



COMMUNITY CONNECTION



Tipping Point?

By: Jo Kuchle, Chair

Webster's Dictionary describes the "tipping point" as "the critical point in a situation, process, or system beyond which a significant and often unstoppable effect or change takes place." At our November 2023 event, long-time supporter Tim Cerny commented that he believes that the Golden Heart Community Foundation is at that point and we hope both he – and Webster's -- are right.

Tim was referring to GHCF's growth and the goal of explosive growth in our endowments so that our community can thrive today and long into the future. He believes that our local endowments are on the tipping point of community members helping to grow the GHCF and other local endowments for the "long game" in Interior Alaska.

As you know, the GHCF Grant Endowment has grown to nearly \$1.2 million dollars and our operating endowment is now over \$400,000, for a total of over \$1.6 million in endowed funds benefiting our community. What you may not know is that due to our affiliation with the Alaska Community Foundation (ACF), there is over \$8.4 million in total funds endowed for our community's benefit including: GHCF, agency funds, and scholarships. This means that there are 8.4+ million dollars invested in

Fairbanks' future. The endowed monies will be working for Fairbanks today and well into the future to take care of our community. Tim hopes, and we hope, that this growth will soon take off so that the endowments can grow larger and stronger, like other endowments in our state.

Take for example, the Juneau Community Foundation (JCF), our Southeast neighbor with an amazing history. JCF was founded in 2000. By the end of 2005, JCF was managing nearly \$500,000 in assets. Four years later, the assets grew to almost \$1 million. While not affiliated with ACF, JCF received support and training from it and the Rasmuson Foundation. With its growth, JCF attracted the attention of many donors, including longtime Juneau residents, Bill and Katie Corbus, who donated more than \$48 million to JCF in 2014 – 14 years after JCF's founding. JCF reached its tipping point and now its endowed funds allow JCF to award over \$4 million in grants and scholarships **each year**. JCF's "tipping point" was impactful and today JCF's total endowment is over \$84 million. Yes, you read that number correctly, \$84 million.

We hope that Tim is spot on and that the GHCF is at its critical point in which a significant and often unstoppable effect or change takes place so that even more funds are invested and grown with us and other Interior Alaska agency funds – just like Juneau. A tipping point indeed.

Pictured above: (Photos by JR Ancheta)

1. Board Chair Jo Kuchle, Vice Chair Cynthia Klepaski and Advisory Board member Kate Lamal welcoming guests to the November Donor Appreciation Event
2. Board Treasurer Margaret Rich and Event guests Susan McHenry and Linda Unsicker

Advisory Board Highlight: Patrick Lovely

Patrick joined our advisory board in November 2023. He worked in natural resources for eight years all over Alaska. Patrick was a professional educator for thirteen years in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. He and his wife Denali owned and operated North Pole Veterinary Hospital for sixteen years. He and his wife actively volunteer in the community and he served as president of the Eclipse Soccer Club for six years. He and his family love spending time outdoors and enjoying interior Alaska.



Golden Heart Community Foundation has always been about our community. Whether it's our funders and donors, our grant recipients or our Board of Director members, we have always been made up of passionate advocates for the Interior.

Why do we give to the Golden Heart Community Foundation?

Patrick Lovely and Denali Lovely

We would begin by having you all think about the ways to give to your community. One way is to volunteer in support or leadership positions within the community. You are donating your time, which at times can be a big give. Another is donating money. The big conundrum for us was, who do we give money to and how much?

Denali and I, as business owners, as I am sure all of you who own your own businesses or work for a local business see the steady stream of young athletes walking through your front door asking for sponsorship. We often asked ourselves where else can we donate? As a former president for 6 years of Eclipse Soccer I want to personally thank you for those sponsorships. Please keep those up!! We often do not have time to vet other organizations that are asking for funds or the time to go seek out places to donate. We always ask the question, how is the money being used? Should we send money to Ukraine or any other high visibility organized global need? We felt like we often did not know who in our local community had a need for cash that was going to use it appropriately. The reality is these local small groups do not have a sophisticated fund-raising program. They simply are here trying to provide for a local need and often doing it with the help of volunteers and on a shoestring budget. We were pleasantly surprised last year to learn about the Golden Heart Community Foundation and its relationship with the Rasmuson Foundation. Here we have a group of local board members who vet places to donate for us...these volunteers do the work for all of us! These dollars get spent right here in our community and have an immediate and lasting impact. This is an endowment, and your donation will continue to grow. It does not matter how much you give, but that hopefully, you start now.



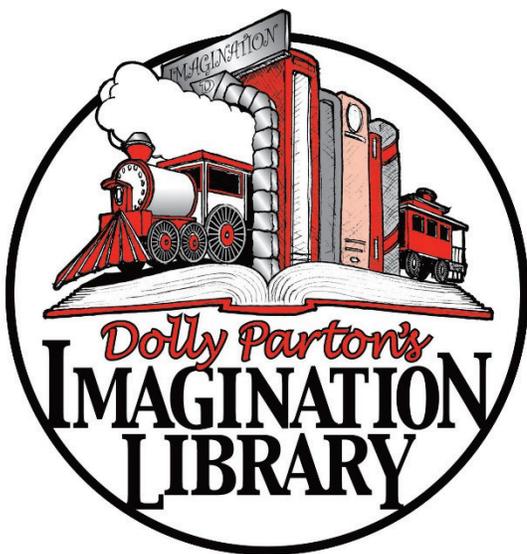
Pictured above: (Photo by JR Ancheta)

3. Advisory Board Member Pat Lovely speaks at the November Event at the Antique Auto Museum

Grantee Spotlight: North Star Imagination Library

Project Name: Books!

The North Star Imagination Library mails a free, age-appropriate book each month to registered children living in the Fairbanks North Star Borough or a Tanana Chiefs Conference community. Children registered at birth will receive 60 books by the time they graduate at age five and head to kindergarten. Teachers report that reading with children is one of the most important things parents can do to prepare their children for school, and the Imagination Library makes that so easy! Families eagerly anticipate the arrival of their personalized book each month and many books are reportedly read to shreds. The books are carefully chosen by a committee of experts gathered by the Dollywood Foundation to inspire a lifelong love of reading. Many organizations and individuals across the interior of Alaska work together to register children to receive the books and contribute financially to cover the cost of the books and shipping as this program is offered at no cost to the family. The board is run by volunteers committed to raising a community of readers!



**For information on all grants,
Visit our website www.goldenheartcf.org**

Grantee Spotlight: Calypso Farms *Project Name: Expansion of Calypso Farm Field Trips*



Calypso has been offering immersive farm field trips since 2001. They have always been a central part of their educational programs. In recent years there have been a steady increase in the demand for field trips.

Expansion of Calypso Field Trips involves increasing the current field trip offerings to include special field trip opportunities for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities, as well as maximizing opportunities for public school visits in the spring and fall. Expansion also includes piloting winter field trips and a Spring Break mini-camp. Field Trip expansion will go hand in hand with the expansion of Calypso's Farm Discovery Program. With support from the Golden Heart Community Foundation, the following program expansion will take place:

The number of Farm Discovery trainings will double from twice annually to four times annually. This will allow a significant increase in the number of Farm Discovery Guides who are able to provide volunteer support for Farm Field trips. Additionally, they will be partnering with several local organizations that serve seniors and people with disabilities in order to increase awareness of and access to becoming a Farm Discovery Guide.

Spring Break Programing: Offering the first ever spring break "camp" for children. This program will be based out of a heated "yurt" on the farm and will involve exploring the forest on snow shoes, seeding in the greenhouse and wool and wood crafts.

Additional programs include Programing for Children and Adults with Disabilities, Winter Field Trip Pilot and Transportation Support.

THANK YOU 2023 GHCF Donors

Businesses and Organizations

Alaska Community Foundation

Alcan Builders, Inc.
CSG, Inc.
Denali State Bank
Doyon Utilities
ECS Computer Systems (In-kind)

Fairbanks Curling Lions Independent Rental

Fountainhead Development, Inc. (In-kind)
GCI (in-kind)
Konica Minolta (In-kind)
Nortech

Rasmuson Foundation

Rotary Club of Fairbanks
Shannon & Wilson, Inc.
Usibelli Foundation
Vernon L Nash Antique Automobile Club
Warwick & Schikora CPAs

Individuals

Abrahams, Sherry
Adamczak, Carol and Stephen
Affiliate Leadership Philanthropy Award- Cynthia Klepaski
Affiliate Program 2021 to 2025
Affiliate Program 2021 to 2025 1:1 match
Anderson, Linda and Steve Frank
Andrews, Mark and Cheryl Keepers
Anonymous
Anonymous Friend - Fidelity Charitable
Anonymous United Way of the Tanana Valley
Anonymous United Way of the Tanana Valley
Arthur, John Jr. and Suzanne
Bartels, Tom and Janet
Beistline, Bill and Marcie
Bell, Bert* and Becky
Benevity
Berriochoa, Emily and Daniel
Bettisworth, CB* and Karen Perdue
Binkley, John and Judy
Bishop, Senator Click and Darlene, IHO Kate & Tom Lamal
Boswell Family Trust
Brandt, Pam
Bursiel, Bob and Linda
Cacciola, Megan
Callahan, Don and Carol
Cerny, Tim and Barb Cerny
Chiu, Belinda
Clautice, Karen
Coiley, Shayne and Martina
Cook, Jeff and Sue, IHO Jo Kuchle
Cook, Jeff and Sue, IMO Mike McCann
Cook, Mike* (L) and Sharon
Corrick, Gary
Costello, Patricia, IMO Paul Costello
Davis, Carmen
Deleon, Krislyn
Durst, James and Margaret
Emerging and New Affiliate Tail Fund
Feld, Bradley and Amy Batchelor
Feniks, Melody
Ferree, Nick & Cassandra
Fox, Patricia
Gainey, Susan (L)
Gatewood, Bernard and Traci

George, Betty Ruth
Guinn, Howard and Ian
Hackenmiller, L.J. and Maggie
Hajdukovich, Robert and Leslie Wien
Halmstad, Gary
Hanlon, Martha & Jeannette Smith
Hanneman, Karl and Nancy
Hanson, Nancy
Hargesheimer, John
Hartnell, Thomas and Pam
Hector's Welding, Inc.
Inouye, Ronald* (L)
Jacobson, Jeffrey
Jewkes, Leonard and Diane
Johnson, Dan and Mary, IMO Pat Johnson
Johnson, Galen & Karen
Johnson, Mark
Jolis, Jennifer and Gibson, Daniel
Jones, Tim* and Theresa
Karns, Kent* and Julie Hnilicka, IMO Eleanor Karns
Kelly, Perri
Kempel, Nina
Kilbourn, Aldean, IMO David D. Kilbourn
Klepaski, Cynthia* (L)
Kraus, Michelle (PM)
Kusano, Aaron
Lamal, Tom and Kate* (L)
Lanford, Steve & Jane
Larrick, Carl
LeBon, Barton & Mary
Lefebvre, Sarah
Libby, Warren
Lovely, Patrick* and Denali
Lundgren, Steve and Susan
Mahlen, Jennifer
Masiak, Darleen and Michael Stephens
May, Dan and Beverly
McCann, Mike and Ann
McGill, Roger and Andrea Neville
McHenry, Susan
Miller, Bruce and Janna
Miller, Chris and Angela Schmidt
Milne, Clark and Karen
Moore, Kari

Nordale, Meg
Orbeck, John and Arlene (L)
Partyka, Craig
Peirsol, Patricia
Pletnikoff, Jeremy* and Jasmine
Pollen, Mike and Peggy
Rich, Leland and Margaret* (L)
Rich, Leland and Margaret, IMO Laurel Holmes
Rich, Leland and Margaret, IMO Theresa Brice
Richards, Royce and Amy
Rosenberg, Ronnie *
Roth, Martha
Ryfkogel, Ken and Ida
Schetky, Robert
Schikora, Rick and Cheryl (L)
Richards, Royce and Amy
Signor, Susan
Smith, Stephen & Mary Ann
Smoyer, Nancy
Solie, Rick & Cherie
Stella, Dorothy
Sundborg, George and Sundborg, Lisa
Tate, Phyllis
Taylor, Scott and Janet
The Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich Book Club
Therriault, Gene & Jo Kuchle*
Therriault, Justin
Therriault, Ken
Thompson, Yvette
Tsigonis, Jean* and Robert
Unsicker, Linda
Van Den Berg, David and Amy Cook
Vanairsdale, Tracy
Walter, James and Patty
Weiler, Theodore
Weiser, Ellen and David Weissman
Wien, Richard and Sally
Wilken, Evan
Wilken, Gary and Susan
Wilson, Zane
Winther, Richard and Shirley
Wright, William and Cindy
Zimmerman, Jane

(*) GHCF Advisory Board, (PM) ACF Program Manager in Fairbanks for GHCF, (L) Legacy Group

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 DONORS

Business Donors

Alaska Community Foundation
Alaska Airlines – Employee Match
Bettisworth North (In-Kind)
CSG, Inc.
Doyon Utilities (In-Kind)
Konica Minolta (In-Kind)
ECS Computer Systems, Inc (In-Kind)
Rasmuson Foundation
The Usibelli Foundation

Individual Donors

Anonymous
Biagi, Marilyn, IMO Charles Lamar Parr
Brandt, Pamela
Bunch, Mary
Cacciola, Megan
Clautice, Karen
Cook, Sharon and Michael* (L)
Davis, Carmen
Fox, Patricia
Gainey, Homer and Susan (L)
Halmstad, Gary
Hardenbrook, Joseph
Jones, Tim* and Theresa
Kaplan, Diane
Keyes, Laurie and Christopher
Kieper, Sally
Kraus, Michelle (PM)
Kuchle, Jo* and Gene Therriault
Kuchle, Jo *
Kusano, Aaron
Lamal, Thomas and Kate *(L)
Maple, Meredith
McGowan, Kevin
Peirsol, Patricia
Pletnikoff, Jasmine and Jeremy*
Rich, Margaret*
Rich, Margaret* (L) and Leland
Rosenberg, Ronnie*
Signor, Susan
Slusher, Montie and Lynn
Sorensen, Anna
Therriault, Gene
Therriault, Jordyn



Photo Credit: JR Ancheta

Warren, Libby
Wien, Richard and Sally
Younger, Sonja



IMO = In Memory Of *Advisory Board Members
PM=Program Manager L=Legacy Members

How to Donate

When it comes to donating to Fairbanks's Golden Heart Community Foundation, we try to make it as easy as possible! However you like to give, we can help you do that. Whether it's through Legacy Giving, estate planning, or it's donating online through our website at

www.goldenheartcf.org/donate
or scanning this QR code, it couldn't be easier. Sometimes, it's just easier to write a check and mail it to GHCF, PO Box 73183, Fairbanks 99707



However you choose to donate – we thank you!!!

Visit GHCF at our Fair booth on Wednesday, July 30th, Senior Day. Donors, if you would like to join us in the booth for an hour or two, please contact us at goldenheart@alaskacf.org.



Fair theme: **Thank you for BEE-ing a friend.**



Leigh Bolin, Executive Director Resource Center for Parents & Children spoke at our November 2023 Donor Appreciation Event on the impact the grant from GHCF made to RCPC clients and the organization.



Advisory Board member Kent Karns welcomes John and Arlene Orbeck to the November Event. Photos by: JR Ancheta

Congratulations 2023 Grant Recipients!

Organization	Project Name
Meals on Wheels Fairbanks	FY24 Meals on Wheels
The Bread Line, Inc.	Hygiene for Health
North Star Ballet	North Star Ballet Black Box Theater Project
Fairbanks Community Food Bank Service	Warehouse space heat support for new food bank warehouse at 2582 Rickert
Fairbanks Arts Association	2023-2024 FACE School Performance Program
Kids Voting North Alaska	Student Voter Education Program
American Cancer Society, Inc.	Fairbanks/North Pole Cancer Patient Services
Armed Services YMCA off Alaska	ASYMCA Early Learning Education
Fairbanks Children's Museum	Baby Mingle at the Fairbanks Children's Museum
Friends of Creamers Field	Restoration of Historic Stanchions and equipment at Creamer's Dairy Barns
Calypso Farm & Ecology Center	Expansion of Calypso Farm Field Trips
The Literacy Council of Alaska	Adult Literacy in the Interior
Fairbanks Drama Association and Fairbanks Children's Theatre	50 th Season of Plays
North Star Imagination Library	Books!
Breast Cancer Detection Center of Alaska	Mammo Assist Program
University of Alaska Foundation	U of A Museum of the North: Thinking made visible: Sketchbooks for Perception, Communication, and Invention Special Exhibition
American Red Cross of Alaska	Sound the Alarm: Fire Safety Education
Resource Center for Parents and Children	Program Accessibility Transportation Program

Thank you, Newsletter Sponsors!



At Usibelli Coal Mine, our commitment to Alaska goes beyond providing energy security with an affordable and reliable fuel source. It's also about nurturing and supporting the communities that have stood by us for generations. Each year, we proudly support the Golden Heart Community Foundation because we believe in its mission to uplift and empower the people of Fairbanks, North Pole, and our surrounding communities. The foundation embodies the resilient spirit of the Golden Heart City, and by investing in its initiatives, we are investing in a brighter, more sustainable future for all Alaskans

CSG, Inc. has been serving clients throughout Alaska and the “lower 48” states for over 60 years.

Founded in 1957, CSG, Inc. (“CSG”) is the largest law firm in interior Alaska. There are presently nine attorneys in practice with CSG. All told, our attorneys have over 175 years of combined experience in a variety of fields.

CSG is a generous supporter of the Golden Heart Community Foundation because it’s mission aligns with our company’s support of the Fairbanks community.

CSG, Inc.
Attorneys at Law



Usibelli Coal Mine and CSG are co-sponsors of our Spring, 2024 Newsletter. Thanks to their generous support, Golden Heart Community Foundation can continue to keep our friends and donors up to date on news and events while keeping expenses to a minimum. Both companies are Founding Donors to GHCF as well as strong supporters of Interior nonprofits sponsoring the arts, education, and community well-being.

Thank you!

GHCF Advisory Board

Jo Kuchle, Chair
Cynthia Klepaski, V. Chair
Tim Jones, Secretary
Margaret Rich, Treasurer
Bert Bell
C.B. Bettisworth
Mike Cook
Paula Earp
Grier Hopkins
Ron Inouye
Kent Karns
Kate Lamal
Patrick Lovely
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.

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>



www.goldenheartcf.org
goldenheart@alaskacft.org

Fairbanks, AK 99707
PO Box 73183

**Golden Heart
Community
Foundation**