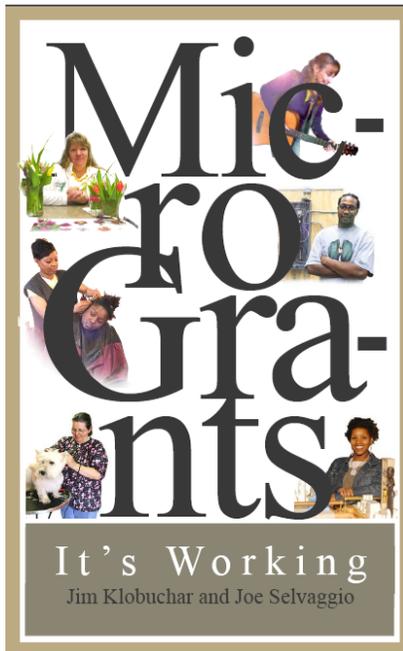




1035 East Franklin Avenue 55404

www.microgrants.net

612-823-2077



Book Launch

Join us to celebrate the publication of Joe's second book, *MicroGrants, It's Working*

Date: Thursday, October 1st

Time : 5-7pm

Location: Cowles Auditorium, Humphrey Institute – 301 19th Ave South, Mpls., MN

RSVP: Joe at 612-823-2077 or joeshmo@qwest.net

within the pages is not only a description of how MicroGrants aids people in need, but why we feel motivated to do so.

The stories will be a testament to how far \$1,000 dollars can take people in need who are ready to work towards a better future for themselves and their family. Grant recipients use the money for everything from buying tools for a self-run business to simply being able to get their car out of compound and fixed so they can keep that job across town and provide for their hungry children. *MicroGrants, It's Working* demonstrates that no one

If you have yet to send in your annual contribution for 2009, please plan to do so. Thanks!

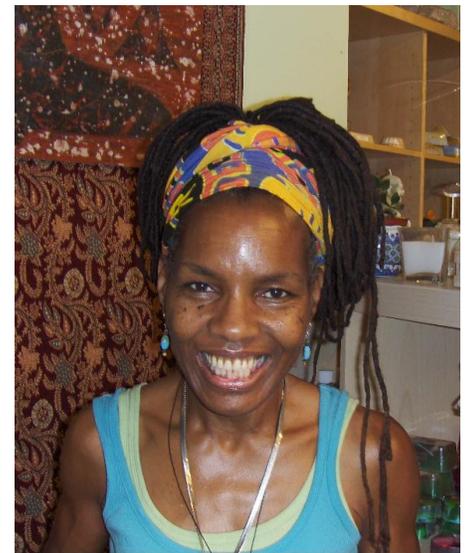
should underestimate the resolve of people determined to achieve self-sufficiency.

Edited by Doug Benson, the book incorporates notes and commentary by Jim Klobuchar, John Mauriel, Tony Bouza, Tom Fiutak, Mitch Pearlstein, Laura Watterman Whitstock, and Betsy Buckley. Through engaging stories and keen insights, *MicroGrants, It's Working* advances the dialogue on poverty, charity, and personal enterprise.

Book Launch: October 1st!

When examining results, numbers, pie charts and tables often obscure the real impact of any venture. However, as a firm believer in unconventional thinking, Joe believes real results exist in the stories of the people. Finding the stories is exactly what Joe did with the help of interns from Yale. Their results, in the form of nearly 80 MicroGrants recipients' stories, will be published this fall in Joe's second book, *MicroGrants, It's Working*.

Through its personal, inspirational stories, the book begins to shed light on how MicroGrants has affected the lives of low-income individuals around the Twin Cities area. Contained



Sharing her Passions

Antoinette Williams is an inspirational 60-year-old Minneapolis mother, business owner and cancer survivor. We at MicroGrants are lucky to be part of her inspirational story.

Antoinette underwent treatment for cancer in 2002. During this time, she sought out the

things in her past that gave her a sense of calm, those rituals she learned as a child that gave her a sense of security. The art of soap making was a trade that Antoinette learned from her grandparents as a girl. While in treatment for cancer, she decided to share this skill with the public.

With her daughter, Maisah, Antoinette opened her appropriately named soap store, Rituals, in the Midtown Global Market. She not only sells natural homemade soap, but with every sale she imparts healing wisdom and her generous smile. Her perseverance, core family values, and warm demeanor make her a very special part of the Minneapolis Community. At the MicroGrants Million Dollar Celebration, Maisah took a moment to speak about what MicroGrants has meant to their business.

MicroGrants came into Antoinette's life at a time when cancer was draining her body but encouraging her spirit. It enabled her to buy a computer, which helped streamline her business. In turn, she has been able to continue to share her passions and homemade crafts with the Twin Cities.

Antoinette's full story will appear in *MicroGrants, It's Working* due out on October 1st.

Wanted: Yale Alumni

We need help supporting our Yale internship program. If you happen to know of any Yale Alum who may have interest in supporting MicroGrants and/or Yale interns we appreciate the referral. Thank you

More People of Potential

Million Dollar Celebration a Success

At the appropriately named Million Dollar Celebration, MicroGrants celebrated giving away one thousand \$1,000 grants. Taking place last April in the center of Midtown Global Market, it connected donors and recipients in a festive atmosphere. Recipient, and shop owner Antoinette Williams's daughter, Maisah, spoke about her experience with MicroGrants, illustrating the true celebration behind each one of the thousand grants.

Amid the feast of treats from Midtown Market restaurants there was a jovial air as people mingled through tables decorated with candles and pictures of recipients at their trade. The underlining attitude of the night was light hearted and joyful. Joe Selvaggio and Nicole Harrison took the stage, alongside Maisah, to speak about what giving away a million dollars in Minneapolis really meant, and what made this terrific achievement possible.

While celebrations are easily planned, it was the hard work of Joe and his many helpers over the past three years that made this milestone possible. MicroGrants as an organization has grown from delivering around three grants per week to now reviewing and writing checks for upwards of ten grants every week. Never satisfied with what we've already accomplished, MicroGrants is already focused on the next million dollar mark and beyond.



Summer Interns: They're Working

This summer, MicroGrants has been lucky to have the help of three dedicated interns. One grew up in the Twin Cities area, while the other two are students at Yale. While not working on the upcoming book, the interns have been continuing the work of the students who have been a part of MicroGrants for the past few years – collecting the stories of the grant recipients. Let's meet the interns!



Brett Burns resides in Minnetonka, MN. She double majored in History and Political Science and graduated in 2008 with a BA from Vanderbilt

University. She is heading to law school in the fall of 2009 to pursue Human Rights and advocacy law. Brett hopes to work for women and children's rights in war torn countries.



Greg Korb hails from Short Hills, NJ. A history major at Yale, Greg plans on entering law school in the fall of 2010

and specializing in public interest law. This summer is his first experience in the Twin Cities, but so far he's had an incredible time.



Steve McLachlan is a Buffalo, NY native who currently lives in Los Angeles. A

varsity lacrosse player and history major at Yale, Steve will be entering his junior year next fall. He joined MicroGrants halfway through the summer, but he already loves what he does.