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WFED Reports Growth in Membership, Grants, Endowment

Giving...Gathering...Granting. Those powerful words form the three pillars of the Women's Fund El Dorado (WFED) and also serve as the title and focus of the organization's 2014 annual report, recently mailed to the membership and available to the public.

WFED, a collective giving organization that is a fund of the El Dorado Community Foundation, is open to all for a donation of \$200 a year or more. Funds collected are pooled and leveraged in the form of grants, voted on by members, which support community philanthropy to enhance the quality of life on the western slope of El Dorado County.

In the report, outgoing Chair Maureen Carter looks back at her two years in office and the tremendous strides that have been made: Membership has increased by 37 percent, the endowment by 50 percent, and grants in that period alone totaled more than \$100,000. WFED also launched a website, began sending out a monthly e-newsletter, added a new Marketing & Communication Committee and started a formal sponsorship program to help cover administrative costs.

But every bit as important as this growth, Carter notes, are the personal connections that are forged. Gathering at WFED events, members get an opportunity to see their grants at work and hear about the impacts they make on lives and the community. They are empowered by the knowledge that "anyone can be a philanthropist....anyone can make a difference."

This year's report also lists the group's most recent grant recipients and quotes from some of the 2013 grant beneficiaries and benefiting organizations. Production of the report was spearheaded by member Emogene Haller and the WFED Marketing & Communication

Committee. No member donations went toward production or mailing costs; all were covered by generous sponsors and an anonymous donor.

To learn more about WFED and access the report online, visit womensfundeldorado.org. Copies are also available at the El Dorado Community Foundation offices in Placerville.

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