



SILVERTON FOUNDATION

2004 Annual Report and Guidelines

SILVERTON FOUNDATION 2004 ANNUAL REPORT

PURPOSE AND AREAS OF SUPPORT

The Silverton Foundation is a private family foundation formed in 2000 and headquartered in Austin, Texas. Through its grant making, the Foundation strives to empower disadvantaged people by funding initiatives in the areas of health, education, social services and economic development. Through its activities, the Foundation strives to foster greater community awareness of and commitment to social enterprise.

In the U.S., the Foundation works primarily with organizations and programs that serve residents of the metropolitan Austin area and surrounding Travis, Williamson and Hays counties. Internationally, the Foundation operates primarily through Australia based non-governmental organizations which conduct programs of special merit in the Foundation's areas of interest.

In 2004, the Foundation allocated \$469,926 through thirty-four grants in six program areas: health, which received 40% of grant dollars; education, 16%; social services, 10%; economic development, 16%; social enterprise, 15%; and its special initiative, the Lorna Ryan Foundation's "Growing Tall Poppies" scholarships, 3%. Thirty separate grantees received Foundation funding in 2004.

In rare cases, the Foundation makes grants to organizations outside of these geographic locations and program areas, although such proposals are usually considered only at the Foundation's invitation.

Health grants support organizations which bring quality medical attention to disadvantaged and underserved communities, and provide individuals and families with information and training to take charge of their health. In 2004, the Foundation's health grants focused on basic health care delivery to the uninsured "working poor" in the U.S., and to underprivileged and underserved populations abroad. Six health care programs were funded by the Foundation in 2004, including a grant to the International Centre for Eyecare Education of Sydney, Australia ("ICEE") to develop and implement a national eyecare plan for East Timor in collaboration with the East Timorese Ministry of Health. Foundation funding through ICEE provides training for nurse practitioners in primary eye care services delivery; equipment for eye care clinics in selected administrative districts for use by these nurse practitioners once they have completed their training; a supply of eyeglasses for use in connection with operation of the clinics; and facilitation of a national conference of the various stakeholders in this process.

Education outreach is premised on the Foundation's belief that every individual should be empowered to achieve their full potential through continuing educational opportunities throughout their lives. Although a variety of education activities are considered by the Foundation, organizations which focus on workforce training initiatives, early childhood literacy and parenting skills, and after school programs are of special interest. Ten education programs were funded by the Foundation in 2004, including a grant to AVANCE, a Texas based parent education program. Through the AVANCE Parent/Child Program, parents are taught that they are the first and most important teachers for their children. The program operates in housing projects, community centers and schools, where parents are guided through the stages of emotional, physical, social and cognitive development of their children with special topics that include the

importance of reading, effective discipline, and nutrition. Parents also attend classes in literacy, ESL and GED.

Funding for **social services** programs targets organizations helping individuals and families work toward a better quality of life by providing direct services to guide them through current crisis, and developing self help skills over the long term. Five social services programs were funded by the Foundation in 2004, including a grant for the creation of a community based alternative education program at the Hackham West Community Centre in Adelaide, Australia called “Count Me In”. This innovative program targets children of primary school age (5-12 years) who are chronically excluded from school by suspension due to behavioral issues. “Count Me In” is conducted through the engagement of superior tutors and community mentors, to ensure that these children, who currently fall through the “net” of Australian public school support services, receive an education while they are “school excluded” and have a chance to succeed when they return to public school.

Economic development activities are premised on the Foundation’s belief that disadvantaged and underserved communities are strengthened by the creation of jobs and stimulation of small business. An important new economic development initiative for central Texas merited the Foundation’s largest single funding commitment in 2004. Foundation Communities of Austin, Texas, a leading non-profit provider of affordable housing, asset building opportunities and educational services to families and individuals with low income in Texas, will receive a series of direct and matching grants over three years to establish and operate five “Claim and Save” Community Tax Centers. These centers will ensure that low income working families in central Texas claim and receive their Earned Income Tax Credit. Estimates are that each year some \$24 million of these tax credits goes unclaimed by

the region's eligible "working poor" families. The IRS, which has helped low-income tax filers claim these credits in the past by offering free tax preparation, has discontinued such community work. The "Claim + Save" program will grow the number of tax returns filed by "working poor" families in central Texas from 2,500 in 2004 to over 15,000 in 2007; recruit and train 300 volunteers to serve program clients; establish five community sites with expanded hours and child care for operations; collaborate with area non-profits, community groups, employers and financial institutions in the operation and promotion of the program; and provide "financial literacy" classes and tools to help families spend their tax credit wisely.

The Foundation's focus on **social entrepreneurship** recognizes that qualities of entrepreneurship are as valuable to "social" enterprises as to business enterprises, and that the success of "social" enterprises is essential to the development of successful communities. Prominent among the five social entrepreneurship programs funded by the Foundation in 2004 is the establishment of a Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award in central Texas. The annual award, administered in conjunction with the international Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year program, recognizes talented individuals who have shown extraordinary leadership and innovation in building an organization to address the social needs of the central Texas community. The award carries with it a \$50,000 Silverton Grant directed to the non-profit organization headed by the award recipient, and is made in June of each year at a presentation ceremony attended by over 800 leaders of the business, civic and philanthropic community.

The **Lorna Ryan Foundation's "Growing Tall Poppies" program** is focused on helping individuals achieve their potential. "Tall Poppies" is an Australian expression used to describe people who rise significantly above the norm in achievement. The purpose of this program is to help

people who have the potential to be “Tall Poppies” achieve their goals through targeted funding of scholarships, merit awards and continuing education grants. The first awards of “Growing Tall Poppies” scholarships were made in 2004. Recipients include four adult students of the Capital IDEA program of Austin, Texas, an organization which works with unemployed and underemployed adults in central Texas to prepare them for high-skills careers; and ten Austin area middle school age girls, to attend summer camps in math, science, engineering and technology at the Girlstart Tech Center. Also in 2004, the Foundation established a Continuing Education Scholarship Program for Professional Board Women in conjunction with the Australian Institute of Company Directors, to advance and support women in obtaining directorships on private, government and non-profit boards by enhancing skills and attributes necessary to perform as effective board directors.

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND STAFF

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- Pamela M. Ryan, Ph.D..... Chairman of the Board
 - William P. Wood President
 - Andrew S. White..... Executive Director

2004 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Austin Academy

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$10,000

Provides courses in workplace competency, GED, adult remedial education and computer literacy to disadvantaged adults

Austin Child Guidance Center

Austin, Texas

(Social Services)

\$10,000

Matching grant funds to meet a challenge from the Meadows Foundation to establish a resource development office

Austin Community Development Corporation

Austin, Texas

(Social Entrepreneurship)

\$50,000

2004 Silverton Grant recognizing the selection of Executive Director Margo Weitz as the Ernst & Young 2004 Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award winner

Austin Community Foundation

Austin, Texas

(Social Entrepreneurship)

\$5,000

In support of agency's mission to promote philanthropy in central Texas

Austin Lyric Opera Community Music School

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$5,200

To underwrite grantee's "We Are the Chorus" choir for mentally challenged children and young adults, and "Music Together" outreach to SafePlace children in families affected by domestic violence and abuse.

AVANCE

Austin, Texas
(Education)

\$10,000

In support of agency's Early Childhood Program, combining early childhood education with instruction in parenting skills and continuing adult education

CASA of Travis County, Inc.

Austin, Texas
(Social Services)

\$10,000

Provides court appointed special advocates for children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect or abandonment.

Capital IDEA

Austin, Texas
(“Growing Tall Poppies”)

\$10,000

To provide scholarships to allow the participation of four additional students in the fall semester of Capital IDEA's College Preparation Academy.

Children's Hearing Aid Texas

Austin, Texas
(Health)

\$10,000

To underwrite the direct cost of hearing aids and related auditory services to permanently hearing-impaired children in Texas and who have no financial alternatives to receive state or federal assistance.

Dripping Springs Community Foundation

Dripping Springs, Texas
(Social Entrepreneurship)

\$5,000

To support the promotion of philanthropy in central Texas and the facilitation of charitable giving in support of the central Texas community.

Dripping Springs Intermediate School

Dripping Springs, Texas

(Education)

\$1,000

In support of educational activities at the Dripping Springs Intermediate School.

Forum Comunicacoes Juventude Oratorio

Dili, East Timor

(Social Services)

\$10,000

To support various educational and street outreach programs of a children's shelter in the capital of East Timor, focused on protecting children and youth at risk from violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation.

Foundation Communities, Inc.

Austin, Texas

(Economic Development)

\$75,000

Lead gift to establish and operate five "Claim + Save" community tax centers in Austin, Texas.

Girlstart

Austin, Texas

("Growing Tall Poppies")

\$3,250

To provide full and partial scholarships to week long summer camps in math, science, engineering and technology for girls at the Girlstart Tech Center.

Greenlights for Non Profit Success

Austin, Texas

(Social Entrepreneurship)

\$10,000

To help underwrite Greenlights 2004 Crossroads Conference, where participants from the central Texas nonprofit sector share best practices and ideas to enhance nonprofit capacity.

Hackham West Community Centre

Adelaide, Australia

(Social Services)

\$13,987

To establish an education program for primary school children suspended from school due to behavioral issues, along with a playgroup and support group for children of women who are experiencing domestic violence.

Hamlin Fistula Relief and Aid Fund

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

(Health)

\$75,819

Creation of regional clinic in Mekelle, Northern Ethiopia to expand work of hospital treating women suffering from obstetric fistula

Hays Community Action Network

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$6,500

A community resource for educating citizens of Hays County, Texas about local government actions and approval processes so that they may more fully participate in public affairs which impact their community.

International Centre For Eyecare Education

Sydney, Australia

(Health)

\$32,423

To develop and implement a national eyecare plan for East Timor in collaboration with the East Timorese Ministry of Health.

Latina Mami

Austin, Texas

(Social Services)

\$4,500

To facilitate the creation and operation of education, resource and support networks in Austin, Texas for Latina mothers and their children.

Lifeworks

Austin, Texas

(Social Services)

\$12,500

In support of grantee's "Partnershop" initiative to provide job training to at risk teenagers

Lisa's Hope Chest

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$22,410

A life skills training curriculum empowering young females and single mothers to develop goals and skills, funded through A Glimmer of Hope Foundation.

Manos de Cristo

Austin, Texas

(Health)

\$10,000

Lead gift to expand service hours at low cost dental clinic for working poor and other medically indigent people.

People's Community Clinic

Austin, Texas

(Health)

\$30,000

To increase grantee's capacity and efficiency to provide health care services to underserved populations in central Texas through implementation of an Advanced Patient Access Scheduling System.

Save Our Springs Alliance

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$5,000

In support of ongoing advocacy and educational initiatives.

Sustainable Food Center

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$6,337

Expansion of grantee's "The Happy Kitchen\La Cocina Alegre" health education and nutrition program that builds low-income families' self sufficiency skills.

Texas C-BAR

Austin, Texas

(Social Entrepreneurship)

\$1,000

Provides high quality legal services at no cost to Texas non-profits serving low income communities.

The Austin Project

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$1,000

Facilitators of a collaborative initiative to increase understanding of the importance of early literacy in underserved Austin communities.

The First Tee of Greater Austin

Austin, Texas

(Education)

\$6,000

Underwrite participation of twelve Andrews Elementary School students in agency's life skills through golf curriculum.

Volunteer Healthcare Clinic

Austin, Texas

(Health)

\$18,000

Supports chronic disease program of provider of free health care services for "working poor" population that does not qualify for public assistance.

FINANCES

(in thousands)

2004

Assets:	\$13,126
Admin expenses:	\$ 90
Grants\Programs:	\$ 478

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The Foundation awards grants for projects both within and outside the United States. For U.S. based applicants, the Foundation makes grants only to organizations classified as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. For applicants based outside the United States, the Foundation will make grants when it can make a good faith determination that the organization is the “equivalent” of a U.S. public charity, or when it can exercise appropriate “expenditure responsibility” in connection with the award of the grant.

Foundation grants are limited to initiatives that are highly focused on empowering disadvantaged people in its six program areas. The Foundation does not make grants to individuals or for-profit organizations, nor does it provide grants that are primarily for endowments, capital campaigns, ongoing operating expenses, existing deficits, direct support of individuals, or lobbying of any kind.

The Foundation has no formal application form and no designated deadlines for submission of requests. Letters of inquiry, with a brief description of the project and range of financial support needed, are acceptable for initial contact. More specific information on the Foundation’s application guidelines are available on its website at www.silvertonfoundation.org.

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