



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

High 5 for Fairbanks

By Jo Kuchle, Chair



Over the past 8+ years, I think it is safe to say that most Americans feel divided. Whether you love or loath the current president and administration, there is no question that the country feels very politically adverse. Regardless of where we are on the political divide, there is one thing that I know all of us can agree on, whether a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or somewhere in between, I know we can all agree that WE LOVE FAIRBANKS!

Since we all love our town, the question is how can we make sure that Interior Alaska is a place that we will always love and that future generations will love? Many of us give our time and treasure to things here that we value, whether it's the University, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, the Food Bank, animals, arts, sports, or wherever our passions lie; many of us give in many different ways. Giving today, however, does not ensure that the institutions and organizations we love will still exist tomorrow. One way to provide for the future is to think of making a legacy gift.

When many people hear the word "legacy," they think of the super wealthy: the Vanderbilts, the Rockefellers, the Gates', and the Buffets; but you do not have to be super wealthy to leave a gift to the community you love. Recently my beloved Gene and I gave legacy gifts to the Golden Heart Community Foundation (GHCF) by changing the beneficiaries on our life insurance policies to our two children AND GHCF. It was super easy to do and we decided that we had provided for each other and that our kids and the community could use that asset more than we could. We are not alone.

Over the next 10 – 20 years, in the United States, we are about to experience the largest transfer of wealth from one generation to the next. With the retirements and eventual deaths of the "baby boomers"; trillions of dollars are going to pass to the next generations; but do those generations need all of that wealth? Or can some of that wealth be shared with the community we love?



Last October, I had the opportunity to attend a national conference of community foundations in Wichita. One of the sessions I attended was about this massive wealth transfer and how communities can tap into that wealth. One of the presenters was from a community foundation (CF) in a rural Kansas county. She described how their CF had a very successful fund drive to encourage community members to leave 5% of an asset to their CF or a non-profit of the donor's choice. She said that her kids did not need 100% of her and her husband's assets. Their reasoning: "If our kids can't live off of the 95% of the assets we are leaving them, the 5% isn't really going to matter!"



Lightbulb moment! Isn't that absolutely true?!?! We all may want to leave "everything" to our kids, but really, is 5% less really going to matter to them? Certainly giving 5% to the community foundation or a charity dear to the donor will do so much more and it will keep working in the community long after the donor is gone! [cont'd page 2]



GHCF is launching an initiative to do in Interior Alaska what that rural Kansas county did. We are asking at least 5% of people living in the Fairbanks North Star Borough to leave 5% of an asset to GHCF or to a non-profit that means something to them. Think of the amazing things that we can accomplish if we have a fund that will still be earning money and providing for our community long after we are gone? WOW!

Please join us in a "High 5" and leave 5% of an asset, all of your estate, or some part of it to GHCF or your favorite charity. If you need help, ask us and we are happy to steer you in the right direction. Help us "High 5" for Fairbanks!"

Advisory Board Highlights Katie Yarrow

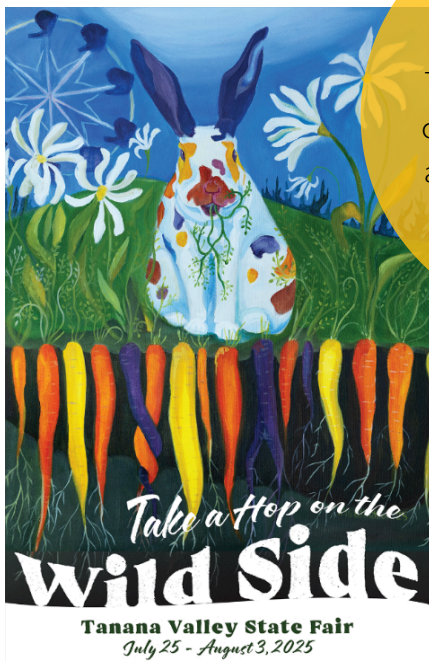
About Katie: I am a born and raised Golden Heart gal, and I value how extraordinary our community is. It's not just the beauty of our surroundings; it's the kindness and strength of the people who live here that make us special. What I most appreciate about the Golden Heart Community Foundation is its ability to take all gifts, no matter how small, and turn them into lasting security ensuring the health and wellness of our community for generations to come. I'm proud to be on the Board of the GHCF and serve an organization that supports a legacy of philanthropy for our Golden Heart Community.



Volunteer of the Year

We were as proud as can be when, in December, Katie became the recipient of the George Nehrbas Volunteer of the Year Award by Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce.

Recognized as an advocate of education, Katie serves on boards for Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra and Fairbanks Arts Association as well as Golden Heart Community Foundation. Katie's positive attitude, energy and many talents enrich the Fairbanks Community every day. We are so proud and happy to have you on our Board, Katie!



SAVE THE DATE!

Come visit us at the Tanana Valley State Fair on Senior Day, July 30th at the Borealis Pavillion. See you there!

Speaking of being proud: Our Advisory Board Chair, Jo Kuchle and her husband, Gene Therriault, were honored with the Distinguished Citizens Award by the Midnight Sun Council Scouting America! Doing good for Alaska! Thank you, Jo and Gene!



Golden Heart Community Foundation

An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation



Highlights from the Donor Appreciation Event November 7, 2024, at Pike's Waterfront Lodge Binkley Room



Margaret Rich and Michelle Kraus welcome
John and Arleen Orbeck



The wonderful buffet was enjoyed by our guests,
courtesy of Ursula Gottschling



The 2025 event will once again be at
Pike's Waterfront Lodge! Be on the
lookout for an invitation this fall!



How to Donate



Donating is easy and safe through our website at goldenhear.org/donate or scanning this QR code. You can also write a check and mail it GHCF, PO Box 73183, Fairbanks AK 99701

However you chose to donate, know that we greatly appreciate your contribution! Thank you!





2024 Grant Recipients



Golden Heart Community Foundation had \$38,000 available for the 2024 Grant cycle. After we awarded grants to 20 area nonprofits, we received an email from the wonderful founders of the Anchor Point Foundation in Denver, Colorado.

Brad Feld and Amy Batchelor founded the Anchor Point Foundation to support non-profit organizations who are doing innovative work in their communities and, fortunately, Alaska is one of their nine focus areas. Shortly after we announced our grant awards, Anchor Point Foundation MATCHED \$38,000 for these deserving nonprofits.

Organization	Project Name	GHCF Grant	Anchor Point Grant
Alaska Avalanche Information Center	Safety Equipment Essentials	\$1000	\$1000
American Red Cross of Alaska	"Sound the Alarm" Fire Safety Education	\$1250	\$1250
Big Brothers Big Sisters	Youth Mentoring Recruiting & Support	\$1500	\$1500
Breast Cancer Detection Center Alaska	Mamo Assistance & Financial Assistance Program	\$1500	\$1500
Fairbanks Community Food Bank Service	Utility Support for food warehouse	\$1500	\$1500
Fairbanks Resource Agency	Purchase accessible vehicle	\$1000	\$1000
Fairbanks Stand Down	2025 Support Stand Down for Vets	\$2500	\$2500
Fairbanks Youth Advocates	Youth Homelessness Data Initiative	\$2250	\$2250
Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival	Yesterday on FSAF Video Series	\$1500	\$1500
Meals on Wheels Fairbanks	FY25 Meals on Wheels	\$2500	\$2500
NAMI Fairbanks	NAMI Helpline Expansion	\$1500	\$1500
North Star Community Foundation	Hope Link Warming Center	\$1500	\$1500

North Star Community Foundation	Chena Tool Library	\$1000	\$1000
North Star Imagination Library	North Star Imagination Library – Books!	\$1000	\$1000
Pleasant Valley Two Rivers Fire Association	Community AED Installation & Education Initiative	\$1500	\$1500
Resource Center for Parents & Children	Support for New Parents	\$2500	\$2500
Special Olympics Alaska	Special Olympics of Tanana Valley	\$3000	\$3000
The Bread Line, Inc.	Feeding Fairbanks	\$4000	\$4000
The Folk School	Free Drop in Classes for Kids and Teens	\$1000	\$1000
The Literacy Council of Alaska	Adult Literacy in the Interior	\$4500	\$4500
	2024 Total	\$38,000	\$38,000

Thank you to our donors who contribute to our Endowment Funds that continue to grow, making these grants possible.

Special thanks to the Alaska Community Foundation for assisting with this amazing Grant Award Program, and with vetting the grant requests and projects. We appreciate the support of the ACF Finance Team to facilitate the special grant from Anchor Point Foundation for our Golden Heart Nonprofits.



Meet Shea Monsey Linnell, the new Program Manager for the Golden Heart Community Foundation!

Though she’s only been living in Fairbanks for 5 years, Shea’s roots here run deep—both of her parents grew up in Fairbanks, and her husband is from North Pole. After deciding to move to Fairbanks temporarily in 2020, Fairbanks' unique charm and tight-knit community kept her here. In 2024, Shea earned her master’s in public health, and she’s excited to dive further into the community and support the amazing work Golden Heart CF is doing. Welcome to the GHCF Team, Shea!



Thank You to Our 2024 Donors

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Alaska Airlines – Employee Match	Konica Minolta (In-Kind)
Alaska Community Foundation	Mt McKinley Bank (Donor Event
Alaska Medicine & Endoscopy LLC	Co-Sponsor)
Bettisworth North (In-Kind)	NTL Alaska
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Denali State Bank	Pikes Waterfront-Jay Ramras and
Doyon Utilities (In-Kind)	Ursula Gottschling
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IMO = In Memory Of | *Advisory Board Members | PM=Program Manager | L=Legacy Members | PCG – Pick

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By sponsoring this newsletter, ESI helps us get news and updates to our neighbors, nonprofits and donors by covering printing and mailing costs – helping GHCF to save on operating expenses.

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2025 Business Donors

Alaska Airlines – Employee Match
Alaska Community Foundation
Anchor Point Foundation
Bettisworth North (In-Kind)
Doyon Utilities (In-Kind)
ECS Computer Systems, Inc (In-Kind)
Konica Minolta (In-Kind)
Rasmuson Foundation
Rotary Club of Fairbanks

GHCF Community Gifts



PET-CT “Imaging for Impact”

Golden Heart Community Foundation made a gift of \$2500 toward the PET-CT Scanner for Fairbanks Memorial Hospital.

Currently, patients in the Interior must travel to Anchorage or beyond to access PET-CT services. Having a scanner at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital would allow residents to receive top tier care close to home, surrounded by family and support systems.

This is an ambitious and important project for our community, and we are happy to offer our support.

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Program Manager

Shea Monsey Linnell

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.



Golden Heart Community Foundation

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



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Foundation