



ARIZONA GRANTMAKERS FORUM

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## **Arizona Grantmakers Forum Elects Three New Board Members**

**PHOENIX, AZ** – Arizona Grantmakers Forum (AGF) recently announced the election of three new Board members: Irene Jacobs, Patricia Miles, and Barbara Poley. AGF's membership, consisting of over 80 grantmaking entities through the state, elected the new Directors on December 13, 2007.

"These new members bring significant experience and a unique perspective to the AGF Board," said AGF Board Chair Edmund Portnoy, Ph.D., Director of Grants Programs at Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. "Arizona has a diverse array of grantmaking entities, and we feel Ms. Jacobs, Ms. Miles and Ms. Poley reflect this diversity in a way that will enhance the positive work of AGF."

Jacobs, Miles, and Poley will join existing board members Edmund Portnoy, Ph.D., Carol Peck, Ed.D., Roy Pringle, Charles Thompson, Steve Alley, Kerry Blume, Gene D'Adamo, Robert King, Judy Mohraz, Ph.D., Don Snider, Brian Spicker, and Gerald Wissink to help achieve AGF's mission to increase, enhance, and improve philanthropy in Arizona.

**Irene Jacobs** serves as Senior Policy Advisor and Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families for Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano. Ms. Jacobs advises the Governor on federal, state and grant funding and programs related to children, youth and families. She administers grant allocations of approximately \$20.4 million; supports the Children's Cabinet; ensures completion of outcomes of 17 commissions and boards made up of 500 citizens; oversees implementation of special events, such as the Governor's Book Project; and works with philanthropies to develop public-private approaches to community concerns. Previously, Ms. Jacobs served as Director of the Phoenix Children's Hospital's Emily Center; as well as Senior Policy Analyst with the Children's Action Alliance, Arizona's largest child advocacy organization. Ms. Jacobs has a Master's degree in social work from Arizona State University. In addition to AGF, she is on the Boards of the United Healthcare Children's Foundation and Clothes Helping Kids Foundation, and served on Theresa's Fund Star Committee and as a fellow in the National Governor's Association/Zero-to-Three Early Childhood Policy Leadership Forum.

**Patricia Miles** is the President of the McMiles Foundation, a small family foundation. A relatively new face in the Arizona philanthropic scene, Ms. Miles moved to AZ from Minnesota in 1970. Her involvement with AGF was initially as a board member of her husband's family foundation which did some grant making in AZ, and is now as the president of the newly formed McMiles Foundation, a small family foundation who's main geographic focus is AZ. Having taught for 20 years including 9 years at Xavier, the mission of the McMiles Foundation reflects this background with its mission being to promote social justice by supporting programs that use education as a means to empower people with the skills and voice to affect positive change for themselves and the society as a whole, with special consideration being given to women and youth.

**Barbara Poley**, Hopi /Laguna, serves as the Executive Director of the Hopi Foundation, a non-profit corporation established by local Hopi people to promote self sufficiency, proactive community participation in their own destiny, self reliance and local self determination. Ms. Poley is a member of the Bear Clan and is from the Hopi village of Bacavi. Prior to her work with the Hopi Foundation, she served as Staff Assistant to the Office of the Chairman of the Hopi Tribe. Other positions include management positions with the Hopi Tribe Department of Education, Loololma's Plaza, a private business, and Native Americans for Community Action, an urban nonprofit human service agency. She holds a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and a Masters degree in Education. Ms. Poley held the Vice-President position in Native Americans in Philanthropy, a national organization, served as Board President of the Hopi Tribe Education Endowment Fund to oversee a \$10 million Endowment Fund under the Tribal Tax Code of 7871, board member of the Museum of Northern Arizona and board member of the national Women and Philanthropy organization. She is a 2005 Ford Foundation Leadership for A Changing World Awardee and a 2006 Native Americans in Philanthropy Louis T. Delgado Awardee.

### **About Arizona Grantmakers Forum**

AGF is a regional association that provides educational resources, research and networking opportunities for grantmakers in Arizona. Member organizations make financial grants to non-profit organizations throughout the state and represent the interests of private foundations, trusts, endowed community foundations, corporations, government agencies and individuals with organized charitable gift programs. AGF's mission is to increase, enhance, and improve philanthropy in Arizona, with the vision that the state's expanding philanthropic community, working collaboratively, invests their resources wisely to make a profound positive difference for Arizona's communities. Learn more about Arizona Grantmakers Forum and our member organizations at [www.azgrantmakers.org](http://www.azgrantmakers.org).

***Please contact Marissa Theisen (contact info above) for more information regarding Arizona Grantmakers Forum. Photographs of our new Board members are available upon request.***