



Golden Heart Community Foundation
An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation

Spring 2023
Newsletter #16

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



7 FIGURES AND A MILLION THANKS

By Jo A. Kuchle, Chair

“Making it” in a career often means having a “six-figure income.” You’re considered a “big shot” if you have a 7-figure income. It’s about the number of zeroes in your salary; and of course, the more, the better.

The Golden Heart Community Foundation (GHCF) has been working toward the number six in our Grant Endowment—six zeroes and 7 figures. \$1,000,000. For ten years, we had the goal of “making it” a million. We were excited when we got to six-figures of \$100,000, and then to a quarter million, and so on. Today, thanks to donations from individual Alaskans, businesses, and the Rasmuson Foundation, we did it – our grant endowment is over \$1,000,000! We made it and it's thanks to YOU – our generous donors!



This means more money for community good works. The more that is in the endowment, the more interest it earns, and the more we can grant. Over the past ten years it has meant over \$190,000 being given to good causes without depleting the endowment; quite the opposite – it meant GROWING the endowment.

GHCF received community dollars, invested them through our affiliation with the Alaska Community Foundation, and made money to grant. By investing money in our endowment, we made enough money to give over “six-figures” in total grants to organizations like the Food Bank, Rescue Mission, Bread Line, Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, World Eskimo Indian Olympics, North Star

Council on the Aging, and the Literacy Council – just to name a few. A complete list is on the www.goldenheartcf.com website.

It will likely take us a while to get to an eight-figure endowment. It is hard to imagine it being \$10,000,000, but it is a wonderful dream. Think of the great work we can do in Interior Alaska due to endowment earnings.

We take inspiration from other community foundations, such as the world’s first community foundation, the Cleveland Community Foundation. With assets of over \$3.2 BILLION (so many zeroes), it gives out **annual** grants of over \$100 million! Closer to home, the Seward Community Foundation has nearly \$4 million in its endowment and just reached the goal of giving over \$1 million in grants. We look forward to the day when our endowment has produced \$1 million in community gifts, and the larger the endowment is, the sooner we can reach that goal.

How will we do that? By doing what we’ve done, but better. By getting the word out. Educating our community about our mission of investing money for the Interior’s future.

We need your help to get to that “eight-figure” number. We know we can count on you, because Fairbanks is worth it. If we don’t plan for our community’s future, who will? We know you agree. We know you want us to reach our goals, even the “pie in the sky” goal of \$10 million, but we like to dream big. Thanks to the many who have supported us and now onward, to eight-figures – and beyond!

Pictures above and on page 3 were taken by Todd Paris.



2022 Event was a Success!

Connecting with our Past

Driving to our Future

Reaching our first \$1 million goal

After two years of putting the Golden Heart Community November Celebration on hold, it was hard to organize the 2022 celebration without worrying about whether Covid was going to collide once again with our event and force another cancellation. With the support of our wonderful sponsor for the event, Warwick and Schikora CPAs, the planning committee, chaired by board members Margaret Rich and Paula Earp, put the pedal to the metal and drove forward at 55 miles per hour. Fortunately, this year Covid decided to stay in its garage and we were able to have a very successful event at the Antique Auto Museum.

The museum was full of people; many were our old friends and donors but there were lots of new faces and new donors who came to learn more about the GHCF. During our 30-minute program, we heard from Rick Schikora and Andy Warwick about why they sponsor the event and about Legacy giving. Tracey Vanairsdale from Bettisworth North Architects & Planners talked about why she is not

only a business donor but a personal supporter, as well. We had a very heart-warming presentation from a past grantee, the Literacy Council of Alaska. Sarah Perez, the Literacy Council GED Director, introduced Mercedez, one of the beneficiaries of the work that the Literacy Council does. Mercedez told us how about she was supported by the staff at the Literacy Council so that she could obtain her GED. At the time of her presentation, she had passed some, but not all, of the tests. (We heard, after the event, that Mercedez had passed her tests and received her GED. Congratulations!)

Because of the generosity of the people who donated during and after the event, the GHCF was able to reach the goal of its first million dollars in the grant endowment in March 2023. We are all excited to start planning for the 2023 celebration and working toward our goal of reaching \$2,000,000. Enjoy the pictures on the next page from the 2022 November Celebration.

If you were unable to attend the 2022 Event and/or would like to support the GHCF, there are several ways to donate:

Go to: www.goldenheartcf.org/donate

OR mail your check made out to: ACF-GHCF

To Golden Heart C. F.

P.O. Box 73183

Fairbanks, AK 99707

OR scan the QR Code to the right



Pick.Click.Give.

If you have already applied for your PFD, it is not too late to add or change a pledge to a local non-profit. All you have to do is return to www.pfd.alaska.gov, and select the green "Add or change your Pick.Click.Give donation" button. You may adjust your pledges online through August 31.

**For more information, go to
www.pickclickgive.org**

Give Local! Care Local!

People caring, sharing, and making a difference.



Grants awarded in November 2022

As an Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation, the Golden Heart Community Foundation's (GHCF) goal, through our grant program, is to support projects that enhance the quality of life for Fairbanks North Star Borough area residents. The goal of the grant program is to address immediate needs of our community while working toward long-term improvements. We are continually listening and learning about what is important to you.

We use proceeds from our growing permanent endowment to award yearly grants to support charitable organizations and programs. Grants support a broad range of community needs, including health and wellness, education, the great outdoors, arts and culture, and community development. We seek projects that have the potential to impact a broad range of residents and show collaboration with other organizations.

The projects receiving grants are initially selected by the GHCF Grant Committee and then approved by the Advisory Board. The committee is currently made up of seven members: three GHCF Advisory Board members and four community members. The GHCF would like to thank the members of the Grant Committee: Bert Bell (chair), C.B. Bettisworth, Jeremy Pletnikoff, Wendy Harter, Aileen Vang, Karen Milam and Linda Anderson for the work they put in reviewing the grant applications and making the selections.

In November 2022, the GHCF announced the recipients of the 2022 grants. A total of \$34,300 was granted to the local agencies listed below. The grants ranged from \$1,500 - \$5000. More nonprofit agencies than ever before applied for grants. While GHCF could not fund all the requests, we encourage all the qualified entities to continue to apply for grants in the future.

Grantee

Alaska Songbird Institute
Breast Cancer Detection Center of Alaska
Fairbanks Children's Museum
Fairbanks Light Opera Theatre
Fairbanks Stand Down
Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival
No Limit Inc
Resource Center for Parents & Children
Southeast Regional Resource Center Alaska
Special Olympics Alaska
The Literacy Council of Alaska
World Eskimo Indian Olympics, Inc
North Star Council on Aging

Project Name

Future Scientist Fund at the Alaska Songbird Institute
Mammography Assistance Program
Museums for All
FLOT Relaunch: Foundations
Stand Down
2023 Signature Art Piece
Warming Center and Warming Station
Program accessibility transportation program
Academic Decathlon and Pentathlon (Interior teams)
Special Olympics Alaska - Tanana Valley Support
Adult Literacy in Fairbanks and the Interior
World Eskimo Indian Olympics
Fairbanks North Council on Aging: Meals on Wheels

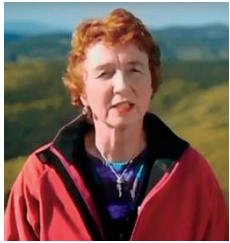
Apply for a GHCF Grant

The Golden Heart Community Foundation's Annual Grant program will be open from **Monday, August 14, through Friday, September 22, 2023 by 5 PM.**

Applications will be accepted from qualified, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations (or equivalents, such as Tribal entities, schools, and faith-based organizations) that support charitable organizations and programs in the **Fairbanks North Star Borough** area. For more information, or to apply for a grant, visit the GHCF website:

<https://goldenheartcf.org/grants/>





Legacy Giving

A Bright Future for the Golden Heart City

By Kate Lamal

Consider adding the Golden Heart Community Foundation (GHCF) to your beneficiaries when making a will or buying life insurance and become a Legacy Donor. You will be a contributor to the future health and well-being of this great community we call home.

Working in Alaska during graduate school afforded me opportunities to see the wild beauty of this breathtaking state we live in. Fresh out of college, I settled in Fairbanks to start my career and family. I truly believe there is no other place I could have lived where I would have had the opportunities I have had here in Fairbanks, not only in my profession, but in what I could do outside of work. Sports, the arts, the festivals, trails to explore, museums to visit, and the community services for people in need make me proud to call Fairbanks home.

My husband and I want the Interior to continue to be a well-rounded and vibrant community long after we are gone. That is why we have become a legacy giver to the GHCF. Long after we have passed on, our gift will help the Golden Heart City's non-profits to keep going. Through the GHCF, we contribute not only to causes that are most important to us, but to causes that are important to our friends, family and neighbors. To learn more, visit the legacy website at <https://goldenheartcf.org/how-to-make-a-legacy-gift>.

GHCF LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

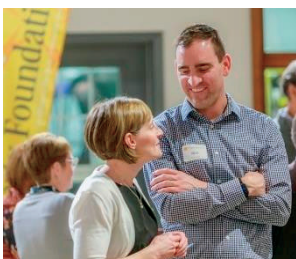
Anonymous (2)
Mike & Sharon Cook
Homer & Susan Gainey
Cynthia Klepaski
Tom & Kate Lamal
John & Arlene Orbeck
Pete Pinney
Jack & Suzanne Randolph
Leland & Margaret Rich
Brian Rogers & Sherry Modrow
Rick & Cheryl Schikora

*Join the Legacy Society by submitting the LEGACY SOCIETY DECLARATION OF INTENT form to ACF. It is a simple, **non-binding** notice to ACF and GHCF that shows your intention to help provide for the future of the Interior with a gift to GHCF through your will, trust agreement, retirement account or insurance policy. You may modify or revoke your declaration of intent form at any time.*



Find us on Facebook. Look for "Golden Heart Community Foundation" and "Like" our page to get the latest news about the GHCF, local nonprofits and funding opportunities.

<https://www.facebook.com/GoldenHeartCF>



Why do you donate to the GHCF?

The Golden Heart Community Foundation makes it easy to give locally. We trust the Foundation to support organizations and projects that make our community a better place for our kids in the long-term.

~ Cassandra and Nick Ferree



46 Scholarships open for application at ACF

Thanks to the generosity of individuals and organizations that value the importance of education, the Alaska Community Foundation (ACF) now has 46 open scholarship cycles. Scholarship funds are opened for many reasons: to support a field of study someone is passionate about, provide better opportunities for the next generation, or honor the life of someone special.

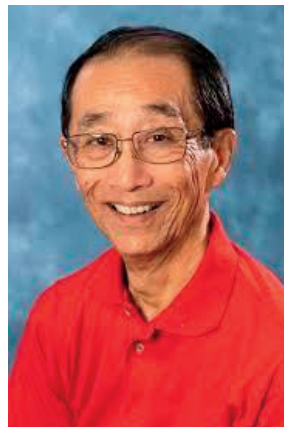
Some scholarships are available statewide, others are limited to a certain region. The newest scholarship for the Interior is the Lathrop High School Endowed Scholarship Fund. This scholarship is funded by LHS alumni and is available for an LHS graduating senior who is enrolled in a college, university, or vocational school for the next year. Other scholarships limited to the Interior are the Don DeWitt Scholarship Fund and the Susan A. Stitham Scholarship Fund.

No matter the reason, each scholarship fund offers support to students looking to achieve their life goals and aspirations. These dreams do not need to include obtaining a traditional college education. Eight of ACF's scholarships are focused on technical and vocational education.

Access to education made possible by scholarships generates a ripple effect. It helps families pay for school now, facilitates access to higher-paying jobs for the awardees, and creates more substantial economic advantages for their future families. Much of what makes this program a success is a collective effort by Alaskans to make a better future for all of Alaska. For information, visit the website at: https://alaskacf.org/funds/?_sft_fund_category=scholarship

Note: The GHCF does not directly donate to these scholarship funds. They are managed by our parent organization, the Alaska Community Foundation. The GHCF wants our donors, supporters and their families to be aware of these scholarship opportunities through ACF.

Advisory Board Highlight: Ron Inouye



Since 1970, Alaska and Fairbanks have been good to me. Teaching initially at the Ketchikan Community College then joining the UAF Center for Northern Educational Research and later the Rasmuson Library, I've enjoyed being a part of "town and gown". Initially, Alaskans of the nether lands razzed me for moving to "Squarebanks".

Our "Squarebanks" maintains a small town feel with a diversified citizenry of homesteaders, miners, military, academics, end-of-the roaders, and geniuses! You can choose isolation or find kindred spirits for your interests ranging from the "Bard-a-thon" annual reading all Shakespeare, racing or partying in the Arctic's biggest "Midnight Sun" block party, and running to the Symphony's "Beat Beethoven" or to the top of Ester Dome for the "Equinox Marathon".

Some of us are the beneficiaries of living during an era when our national and state economies have floated all boats. Many of us care about the "quality of life" we've experienced and want it to continue for future generations.

I serve on the advisory board of the Golden Heart Community Foundation to build endowments and grants for our community and the non-profits which provide the "quality of life" I've enjoyed as a "Squarebanksan". If we don't do it, who will?

The GHCF Advisory Board is pleased to announce the addition of three new board members: Kent Karns, Grier Hopkins and Katie Yarrow. You will learn more about these community members in future Newsletters. Thank you, Kent, Grier and Katie, for supporting the GHCF with your time and talent.



THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 and 2023 DONORS

a/k/a The Million Dollar Donor Club



2022 Business Donors

Alaska Community Foundation

Alcan Builders, Inc.
Bettisworth North Architects & Planners Inc.
CSG, Inc.
Denali State Bank
ECS Computer Systems (In-kind)
Fairbanks Curling Lions

Rasmuson Foundation

Independent Rental
Fountainhead Development, Inc. (In-kind)
GCI (In-kind)
Konica Minolta (In-kind)
Lifewater Engineering Company

Mammoth Marketing (In-kind)
Shadow Aviation Inc
Shannon & Wilson, Inc.
Usibelli Foundation
Warwick & Schikora CPAs

2022 Individual Donors

Abrahams, Sherry
Adamczak, Stephen
Affiliate Program 2021 to 2025
Anderson, Linda and Steve Frank
Andrews, Mark and Cheryl Keepers
Anonymous
Anonymous IMO Dan Thompson
Anonymous IMO Judy Martin
Anonymous IMO Judy Martin
Anonymous Doyon Utilities
Anonymous KeyBank
Anonymous PCG
Anonymous Schwab Charitable
Anonymous - United Way
Bakker, Theresa
Bartels, Janet
Beardsley, Peter
Beistline, William
Bell, Bert* and Becky
Bettisworth, CB * and Karen Perdue
Biberman, Anne
Blanchard, Amanda
Boko, Sharon
Brandt, Pam
Bundtzen, Thomas
Callahan, Donald and Carol
Cerny, Tim and Barb Cerny
Cook, Jeff and Susan
IHO Mike Cook & Margaret Rich
Cook, Michael * (L) and Sharon
Davis, Carmen
DeBaun, Jacyn
Durst, James and Margaret
Earp, Paula * and Matt Irinaga
Earp, Paula and Matt Irinaga
IHO Margaret Rich

Earp, Paula and Matt Irinaga
IHO Cynthia Klepaski
Edstrom, Chase
Estate of Daniel E Thompson
Ewers, Paul and Nicky Eieseman
Feld, Bradley and Amy Batchelor
Ferree, Cassandra and Nicholas
Foley, Michele
Fox, Patricia
Gainey, Susan (L) and Homer
Gatewood, Bernard
Gordon, Gretchen and Jason Case
Guinn, Chris
Halmstad, Gary
Hanley, Anne
Hanlon, Martha and Jeannette Smith
Hansen, Steven
Hanson, Nancy
Hargesheimer, John
Harter, Wendy
Hulbert, Linda
Inouye, Ronald *
Johnson, Daniel and Janet
IMO Patricia Sheppard Johnson
Johnson, Galen & Karen
Jolis, Jennifer
Jones, Tim * and Theresa
Kaplan, Diane
Karns, Kent
Kemppe, Nina IHO Aaron Kusano
Bernard Gatewood, & Celeste Earley
Kilgore, Cheryl
Klepaski, Charles
Klepaski, Cynthia * (L)
Klepaski, Cynthia
IMO Richard B. Kuchle, Sr

Kraus, Michelle (PM) and Larry
IMO Gary Nance
Kuchle, Jo * & Gene Therriault
Kusano, Aaron
Lamal, Tom and Kate * (L)
Lanford, Steve and Jane
Largen, Bonnie Jo
Larrick, Carl (Rick)
Lebon, Barton S. and Mary
Lee, Jenelle
Lefebvre, Sarah
Lovely, Patrick and Denali
Lundgren, Steven and Susan
Lundquist, Peter and Denise
Mahlen, Charles and Jennifer
Martin, Deverick IMO Judy Martin
May, Dan and Beverly
McCann, Mike and Ann
McGowan, Kevin
McHenry, Susan
Milam, Karen and Michael
Miller, Bruce and Janna
Miller, Chris and Angela Schmidt
Milne, Clark
Morgan, Yuri and Sydney
Orbeck, Arlene and John (L)
Partyka, Craig and Doron
Peirsol, Patricia
Pletnikoff, Jeremy * and Jasmine
Pletnikoff, Jeremy and Jasmine
IMO Pat Pletnikoff
Potts, Glenn Frederick
Ramras, Jay
Redlin, Susan
Rehbaum, Taber
Rich, Leland and Margaret * (L)

Rich, Margaret and Leland
IHO Mariko Sarafin
Rich, Margaret and Leland
IMO Judy Martin
Ripley, Kate
Rocha, Lisa
Rogers, Brian and Sherry Modrow (L)
Romberg, Carole
Rosenberg, Ronnie *
Roth, Martha
Samuels, Sharon
Schikora, Rick and Cheryl (L)
Sharrah, Marisa
Slusher, Lynn
Stalder, Michele
Stella, Dorothy
Sundborg, Lisa
Taylor, Scott and Janet
Therriault, Justin
Thomas, Mike and Frances
Troyer, Eric & Corrine Leistikow
Tsigonis, Jean* and Robert
Unsicker, Carl and Linda
Van Den Berg, David and Amy Cook
Vanairsdale, Tracy and David
Weiler, Theodore
Weis, Wayne and Beverly
Weiser, Ellen and David Weissman
Wien, Richard and Sally
Wilson, Zane
Woldstad, Bonné
IMO Jeannette Therriault
Wright, William and Cindy
Xavier, Rebecca and Jeff
IMO Rex Gavin
Zimmerman, Deborah Jane

2023 Business Donors (to date)

Alaska Community Foundation

CSG, Inc.

Rasmuson Foundation

ECS Computer Systems (In-kind)

Konica Minolta (In-kind)

2023 Individual Donors (to date)

Alaska Airlines – match for
Justin Therriault 2022 donation
Anonymous -Doyon Cares
Anonymous – United Way

Bishop, Sen Click & Darlene
IHO Kate & Tom Lamal
Guinn, Howard C. and Ian C.
Halmstad, Gary H.
Inouye, Ron *

Klepaski, Cynthia *(L)
Jonal Machos (In-Kind)
Kuchle, Jo * and Gene Therriault
Kusano, Aaron
Lamal, Tom and Kate *(L)

May, Dan and Bev
Rich, Leland and Margaret *(L)
Rosenberg, Ronnie*
Ryfkogel, Ken and Ida
Tsigonis, Jean * and Robert

GHCF Advisory Board

Jo Kuchle, Chair
Cynthia Klepaski, V. Chair
Tim Jones, Secretary
Margaret Rich, Treasurer
Bert Bell
C.B. Bettisworth
Mike Cook
Pau la Earp
Grier Hopkins
Ron Inouye
Kent Karns
Kate Lamal
Jeremy Pletnikoff
Ronnie Rosenberg
Jean Tsigonis
Katie Yarrow

Program Manager:

Michelle Kraus

What is the Golden Heart Community Foundation

Vision: The Golden Heart Community Foundation (GHCF) strives to build a lasting endowment with community donations to support causes that Interior Alaskans care about.

Your gift to the GHCF will be part of this long-term endowment. The principal of the endowment is never spent but rather invested. The earnings are granted to local nonprofits serving the Fairbanks North Star Borough area. The endowment funds are professionally invested to provide a reliable source of funding for the present and long-term future. The GHCF also supports local resiliency and self-reliance by promoting individual, family, and business philanthropy. A donation to GHCF is an investment in the future of the Interior.

Thank You

CSG, Inc.

Attorneys at Law

714 Fourth Avenue, Suite 200 • Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-0810

Thank you, **CSG, Inc** for sponsoring this newsletter. It is due to generous sponsorship donors like CSG, Inc. that we are able to keep our expenses to a minimum. CSG, Inc. (then called Cook, Schuhmann & Groseclose) was a founding donor of GHCF. We appreciate all CSG, Inc. does for the GHCF and our community.



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**Golden Heart
Community
Foundation**