In Their Own Words

“Thanks for the smiles! Thanks to the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation for giving beautiful smiles to the children of the Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society Children’s Clinic!

We pride ourselves on heartfelt healthcare – from little heads to big toes, and the IICF grant shows great ‘heart’ in helping to increase the capacity of IWS to care for vulnerable children with health education and nutrition programming. With the wonderful contribution by the IICF toward the in-school Portable Dentistry program, IICF helped more than 2,200 children smile; providing access for low-income children in 30 schools to dental exams, cleanings, sealants and fluoride treatments.

The grant funding also helps to provide Nutritional Counseling; where our dietitian works closely with the medical staff and patients to provide a family-centered program for a healthier lifestyle. Through the partnership between IICF and OPRF IWS Children’s Clinic we are changing children’s lives and creating big smiles when children get the care they need. Thanks for the smiles!”

– Victoria Novotny, Health Outreach Education Coordinator, Oak Park River Forest Infant Welfare Society
IICF Awards $1.36 Million in Nonprofit Grants in Recent Months

The impact of IICF is being felt in communities throughout the United States and United Kingdom, in all five IICF divisions, through the dedication and generosity of our insurance industry supporters. Over the past few months, grant receptions have been hosted in California, Georgia, New York, Ohio, Texas, Washington and beyond, and across England and Scotland, where IICF Board members have proudly presented nonprofit representatives with $1.36 million in IICF Community Grants to further their vital work.

These community grants support nonprofits focused in the areas of early childhood literacy; homeless and veterans causes; support of women, children and families; food insecurity; child abuse prevention; disaster preparedness and safety, and so much more.

IICF’s Northeast Division awarded $637,000 at their January grant reception; the Western Division has awarded $325,800 in the first quarter of 2018; the Midwest Division will be announcing upcoming grants at its annual Blazing the Trail Benefit on March 8th and its Ohio Chapter recently granted $70,000; the Atlanta and Houston Chapters in the Southeast Division awarded $218,000 over the past few months; and IICF UK awarded £77,500 to
nonprofits championing education and social mobility.

Additional grants will be awarded throughout the year and please remember, **your attendance and contribution at the various IICF events helps make it possible to support outstanding nonprofits** who are making a meaningful impact in our local communities. This is truly how #insurancegivesback!

**IICF Southeast Benefit Dinner Raises more than $900,000 for Nonprofits throughout Texas and the Region**

On February 1, more than 650 insurance professionals and industry supporters gathered at the Ritz Carlton in Dallas for the sixth annual Southeast Benefit Dinner. A **near-record of over $900,000 was raised** to support grants that benefit nonprofits throughout the Southeastern U.S. during this celebration of the insurance industry's ongoing commitment to philanthropy and community.

During the dinner the IICF Southeast honored Tom Curtin, Chairman and CEO, CRC Insurance, with its 2018 Philanthropic Leadership Award. “Tom has had a tremendous impact on these and other important causes, but the true spirit of his generosity is often expressed in more personal and far less public ways. He is always thinking of how he can help others; how he can live up to that adage ‘from those to whom much is given, much is expected’”, shared Neil Kessler, Chief Operating Officer, CRC Group and 2018 IICF Southeast Benefit Dinner Chair.

All proceeds from the night’s event will fund the IICF Southeast Division’s Community Grants Program, which provides grants to regional charities that champion causes in the areas of children at risk, education and veterans. At this year’s dinner, 23 nonprofits and charities were awarded grants. The IICF Southeast also worked with Make-A-Wish® North Texas in granting the wish of a very special guest, “wish kid” Vedant, whose dream of visiting Australia and the Great Barrier Reef will be made possible by IICF supporters. $46,000 was pledged for nonprofits through a new text-to-give option, along with a $50,000 matching contribution by Honoree Tom Curtin, for the 2018 IICF grants program. The event also featured an appearance by special guest Jimmy Johnson, former NFL head coach of the Dallas Cowboys. [Click here to read the Southeast Benefit Dinner press release.](#)

**IICF Women in Insurance Conference Series – More Reasons than Ever to Attend**
IICF’s Women in Insurance Conference Series has positioned the insurance industry at the forefront of the national conversation on diversity, inclusion and leadership - at the intersection with innovation - by exploring powerful and relevant topics, featuring highly acclaimed speakers who are leaders in a range of fields from business, academia, research and beyond, providing outstanding networking opportunities and creative workshop and learning experiences.

Along with these benefits and so many more, **recent studies provide data on the tangible results that can be realized by attending a Women’s Conference.** This recent article in the Harvard Business Review is a must-read! Click below to read:

**Do Women’s Networking Events Move the Needle on Equality?**

“Having been involved in IICF’s Women in Insurance Conference Series from its very origin in 2013, what we may have considered a 'nice to do if our schedules allowed', is now a must attend event – for all the reasons described in the article above and so many more,” shared Barbara Bufkin, Chair of the IICF Board of Governors and Executive Head of Business Development, Commercial Lines, at Assurant. “It’s important to realize that we cannot always solve problems alone or by working harder. We have to be more thoughtful. We have to build a network and appreciate the help they provide to us. Building our networks is now a core component of our ability to do our jobs well and to individually grow.

“The IICF Women in Conference Series events are simply unparalleled in planning, attendance, value and insights,” added Bufkin. “The 4,300 women and men who have attended have been able to take with them lasting value, skills, inspirations and friendships - new and renewed.”

We expect more than 1,500 industry professionals to attend our popular one-day Regional Forums in June – hosted in Chicago, Dallas, New York and Los Angeles – following last year’s widely successful Global Conference. **#IICFdiversity**

**Register now and save:** [Click here for Early Bird Tickets](#)

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**IICF Women in Insurance Conference Series**

**Regional Forums Return in 2018**

- London, March 7
- New York City, June 7
- Chicago, June 14
- Dallas, June 19
- Los Angeles, June 21

To register and learn more please visit womensconference.iicf.org

**To learn more about the topics and industry-leading speakers at each Regional Forum, please visit** [www.womensconference.iicf.org](http://www.womensconference.iicf.org)

IICF Midwest and Western Divisions to Host Annual Benefit Dinners March 8th in Chicago and March 15th in Los Angeles
IICF will celebrate the industry's commitment to philanthropy in Chicago and Los Angeles in the upcoming weeks, hosting hundreds of insurance professionals, IICF supporters and nonprofit representatives at their annual benefit dinners. Attendees will hear from featured guests, network with colleagues and show support for the 2018 philanthropic honorees.

Deborah Babcock, of the Katie School of Insurance at Illinois State University, will be honored as the Trailblazer of the Year in Chicago for her philanthropic leadership in the industry and exceptional service to IICF. In Los Angeles, Jim Darling, Chubb Regional Executive Officer, Pacific Region, will be honored with the Golden Horizon Award for his extraordinary personal leadership and service to IICF and philanthropic commitment to the community.

We encourage those in the Midwest and Western Divisions to join us for these special evenings of celebration and raising funds to address vital needs in our communities. All proceeds benefit the Community Grants Programs in these divisions.

**Reserve your ticket or sponsorship today:**

**Blazing the Trail Benefit Dinner:** March 8 in Chicago

**Horizon Award Gala:** March 15 in Los Angeles

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