

MEMBER VOICES

Eden Kratchman Executive Director ACE Charitable Foundation

In her own words...

The most significant change we have made to our grantmaking is . . .

supporting deserving organizations in our three areas of focus with grants for programs that have a defined purpose with clear objectives. For instance, in Thailand, the ACE Charitable Foundation partnered with the International Rescue Committee to provide a two-year grant for a comprehensive Malaria Prevention program in all households in eight refugee camps located on the Thai-Burmese border. Not only will the program address the immediate needs of those affected by malaria through treatment, but will put in place preventive measures as well as educational training for medical staff.

My greatest aspiration for our philanthropy is . . .

to have a tangible impact, and to develop strategic solutions for some of the problems faced by those in our communities. In 2009, Food Banks across the U.S. were experiencing an increased need for services, as result of so many people being affected by the economy. The ACE Charitable Foundation gave grants to five food organizations in the Feeding America network in Atlanta, Chicago, Philadelphia and New York, to expand the availability and quality of food supplies and help improve the quality of life for families impacted by the economic downturn. Each of these partner organizations supports hundreds of smaller organizations, and food programs further supported the needs of local communities. Volunteerism also played a part in ACE's participation in hunger relief efforts. ACE Group employees in four ACE offices located on the West Coast participated in projects at local food banks, packing food for distribution to local families. These activities were coordinated during the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation's (IICF) annual volunteer week, which is a nine-day, state-wide event, where teams of insurance industry employees volunteer three or more hours of service with local charities.

My one wish for philanthropy in our region is . . .

continued resilience and dedication to solving issues that threaten the growth and health of our communities. Partnerships and collaboration with nonprofit organizations as well as with funders will continue to be an important tool to tackle the challenges we face.

July 2010

Vital Statistics



Grantmaker Type: Corporate Foundation

Year Founded: 2000

Total Charitable Assets: \$7.5 million

Annual Grants: \$3,975,000

Primary Location: Philadelphia, PA

Principal Funding Areas:

Education, Environment, Poverty and Health

Name/position of other Key Leaders:

Sharla Floyd, Foundation Manager;
ACE Charitable Foundation Directors

Member of DVG since: 2001

Personal Involvement with DVG:

Board member 2004-2010. Serving on the board of DVG afforded me so many opportunities to connect with my peers and exposed me first hand to key strategic projects going on throughout the region. DVG has helped me better understand the power of collaboration and what can be accomplished by joining forces with philanthropic partners.

More information:

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www.ancelimited.com