presenting sponsors CNA, EY, Farmers Insurance and XL Catlin. Your support made these important conversations possible.

**Look for more information on the three-day IICF Women in Insurance Global Conference, hosted in New York in June 2019, to be announced soon.**

**IICF UK Celebrates Third Anniversary as the London Midsummer Charity Ball Raises over £128,000 for Charity Grants**
On 21 June, more than 200 guests joined IICF to celebrate the industry’s collective impact in the community and to raise valuable funds for charities supporting social mobility. The IICF’s London Midsummer Charity Ball was held in the historic Merchant Taylor’s Hall, and featured speakers including Eilene Castolene, Director of Operations at Chubb and Rob Owen, OBE and CEO of St Giles Trust.

Together with two colleagues, Rob Owen told powerful stories about the people they support – people facing complex issues of abuse, debt and homelessness who are unable to find help elsewhere. To conclude the evening, David Brosnan, CEO of CNA Hardy and Chair of the IICF UK Board of Directors presented ‘Above & Beyond’ awards to two Associate Board members who’ve made an outstanding contribution to IICF: James Godwin from KPMG and Bobbie Mansfield from XL Catlin.

This June also marked the third anniversary of the IICF UK Division, which has awarded £140K to eight social mobility charities in the past two years alone. With the support of the London insurance community, IICF UK has helped more than 900 vulnerable people across the UK learn to read, enter employment and make a new start in life.

**Inspiring Young Talent to Consider Insurance Career Opportunities**

With nearly 400,000 open positions projected by 2020 in the insurance industry - and with its innovative focus on new technologies and markets, this industry offers a wide range of career opportunities.

IICF is proud to be a part of the Insurance Careers Movement and pleased to share these two recent and interesting reads to help educate and inspire younger professionals considering a career in insurance:

An Open Letter to College Graduates from I.I.I. CEO, Sean Kevelghan

Ways to Inspire Young Talent to Choose Insurance as a Rewarding Career by Marguerite Tortorello
Learn more about the Insurance Careers Movement and its focus on empowering millennials as future industry leaders at: Insurance Careers Movement

IICF Week of Giving 2018: October 13 - 20
Registration is Open!

Make a difference in your local communities through the largest volunteer initiative in the industry, the IICF Week of Giving!

As we celebrate the 25th year of IICF helping communities and enriching lives, we aim to increase Week of Giving volunteer participation by 25%! Be a part of something greater and join with more than 10,000 of your insurance industry colleagues the week of October 13 - 20th. Volunteer. Give. Make an Impact.

To learn more, register for a volunteer project or become a team leader visit the: IICF Week of Giving website

Let's Get Social!

Stay up to date with all things IICF by following us @doubleicf and learn how our local communities are benefiting by your support. Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn

The Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation helps communities and enriches lives by combining the collective strengths of the industry to provide grants, volunteer service and leadership.