2003 Annual Report
Welcome

2003 was a pivotal year for SVP Seattle. Since our inception in 1997, SVP Partners have contributed over $6 million into the community, given tens of thousands of hours of strategic volunteer support, presented over 100 educational sessions, conducted 15 grant cycles, embarked on hundreds of capacity building projects with dozens of Investees, and witnessed the emergence of SVP affiliates in more than 20 cities across North America.

That’s a lot to be proud of, but we are striving to make SVP even better. To do this, we commissioned an intensive evaluation—Transforming Philanthropic Transactions: An Evaluation of the First Five Years of Social Venture Partners Seattle.

As a result of this year-long research process, we found that:

We were indeed helping Investees to build their organizational capacity, especially when we worked with them on their mission, vision, and strategies.

Our capacity building efforts have been solid but we need to develop better measurement tools and enhance volunteer support.

The SVP experience enabled many Partners to become more strategic in their philanthropy and see philanthropy as a greater part of their identity.

SVP also spurred Partners to get involved in other local philanthropic organizations.

SVP needs to develop educational and volunteer opportunities for our more experienced Partners.

SVP’s model of intertwining donor education and nonprofit capacity building is truly unique and marks our greatest contribution to the field of philanthropy.

SVP’s Board, staff, and strategic planning committee combined this information along with input from Partners to craft a strategic plan for the next five years. Our Strategic Plan for ‘03-07 includes a new vision statement:

“To mobilize and connect a community of people to have a life-long commitment to being personally engaged in making a positive difference in their communities.”

We’ll do this by working on five key goals:

1. Ensure SVP is an environment that supports longer-term Partner engagement as well as a launching pad for new philanthropists.
2. Significantly improve the quality of capacity building support to non-profit organizations.
3. Broaden and deepen SVP’s philanthropic education curriculum and experiences.
4. Strengthen our community of Partners by better connecting and networking people.
5. Strengthen and clarify the organizational infrastructure of SVP.

We have reflected on our initial success and used these lessons to identify areas of improvement and inform our planning for the future. We are embarking on an exciting new trajectory and know we can’t do it without our most important resource – our Partners.

The future is going to be full of enormous change, challenges, and accomplishments. We look forward to working with you to make it all happen!

— Dawn Trudeau and Julie Weed
SVP Board Co-Chairs

— Paul Shoemaker, Executive Director

Board of Directors
Co-Chairs
Dawn Trudeau
Julie Weed
Vice Chair
Mary Pembroke Perlin
Treasurer
Mark Klebanoff
Trustees
Paul Brainerd
Laury Bryant
Lisa Chin
Connie Collingsworth
Emer Dooley
Randy Massengale
Valerie Newman
Alan Smith
SVP’s mission is to develop philanthropy and volunteerism to achieve positive social change in the Puget Sound region. Using the venture capital approach as a model, SVP is committed to giving time, money and expertise to create partnerships with non-profit organizations.

How SVP Works
SVP is a network of individuals (Partners) that contribute financially and with volunteer time and expertise. Partners join SVP by donating $5500 a year, for a minimum of two years. These funds are pooled and used for grants to nonprofits and SVP’s operations. Upon joining SVP, Partners can get “plugged in” through a variety of activities including grantmaking, philanthropic education, and nonprofit capacity building. Partners are also involved in all aspects of SVP’s operations through working groups focused on key areas such as communications, Partner engagement, Partner recruiting, and Partner education.

Many Partners initially get involved with SVP by volunteering to serve on a grant committee. Using a “giving circle” structure, grant committees are responsible for all of SVP’s grantmaking in Early Childhood Development, Out-Of-School Time, K-12 Education, and the Environment. Grant committees provide issue area education and an opportunity for Partners to learn more about local nonprofits, nonprofit management, and the due diligence process involved in grantmaking.

Once a new grant is made, SVP draws on the skills and expertise of Partners to strengthen the organizational capacity of the nonprofits we fund. Our capacity building work and long-term funding brings resources to our Investees while also providing rich donor education for our Partners.

“I also love the fact that SVP is not standing still, but continues to move ahead.”
— Rick, SVP Partner
On any number of fronts we have been stretched, supported, certainly ‘given gas,’ inspired and motivated both by your staff, the SVP endeavor, and many of the SVP Partners.”

—SVP Investee

Nonprofit Capacity Building
SVP invests in nonprofit organizations by providing cash grants and capacity building support to enhance an organization’s effectiveness, sustainability and ability to fulfill its mission. We work with Investees to develop their core skills, management practices, strategies, and systems because we believe that these are the building blocks to achieve positive social outcomes. This “guts building” support takes many forms, depending on the unique needs of each Investee. Our relationship with most Investees last 3-5 years.

SVP provides capacity building support in the following key areas:

- Board Governance
- Financial Management
- Fund Development
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Leadership Development
- Legal Affairs
- Marketing, Communications, and Public Relations
- Program Design and Evaluation

When it comes to capacity building support for Investees, we engage Partners first. SVP matches Partners to volunteer roles, drawing on their skills and bringing new perspectives to Investees. SVP also hires independent consultants to fill gaps when the right Partner cannot be identified. Throughout the year, we also provide leadership development and management training opportunities for Investees.

Highlights for 2003 include:

- Partners engaged in more than 85 capacity building projects. Projects ranged from one-time assignments to long-term, ongoing projects.
- Twenty-one capacity building projects were led by paid consultants, primarily in the area of board development, fund development, and outcomes evaluation.
- SVP initiated a three-part training series on Effective Management, attended by 45 staff members representing 38 Investees.
- SVP underwrote the tuition for three Investees to attend an intensive, two-week Executive Program for Non-profit Leaders at Stanford University.
- Through SVP’s participation in the Project Lift-Off Opportunity Fund, SVP’s Investees received $62,500 in matching grants from the City of Seattle and King County.

These projects, and a short description of the Investees, are listed in subsequent pages of this report.
SVP Seattle aspires to mobilize and connect a community of people to have a life-long commitment to being personally engaged in making a positive difference in their communities. To achieve this vision, SVP hosted or co-hosted 45 Partner education events in 2003. These sessions ranged from small, intimate workshops with local practitioners, to large panel discussions with nationally-renowned experts. The events covered a broad range of subjects from philanthropy, advocacy, and board leadership, to community and global issues. Highlights include:

- Building and Leading Great Nonprofit Boards - a workshop on how high functioning nonprofit boards operate and how to carry out governance responsibly.
- Energy Independence, Economic Revitalization, and Climate Protection: The New Apollo Project - a panel discussion on clean energy technologies and the Northwest’s role in leading a clean energy transition.
- Refugee and Immigrant Issues in King County - a session on the changing demographics of refugee and immigrant populations, the issues they face, and the institutions meeting the challenges.
- International Strategic Philanthropy - a discussion of innovative strategies to address poverty across the globe.

- Government Support for the Arts - a session on the changing role of public funding and support for the arts in a tight fiscal climate.
- Saving Lives Without a Profit - a panel discussion on local medical research nonprofits with a global reach.
- Taking with your Children about Money & Giving - a workshop for parents on passing on philanthropic traditions to their children.
- Advocacy - a three-part series on the role of funders and nonprofits in shaping public policy.

“I feel that I have probably given way more money and time to causes than I would have without the learning I’ve done thru SVP.”
— Barrie, SVP Partner
The goal of SVP’s Environment grantmaking program in the Pacific Northwest is to foster environmental stewardship that is ecologically based and economically sound. Our priorities are to engage a population of environmentally informed and responsible citizens; encourage people from a range of disciplines to work together to address environmental issues; and to support organizations that promote systemic change.

Resource Media is dedicated to expanding and improving the quantity and quality of media coverage of environmental and public health issues that impact the West. Resource Media uses media campaigns, media training and journalist education to strengthen public awareness and foster more effective environmental policy. In 2003, Resource Media provided strategic communications assistance to over 100 environmental groups. www.resource-media.org

2003 Grant: $50,000
Total Grants since 2002: $100,000
SVP Volunteers: Alan Smith (Lead Partner) Brian Brannelsen (Database Dev.) Bob Dant (Accounting Systems) Jim Montague (Website Designer)

Paid Consulting: Board Development

Washington Water Trust restores instream flows in Washington’s rivers and streams. WWT works to benefit water quality, fisheries and recreation in Washington’s rivers and streams by acquiring water rights from willing sellers through purchase, lease or gift. In the five years since its founding, WWT has grown steadily to increase the volume and efficiency of water rights transactions and has expanded its geographic scope.

WWT is the only organization of its kind operating in Washington State. www.thewatertrust.org

2003 Grant: $25,000
Total Grants since 2002: $75,000
SVP Volunteers: Bill Kuhn (Website Development) Cassandra Allen (Communications) Rogers Weed (Tech. Strategy)

Paid Consulting: Board Development

Washington Toxics Coalition is a statewide leader in the fight to prevent toxic pollution and to protect public health and the environment. Through research, grass-roots organizing, publications and presentations, and a Toxics Hotline, Washington Toxics Coalition provides reliable information about preventing pollution in homes, schools, workplaces, agriculture, and industry. In 2003, they successfully led the fight to adopt state-wide legislation to limit the use of mercury, a highly persistent toxic chemical. www.watoxics.org

2003 Grant: $45,000
Total Grants since 2001: $145,000
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Paid Consulting: Board Development

Washington Environmental Alliance for Voter Education (WEAVE) was founded in 1993 to promote voter participation among conservation-minded citizens. Since its inception, WEAVE has established an international reputation as the primary organizational entity providing research and program development for the environmental community. SVP’s funding supported the Engagement Initiative, an effort to form alliances with new constituencies that have not typically been involved in the environmental movement. In addition, SVP funds have supported the Youth Project to develop strategies to galvanize younger voters around conservation issues.

www.weave.org

2003 Grant: $50,000
Total Grants since 2001: $150,000
SVP Volunteers: Lynly Beard (Lead Partner) Byron Bishop (Technology Strategy) Sean Hatt (Replication Strategy) Ed Mills (Technology Strategy)

Paid Consulting: Executive Coaching
The goal of SVP’s K-12 grantmaking program is to ensure that students fully achieve their academic potential. This is accomplished through partnerships with schools, school-based programs, and professional development programs for educators working to impact the quality of education at the K-12 level. Collectively, our aim is to help students think critically, communicate clearly, contribute to their communities, and connect their learning to their lives beyond school.

Seattle MESA provides enrichment opportunities in mathematics, engineering and science for underrepresented students in grades K-12. In partnership with local schools, Seattle MESA offers intensive math and science classes, after school and summer programs, student participation in national science and math competitions, internships with local businesses and research centers, role models and mentors, teacher professional development, and the development of science and math curriculum. SVP’s funding will enable the creation of curriculum and programming for 9th graders, a component that will allow program participants to transition smoothly from junior high to high school.

Seattle Arts & Lectures was founded to raise the understanding, appreciation, and visibility of the literary arts in the Puget Sound region. Writers in the Schools is an award-winning creative writing and reading program that brings professional writers into the classroom for a year-long residency. The writer-teacher team works across the curriculum, acting as catalysts to broaden and inspire students’ understanding of human experience and self-expression through reading, writing, listening, and performance. With SVP’s support, Seattle Arts & Lectures will undertake a major expansion of the Writers in the Schools program.

Rainier Scholars cultivates the academic potential of talented and motivated young people from ethnic minority backgrounds by providing academic support, instilling leadership skills, and offering positive educational opportunities. Beginning with a rigorous 14-month course of study that includes two summer sessions and twice-weekly classes during the school year, Rainier Scholars prepares students of color to be academically successful within the most competitive middle and high school programs. Rainier Scholars’ aims to build an academic and social support system through college graduation for students and their families.

Seattle MESA provides...  
Seattle Arts & Lectures was...  
Rainier Scholars cultivates...
Cleveland High School launched the Cleveland Infotech Infusion Project (CITI) in 2000 with the help of a seed grant from SVP. The goal of CITI is to boost academic achievement and attendance levels of Cleveland students by offering an intimate and stimulating learning environment that integrates technology across subject areas. The vision of CITI has become a reality, with basic technology training for ninth graders and an intensive, technology-focused "school within a school" program for students in grades 10-12. CITI has set a new standard for Cleveland High School, paving the way for school-wide transformation to the small school model.

www.seattleschools.org

2003 Grant: $50,000
Total Grants since 2000: $276,000
SVP Volunteers:
Laura Yedwab (Lead Partner)
Tim Ahlers (Tech. Instructor)
Craig Bruya (Tech. Instructor)
Steve Guest (Guest Instructor)
Jerry Keppler (Teaching Asst.)
Keith Laepple (Guest Instructor)
Laurie Recholtz (Mentor)
Valerie Robinson (Teaching Asst.)
Mark Smedley (Guest Instructor)
Brad Struss (Teaching Asst.)

Gatwood Elementary has undertaken a school restructuring effort to boost academic performance of all students. Centered on the concept of nurturing children as independent learners, Gatwood has developed new curriculum to supplement core subjects and engage students with a variety of learning styles. Gatwood is also developing new assessment tools to more holistically evaluate student learning beyond standardized tests. Structural changes such as reducing classroom size, establishing multi-age classrooms and instituting common planning time and reflection for teachers are helping Gatwood to close racial disparities in academic achievement and improve the overall educational experience for more than 300 students annually.

www.seattleschools.org

2003 Grant: $57,000
Total Grants since 2001: $157,000
SVP Volunteers:
Neva Carver (Lead Partner)
Brett Allen (Tutor)
Paul Gross (Consulting Mgr.)

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Laurie Recholtz (Mentor)
Valerie Robinson (Teaching Asst.)
Mark Smedley (Guest Instructor)
Brad Struss (Teaching Asst.)

Paid Consulting:
Outcomes Evaluation
Website Development
SVP’s grantmaking program in Early Childhood Development and Parenting supports organizations that serve children during their critical formative years—birth to age five. By providing nurturing care, learning and developmental opportunities, and support for caregivers, SVP’s Investees working in Early Childhood Development help young children to build a solid foundation for the future.
Children’s Services of Sno-Valley helps parents to strengthen and create healthy relationships with their children through the Parent-Child Interaction Training (PCIT) program. PCIT offers families weekly, one-to-one coaching with a trained therapist. Parents are guided through “special play time” and trained in effective disciplining techniques. The goals of the program are to improve parent-child relationships, improve parenting skills and reduce negative child behavior.

www.cssv.org

2003 Grant: $40,000
Total Grants since 2000: $175,583

SVP Volunteers:
Martine Hebrant (Lead Partner)
John Carey (Marketing)
Robert Dunlop (Marketing)
Ruth Lipscomb (Database Dev.)

Paid Consulting:
Board Retreat Facilitation

Excerpts from the Institute for Family Development’s goals for their final year of SVP funding

Program Development - Our goal during our final year of SVP funding is to continue to pursue other funds to maintain or expand the Parents and Children Together program. SVP support has enabled us to expand our services delivery capacity, which has helped us to increase better homes in the community and to serve a large enough number of families to demonstrate the effectiveness of the program.

Marketing - The primary goals of our marketing activities have been to expand our impact on families and human service professionals through products and fee for service training. Our objectives over the final year of SVP funding are to continue expanding the audience market for our products and training services, and to complete two new products that are in the final stages of development.

As program developers, researchers, and human service professionals, our expertise is not in marketing. The availability of SVP volunteers over the past four years has been invaluable to understanding some of our marketing objectives. We remain confident that Your Deal™ has the potential to generate unrestricted income for our agency. In our final year of funding, we would like SVP volunteers to continue to help us refine and expand marketing strategies for Your Deal™ and our other products. These products are a critical piece of our goal of diversifying and stabilizing our funding.

Technology - In the past four years IFD has made tremendous progress in the use of technology. We began as an agency that did not exist online or networked. We created new systems, and then gradually expanded our technology infrastructure significantly (data collection, server upgrades, security, backups, email, etc.) All IFD employees now have an agency email account, and management team members report that email is a critical mode of communication both within the agency and with the external world.

The use of technology to streamline our work has expanded exponentially. As just the last step we finally gained the capacity to internally manage content changes on both our internal and external websites. Our Assistant Director’s job description now includes responsibility for technology issues within the agency, and we have recently hired a full-time technician. We have contracted with a highly skilled support technician.

All of these are indicators of our progress in the realm of technology. While there are still many important goals related to improved use of technology, we have begun to build a solid platform from which to launch future goals. We are now in the final year’s relationship with SVP and are looking to continue that platform.
Out of School Time

SVP’s grantmaking program in Out of School Time supports organizations that engage youth ages 5-18 in safe and constructive activities during out-of-school time, including after-school hours, evenings and weekends. SVP’s Investees provide opportunities for kids to develop social, life and leadership skills, achieve academic success, and build self-esteem while avoiding high risk behaviors.

Community for Youth offers comprehensive, structured mentoring to over 150 youth annually to boost academic success, build self-esteem, and reduce high risk behaviors. The program includes one-on-one mentoring, tutoring, monthly personal growth workshops, small group activities, leadership training and community service projects. Community for Youth serves students at Rainier Beach, Seattle, and Cleveland High Schools. www.communityforyouth.org

2003 Grant: $51,000
Total Grants since 2001: $152,500

SVP Volunteers:
Jim McGinley (Lead Partner)
Sonya Erickson (Strategic Plan.)
Jonathan Shakes (Mentor)
Xi Tian (Mentor)
Erika Washburn (Copy Editor)

Arts Corps is an after-school arts education program for young people in grades K-12 throughout King County. Founded in response to cutbacks in arts education funding in public schools, Arts Corps has recruited and placed their paid faculty of teaching artists in schools and community centers. Classes focus on a wide range of artistic disciplines. Since its inception in 2000, Arts Corps has reached over 1,600 young people, 90% of whom are youth of color from low-income backgrounds. www.artscorps.org

2003 Grant: $45,000 (new)

SVP Volunteers:
Manny Velton (Lead Partner)
Bill Henningsgaard (Marketing)
Alan Smith (Contract Review)
Susan Sullivan (Marketing)

Seattle Youth Garden Works empowers underserved youth through horticulture-based education and employment training. Seattle Youth Garden Works operates at two sites where youth engage in organic gardening and take their produce to market. Youth acquire an income, a sense of belonging, and basic job and marketing skills. Seattle Youth Garden Works also helps connect youth with housing, healthcare, and permanent employment. www.sygw.org

2003 Grant: $60,000
Total Grants since 2001: $156,500

SVP Volunteers:
Shaula Massena (Lead Partner)
Matt Shaw (Lead Partner)
Paige Emby (Mentor)
Ruth Lipscomb (Database Dev.)
Renee Russak (Business Analysis)
Paid Consulting:
Board Development
Outcomes Evaluation

Paid Consulting:
Outcomes Evaluation

White Center Community School is a coalition of parents, educators, and community leaders working together to transform White Center Heights Elementary (WCH) into a community school. By using the physical assets of the school, the Community School will offer before and after school programs to serve this culturally diverse community. The goals of the Community School are to improve the academic success of the children who attend WCH; to help families establish more connections to other families, the school, and the community; and to improve access to resources in the community. www.tot401.org

2003 Grant: $45,000 (new)

SVP Volunteers:
Manny Velton (Lead Partner)
Bill Henningsgaard (Marketing)
Alan Smith (Contract Review)
Susan Sullivan (Marketing)
Youth Tutoring Program is an academic enrichment and remedial tutoring program serving six Seattle low-income housing communities. This highly focused and personalized after-school program helps elementary, middle and high school students to reach their academic potential. YTP serves over 550 youth each year—95% are children of color and 75% come from families where English is a second language.

www.ytpseattle.org

2003 Grant: $50,000
Total Grants since 2000: $235,000

SVP Volunteers:
Angie Brown (Lead Partner)
Mike Mathieu (Governance)

Excerpts from the Youth Tutoring Program’s goals for their final year of SVP funding:

“The last four years of YTP’s partnership with SVP have resulted in a multitude of accomplishments. We realized most of the goals we set for ourselves and in this, our fifth and final year, we will be able to realize not only the vision we set back in 1999 but also that which has unfolded during our partnership with SVP.

In 1999, YTP was a program with 3 full time administrative staff. All of our teaching staff was part-time. Because of that, we were limited in what we could achieve for our students. We identified six areas to pursue and, with SVP help, we set out with a multi-year vision.

With the addition of full-time Education Coordinators at four of the six centers in our 1999-2000 school year, (and a fifth two years later), we were able to expand and enrich our programming beyond homework help and create a systematic approach to address gaps in our students’ learning. Over the last four years, we have developed a strong and effective skill-building curriculum based on the Seattle Public School’s academic standards – complete with math and language arts assessment tests, skill-building guides and mastery tests. Students see their positive academic changes, they experience the excitement and joy of achievement and it reflects in their grades, behavior and attitude. In 1999, we had very few enrichment activities for our students. Now, each of the centers has 2-4 “clubs” going throughout the year. In 1999, it was rare to have one-on-one tutoring because of the shortage of volunteers. Now, one-on-one tutoring is the norm. Through our innovative marketing and the improvements in the program, we recruited or retained 645 tutors in 2002. In 2000, we had minimal contact with parents, students’ teachers or with other organizations in the community. In 2002, we had 868 substantive contacts with teachers, 1,058 with parents and 601 with other organizations. YTP is recognized as one of the best youth programs in the city.

In 2000, our technological know-how was minimal, our databases were primitive, our hardware was aging and we had no marketing plan. It was clear that we needed both a technology plan. It would take too much space to list all the accomplishments we have made each year, but they are dramatic. We now have both a technology and a marketing plan. We added 21 new computers which are networked and maintained at each center. We have professionally produced video and marketing materials. Our databases are far more sophisticated than before and staff has more expertise using them.

We are immensely grateful for the past four years of SVP funding and the SVP volunteer expertise that has made all this possible.”

— SVP Investee
Partner Profiles

Liz Walters

heard about SVP while studying for her MBA, focusing on nonprofit management and philanthropy. Upon graduation, Liz began managing a family foundation and through a series of contacts, signed up with SVP. “I joined SVP with two goals in mind. I wanted to learn about the grant process because the family foundation I was working for was about to start giving grants. Also, I had been working from home for awhile so I was eager to be back in contact with a network of other socially-minded people.”

Liz served on the K-12 Education Grant Committee and then became the Lead Partner for the Highline School District Student Translation Service program. This program seeks to improve school communication with non-English speaking parents and provide a learning and service opportunity for bilingual high school students. “I volunteered to be lead Partner at Highline because the vision for this innovative start-up program was so enthusiastically embraced by our grant committee that I wanted to stay connected and see it become a reality.”

“I enjoy working with the project leaders at Highline. They are smart, committed, creative and fun. It has been fascinating to see this program grow and evolve from day one. SVP involvement through funding, high-level volunteer engagements, supplemental funding, and relationship building has helped to create an unusually strong foundation. It will be exciting to watch the program grow.”

In addition to her work at Highline, Liz helped another SVP Investee to create a program brochure. Outside of SVP, Liz volunteers with Innercity Outings, a program of the Sierra Club that takes kids on monthly outdoor outings. Being involved with SVP has given Liz a different perspective on volunteering and philanthropy. “I appreciate the value of being a more engaged volunteer. SVP has helped me move from occasional volunteering to seeking the connection of longer, more complex opportunities.”

Lisa Chin

jumped in feet first with SVP in 2002 and hasn’t looked back. “When I left Amazon I was tired. It was time to do something else. My husband and I have always been grateful for what we’ve had and what we’ve accomplished. We began to ask, what’s our responsibility, what’s the purpose of our lives? I think it’s about what you leave behind in this life, and what we can do for the generations ahead. We began to see far beyond our lifetime. SVP is not only a way to write a check, it’s a group of peers. We work with a lot of passionate, smart people, and together, we can do more with the partnership than we could on our own.”

Lisa served on the K-12 Education Grant Committee and is currently on the Portfolio Grant Committee. “It’s really satisfying to work on the Portfolio Grant Committee because we really listen to people’s needs and then actually act on it. It’s another way of understanding how nonprofits work.”

Lisa also serves on the SVP Board, is a member of the Partner Engagement Working Group and the Cultural Competency Working Group. “The Cultural Competency Working Group is a challenging, but rewarding group to be involved with. The fact that SVP has formed the committee speaks to the sincerity of the Partners and SVP’s push to be an open and embracing organization. The issues are larger than SVP itself, but having the committee allows Partners to bring up and address the topics together.

The committee is working in two phases that involve forming a group of people who can take something that is potentially divisive and create action steps to move forward. During phase one we started the discussion of what cultural competency and diversity means, and what it means with regard to SVP’s mission as a grantmaking institution. In phase two we will focus on three separate initiatives that broadly address our effectiveness as grantmakers. Cultural competency is about making the most of a diverse partnership so it is effective in all the communities it serves.”

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“I consider SVP a crucial part of my connection, affiliation and actualization of philanthropy and its promotion.”
— Ali, SVP Partner

Aron and Sara Thompson have been engaged with SVP for only two and a half years, but to them it seems like forever. “Time with SVP should be measured in dog years because of the intensity in which Partners move forward in their personal growth.”

Aron’s involvement with SVP includes grant committees and internal working groups. Aron currently serves on the Environment Grant Committee and the Portfolio Grant Committee as well as the International Partner Group, the Arts Partner Group and the Partner Engagement Working Group. “I got involved in the International Partner Group because of 9/11, which created in me a deeper need to do something more regarding global issues. Since then, we’ve taken a philanthropic trip to Peru, along with some other SVP Partners, and I’ve engaged with a number of organizations focusing on international issues, particularly on micro credit and fair trade. I’m also working with SVP to develop Partner education sessions on global grantmaking.”

Sara began her engagement with SVP by volunteering with Powerful Schools as a mentor. She is also involved with developing and delivering training opportunities for SVP Investees on effective management.

“The process of building training sessions for Investees has been the most valuable SVP experience for me so far because I am working with two other very talented Partners. We all have HR backgrounds, but we have different expertise from different sectors, so we bring well rounded knowledge to the table. We are able to learn from other professionals while building a training session to pass on management skills to a group of eager learners. This work benefits everyone who comes to the training session as well as the clients they serve through their organizations.”

Lisa Slivka worked in program and product management at Microsoft, and Ben Slivka worked in software development at Microsoft and Amazon.com. In 1997 they started to think more seriously about philanthropy, which led them to SVP.

Lisa recalled that “a big reason for us joining SVP in early 1998 was to learn more about how philanthropy works. We wanted to get smarter about our own personal philanthropy, and SVP appeared to be a good vehicle to help us.”

Lisa jumped into the K-12 Education Grant Committee in 1998 and went on to serve for three years on the Portfolio Grant Committee (PGC), chairing the PGC in her final year. “The SVP grant making process was a good way to dive into the world of nonprofits and learn how they tick. The PGC was a great way to learn about which SVP grants had more impact and why.”

Lisa also served as Lead Partner for Seattle Children’s Home and Kindering Center. “I volunteered to be Lead Partner for Kindering Center because I have an immense respect for the Executive Director and the mission of the organization. I’m excited about helping bring SVP’s resources to Kindering to help make it an even more successful organization.”

Ben served on the 2003 K-12 Education Grant Committee and is the Lead Partner for Seattle MESA, where he also volunteers his web and computer skills. “I was attracted to Seattle MESA both by its mission and by the opportunity to be a Lead Partner. From my experience as an engineer and as a trustee of Northwestern University, I have seen the need to get more kids interested in mathematics, engineering, and science. Seattle MESA’s focus on under-represented populations is a great way to boost the pool of kids going on to study these subjects in college.”

Ben and Lisa also found that being engaged in SVP exposes them to what venture capitalists call ‘deal flow.’ “SVP receives a lot of excellent grant proposals that don’t get funded simply because SVP has a limited amount of money to invest,” says Ben. Lisa became involved with Richard Hugo House, Technology Access Foundation, Powerful Schools, and Project Discovery at the Bellevue Schools Foundation after she discovered them through SVP.

Ben met another SVP Partner at an SVP-sponsored forum on the state of public education that led to his becoming a director of TeachFirst.com.
**Statement of Activities**

January 1 to December 31, 2003

**Fund Balance January 1, 2003**

$1,201,302

**Income**

- Contributions $1,558,188
- Investment Income $12,191
- Rental Income $6,315

**Total Income**

$1,579,694

**Expenses**

- Grants $1,131,500
- Prof. Services - Blueprint Evaluation $19,788
- Prof. Services - Capacity Building for Investees $75,124
- Prof. Services - Other $14,020
- Personnel $217,042
- Rent $24,830
- Partner Education & Events $24,785
- Associations $13,540
- Other Operating $30,220

**Total Expenses**

$1,550,849

**Net Income**

$28,845

**Fund Balance December 31, 2003**

$1,230,147

* Unaudited

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**Expenses by Activity**

- Partner Education 8%
- Administration 3%
- Fundraising 3%
- Capacity Building & Grantmaking 73%
- Direct Grants 77%
- General 13

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**Financial Summary**
Grants — 2003
January 1 to December 31, 2003

Investee: 2003 Grant Awards
Arts Corps $45,000
Children's Services Of Sno Valley* $20,000
Cleveland High School $50,000
Community for Youth $51,000
Crisis Clinic (SV Kids) $5,000
Emerald City Outreach Ministries $50,000
Gatewood Elementary $57,000
Highline School District $50,000
Institute for Family Development $50,000
Kindering Center $50,000
Mothers Against Violence in America (SV Kids) $5,000
Program for Early Parent Support $55,000
Rainier Scholars $60,000
Renaissance Media $50,000
Seattle Arts & Lectures $45,000
Seattle MESA $45,000
Seattle Youth Garden Works $60,000
Technology Access Foundation $50,000
Washington Literacy $26,500
Washington State Courage To Teach $60,000
Washington Toxics Coalition $45,000
Washington Water Trust *** $15,000
Washington Environmental Alliance for Voter Education $50,000
White Center Community School $45,000
Wonderland Developmental Center $47,000
Youth Tutoring Program $50,000

Total 2003 Grants $1,131,500

* Additional $10,000 to be released in 2004
** Additional $15,000 to be released in 2004
2003 SVP Grant Committees and Working Groups:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Type</th>
<th>Chair</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Education Grant Committee</td>
<td>Mark Klebanoff</td>
<td>Todd Aiters, Melissa Ahlers, Jane Biddle, Lisa Bondye, Lisa Chin, Mike Hanlan, Jay Leon, Becky Liebman, David Maemudes, Ben Silvia, Brian Yowinkel, Lynne Walker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of School Time Grant Committee</td>
<td>Bettijean Collins</td>
<td>Donna Balle, Sonya Erickson, John Fine, Alison Gilligan, Laura Hirschfield, Matt Shaw, Mark Smedley, Manny Vellon, Larry Wallach</td>
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<td>Portfolio Grant Committee</td>
<td>Rick Farmer</td>
<td>Fraser Black, Lisa Chin, Bettijean Collins, Patricia Daniels, Bill Feinberg, Sonja Gudafson, Mike Hanlan, Jean Johnson, Keith Rowe, Aron Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner Engagement Working Group</td>
<td>Molly Hanlin, Chair</td>
<td>Lisa Chin, Clara Jong, Keith Kegley, Valerie Newman, Aron Shaleskie, Mark Spangler, Aron Thompson, Brian Yowinkel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner Education Working Group</td>
<td>Debra Dorian</td>
<td>Anne Green, Molly Hanlin, Clara Jong, Keith Kegley</td>
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<td>Diversity and Cultural Competency</td>
<td>Debra Dorian</td>
<td>Andy Himes, Tony LaLiberte, Donna Lou, Cliff Louie, Tony Mestres, Nan Niewman, Bob Siedensticker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications Working Group</td>
<td>Lynne Ade</td>
<td>Laury Bryant, Dave Chese, John Merrill, Lisa Merrill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Venture Kids</td>
<td>Rachel Gailam</td>
<td>Philip Caslin, Angela Chilberg, Scott Chilberg, Alex Dent, Maya Natha, Avantika Natha, Allison Norman, Stephanie Norman, Tim Norman, Ben Siedensticker, Jenny Spencer, Ann Spencer, Nilesh Vashee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recruiting Working Group</td>
<td>Bill Bryant</td>
<td>Melissa Ahlers, Tony Mestres, Matt Shaw, Mark Smedley, Alen Smith, Aron Thompson</td>
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“When you combine the thinking of a lot of people under the direction of people who know what they are doing, it really all comes together.”
— Manny, SVP Partner
SVP Seattle is an affiliate of SVP International. There are 23 SVP organizations and over 1,500 total Partners across North America, with new affiliates springing up across the globe. SVP affiliates share a common vision, mission, and set of core principles. For more information visit: www.svpinternational.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliate Locations:</th>
<th>Arizona</th>
<th>Austin</th>
<th>Baja, Mexico</th>
<th>Bay Area</th>
<th>Boston</th>
<th>Boulder County</th>
<th>British Columbia</th>
<th>Calgary</th>
<th>Chicago</th>
<th>Cleveland</th>
<th>New York City</th>
<th>Pittsburgh</th>
<th>Portland</th>
<th>San Diego</th>
<th>Seattle</th>
<th>St. Louis</th>
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SVP Seattle Staff
Paul Shoemaker, Executive Director
Erin Hemmings, Associate Director
Aaron Jacobs, Program Manager
Betsy McNeil, Administrative Assistant

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