



ANNOUNCING LEGACY FOUNDATION'S NEW DIRECTION:

THE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

The International Women's Forum – Northern California Legacy Foundation has a long and successful history of sponsoring candidates for the IWF Fellows Program and creating and distributing oral histories of five pioneering women. Now it's time for a new direction: The Partnership Project.

Starting in 2015, Legacy established a partnership relationship with a nonprofit organization that is serving women. This partnership involves Legacy making a commitment to support the nonprofit organization financially and to publicize volunteer opportunities at the nonprofit organization to the IWF NorCal membership. In its turn, the nonprofit organization will commit to working with us to use the skills, talents and connectedness of our members.

Each partnership with a nonprofit organization will have a three-year term. Legacy might have partnership relationships with up to three nonprofit organizations at a time, each with different three-year terms.

IWF NorCal members may nominate nonprofit organizations as candidates for partnership with Legacy. Legacy will establish a Nominating Committee that will accept nominations, screen the candidates and nominate up to three candidates for an open partnership slot.

Selection of the candidate with whom Legacy will partner will be made by vote of the IWF NorCal members who have made a financial contribution to Legacy during the calendar year. Voting will be in November through early January and the successful partnership candidate announced at the IWF NorCal annual meeting in January.

For each partnership organization Legacy will appoint a champion. The champion will work with the nonprofit partner to identify volunteer activities and match opportunities with IWF NorCal members with appropriate skill sets.

Background

The concept of the Legacy Partnership Project evolved out of discussions members of the Legacy board of directors had with a significant number of IWF NorCal members. Several points of consensus emerged out of these discussions:

- There is a need to revitalize Legacy and give it a new direction.
- The new direction needs to create an expanded visibility of Legacy in the Bay Area community and establish a desirable way for IWF NorCal members to make a difference in the community.
- Our past Legacy activities were worthwhile but didn't involve the membership broadly; we need a way to involve more members.
- There is recognition that a revitalized Legacy program will help us attract and retain new, quality members or IWF NorCal.
- Our members have eclectic interests in nonprofit organizations similar to the diversity of their interests professionally and their broad tastes in programs and events.
- There is agreement that in order to be sustainable, the new legacy program needs to be sensitive to the financial and time constraints of our members.
- There was agreement that the mandate of the Legacy Foundation is as relevant today as when first adopted; "The Legacy Foundation is the education and charitable arm of International Women's Forum – Northern California. The mandate of the Foundation is to create a Legacy – to foster the development of women leaders in business, government, the arts, the professions, education and the private sector. It is the Foundation's challenge to do this through financial support of programs as well as through personal support and mentoring by our individual members."

The board of directors of Legacy believes that the proposed Partnership Program supports these common points of view.

Transparency and Fairness

It is important that the process for selecting the partner nonprofit organization be as fair and transparent as possible. Accordingly, Legacy has approved two guidelines:

1. A nonprofit organization that employs a member of IWF NorCal (other than as a volunteer) cannot be a candidate for partnership.

2. A member of the Nominating Committee may not herself nominate a candidate nonprofit organization.
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Partner Selection Criteria

Legacy is in the process of developing selection criteria that will enable the Nominating Committee to evaluate the candidates for partnership. We anticipate that a questionnaire will be sent to organizations that have been nominated and that they will be asked to respond in writing. Selection criteria will include (but will not be limited to) the following:

- The organization must be a tax-exempt charity under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - The organization must have a track record of successful operation and must have been in existence for at least five years.
 - The mission of the nonprofit must be in concert with the mission of Legacy.
 - The nonprofit must be open to the partnership concept, where Legacy would provide them with financial support and participation by forum members in a capacity that reflects both their needs and the interests and competencies of our members, such as members of the nonprofit's board of directors, technology or financial consultants, etc.
 - The nonprofit must be willing to work with us to make sure that our financial contributions will support the functions or programs we have identified.
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Nomination Process

Any IWF NorCal member (whether or not she has made a donation to Legacy) may nominate a nonprofit organization as a candidate for partnership. A nomination form will be posted on the Legacy portion of the IWF NorCal web site.

Evaluation

In February the legacy board will evaluate the nomination, evaluation and selection process used in the previous year to determine if changes should be made in the process.