

For the community, by the

community



For the community, by the community

For many years Wild Rivers Community Foundation was merely a dream of several community members who wanted to create a way for others to give back locally so that collectively we could lift ourselves up as a community. This passionate and committed group of men and women had endeavored quietly for decades to create opportunities for our communities when they realized a community foundation would be the best vehicle to serve as the "catcher's mitt" for local projects, to assist in building capacity in our community, and to facilitate giving and resources locally.

In 2004, "the dream" became a reality and WRCF was established "for the community, by the community," with equal representation of board members hailing from Curry and Del Norte counties.

For eight years now, WRCF has served as the community-chosen "hub" of the Building Healthy Communities Initiative. BHC Del Norte and Tribal lands (DNATL) is a 10-year funding commitment from The California Endowment that has allowed us to facilitate and support efforts to improve health outcomes for its residents through policy and systems changes addressing health inequities. As we look to the future, beyond 2021, WRCF will continue to partner with The California Endowment and other foundations to create more opportunities for our communities. We are committed to building and maintaining capacity in our community, our people and our nonprofits.

This past year WRCF staff and board members stepped onto national stages to share the tools we use to facilitate these positive changes, all the while keeping peoples' experiences at the heart of the work. We also shared our stories of collaboration, success and struggles, and emphasized the opportunities for foundations to partner with our community to support the work done by all those serving as the "boots on the ground."

We invite you to read through our yearbook, which highlights just some of the community work the WRCF team is supporting in our region. We continue to lift up our partners, agencies and organizations striving to improve the health and well-being of our citizens in Del Norte and Curry counties. Thank you all for your continued efforts to make this place we call home great for all!



Kara Miller BOARD CHAIR



Gina Zottola
DIRECTOR,
WILD RIVERS COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



990 FRONT STREET CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531 707-465-1238

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Mystery Tsunami Boat Unites Two Cities Across The Pacific

he story of a small Japanese fishing boat that washed ashore in Crescent City two years after the March 2011 Tohoku tsunami along the east coast of Japan has become an international story of shared hope and friendship that will be televised to millions of people during the 2020 Summer Olympics.

"This is a story that celebrates high school students who made a difference for people they didn't know," said Kevin Hartwick, life-long Crescent City resident, businessman and founding member of Wild Rivers Community Foundation. "This is a story of how, if you work hard, you can have an impact across the world."

When the barnacle-encrusted fishing boat washed ashore in Crescent City, students from Del Norte High School discovered it came from the small, remote city of Rikuzentakata, Japan, where it belonged to Takata High School. The boat named **Kamome** was washed out to sea during the devastating 2011 Tohoku earthquake that generated a 52-foot wall of water covering 13 square kilometers of the city, destroying the high school and everything in its path. Del Norte students resolved to clean up **Kamome** and return the wayward boat to Takata High students, who embraced the gesture as a gift of friendship and hope.

Students and local leaders quickly realized that both communities shared more than a devastating history of tsunamis, but a richness of people tied to the earth by logging, fishing and agriculture. In 2017, the communities pledged through resolution to form a Sister City relationship that was formalized in 2018. Inspired by Rikuzentakata residents' optimism and spirit to rebuild their devastated community, Del Norte leaders

rose to support the efforts. Hartwick, co-founder of SeaQuake Brewery, gave Rikuzentakata a special beer to memorialize the relationship called Kamome Ale.

From this relation much has developed in a short period, including speaking engagements at the United Nations, recognition from state leaders on the floor of the U.S. Senate and Assembly, and funding by the U.S. Embassy in Japan. About 35 delegates from Rikuzentakata visited Crescent City to learn about inclusive practices for youth in the Del Norte Unified School District, which brings students with disabilities into general classrooms.

The **Kamome** and resulting sister city relationship caught the attention of an NBC Sports producer looking for story between the host country of Japan and the United States for the 2020 Olympic Games. Film crews have been in Crescent City and Rikuzentakata to interview Hartwick and other community members.

"The fact that millions of people are going to learn about Crescent City and Rikuzentakata is going to have a big, long-term impact on both of our communities," Hartwick said. "It's a tremendous story of hope, friendship and resilience."





A Humboldt Area Foundation Affiliate Serving Del Norte and Curry Counties

Wild Rivers Community Foundation promotes and encourages generosity, leadership and inclusion to strengthen our communities.

All Children Read & Succeed Fund



The All Children Read and Succeed Fund, established in 2012 by Jim and Gail Griggs, supports early childhood literacy in Del Norte County. The vision and inspiration is that every child in Del Norte County will be a proficient reader. The fund targets tutoring programs to all children who are not at proficient levels for English Language Arts in the first, second, and third grades. (2012)

Beachfront Park Labyrinth Fund



The Beachfront Park Labyrinth Fund was established to promote and facilitate construction of the labyrinth including related landscaping and unforeseen projects connected to the labyrinth. The labyrinth will provide space for community, as well as being a tourist destination, attracting walkers worldwide. The point of a labyrinth is to enjoy the

journey. All you have to do is follow the path. There are no wrong turns nor dead ends. There is only the opportunity to make the experience yours. Whether it is walking with your dog, jogging, dancing, navigating with an aid or wheelchair, or contemplative reflective walking, all will enjoy the benefits of a labyrinth overlooking the ocean. The installation of the labyrinth is in conjunction with Crescent City's Beachfront Park Master Plan. The labyrinth will bring people to our community to enjoy all that Beachfront Park offers. (2018)

Ed & Barbara Brattain Memorial Fund



Ed and Barbara believed that sometimes a little financial help can assist someone to achieve a life-changing goal that will enrich their life or improve their personal

or family's well-being. Thus, this fund is intended to benefit those in Curry and Del Norte counties who may need that little extra amount to successfully complete a goal and is specifically for those who demonstrate that they have worked hard and are committed to obtaining their specific goal, but who need extra support to successfully accomplish it.

Brattain Family Student Enrichment Fund



The Brattain Family Student Enrichment fund is intended for K-12 public school students in Curry and Del Norte counties. The fund objective is to supplement a student's school-sponsored activities by assisting with the payment of fees and costs. The target student is one with the desire to excel in a school program or activity, but who does not have the financial means to participate. Examples of this could be fees or uniform costs for a sport activity; travel expenses for a school-sponsored event that the student is involved in; fees for additional educational materials to enrich the student's knowledge and education, etc. (2007)

Toni Brixey Memorial Scholarship Fund



A lifelong resident of Del Norte County and a 30-year employee of Seaside and Sutter Coast Hospitals in nursing and administration, Toni Brixey was passionate about making a difference

in the lives of others. She had an uncanny ability to make every situation better and to inspire others to do the same. When she unexpectedly passed away in 2010, her family,

friends, coworkers and community were able to channel the love she had engendered in the community by establishing a memorial fund in her honor. Toni's memory will live on forever, supporting the region's health. (2011)

Brookings Harbor Community Helpers Food Bank Fund



The Brookings Harbor Community Helpers Food Bank, DBA: **Brookings Harbor**

Food Bank serves the residents of Curry County from the Oregon-California border north to Pistol River. Food boxes, available once a month for individuals and families, are provided in a "shopping style" format that encourages clients to select items that will provide balanced meals and eliminate potential food waste. Also available five days a week are "daily supplements" to help reduce hunger. The number of individuals and families within the community that have to make difficult choices about how to allocate their limited funds for food, shelter, and other necessities is very high. The efforts of the food bank's volunteers, supported by the generous donations by the Brookings Harbor community, are helping reduce food insecurity. (2015)

Cal-Ore Life Flight N661TC Flight **Team Memorial Scholarship Fund**



On July 29, 2016, a Cal-Ore Life Flight air medical plane crashed in northern California while transporting a patient to care. There were no survivors. In addition to the patient, there were three Cal-Ore Life Flight personnel on board: Pilot Larry Mills, Flight Nurse Deborah Kroon, RN, CCRN, and Certified Flight Paramedic Michelle Tarwater, FP-C, NREMT-P. To honor the fallen crew members who gave their lives being of service to others, a memorial scholarship fund has been established to support education for aviation, flight nursing, and flight paramedics in Curry and Del Norte counties. (2016)

Crescent City Historical Preservation Cemetery Fund



Our county's citizens are getting older and their loved ones want a beautiful resting place for them. The Crescent City Cemetery has at times been in disrepair due to poor funding for maintenance. There are

currently four organizations operating at the cemetery: Catholic Church, Odd Fellows, Masonic Lodge, and the Del Norte Veterans. All donations go toward maintaining the appearance of the whole cemetery as needed.

Dean Cantwell Memorial Scholarship Fund



Dean Cantwell grew up in Iowa and moved to Crescent City in 1992. He retired from a career as a contractor

building major subdivisions in the Monterey and Santa Cruz area during the housing development boom. After spending years working in relatively affluent communities as a laborer, albeit a successful one, Dean developed a passion for helping young people improve themselves through education. Dean began contributing each year to Rotary's annual Third Grade Dictionary Program—whereby each 3rd grader in Del Norte County is given their own dictionary—and through Rotary's annual award of scholarship monies to deserving high school students. As the years passed, Dean developed a dream to create a four-year scholarship award to one deserving young person from Del Norte. Tommy and Donna Sparrow have honored and fulfilled Dean's most precious wish by making this scholarship a reality. (2013)

Barb & John Cary Family Fund



John and Barbara Cary moved to Curry County from Southern California in 2000 for work. They met their sophomore year of

college at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL. Both were working in food service at the time. Coming full circle upon retirement, both became active volunteers addressing food insecurity within the community. Food insecurity affects people of all ages—from children, to working families, to seniors. Barb is an OSU

accredited Master Gardener who has applied her training and knowledge related to vegetable gardening to various growing and nutrition initiatives. She is most proud of her ongoing summer "hands on" vegetable growing and education program for local pre-school children. The Cary Family Fund is established to support charitable organizations within Curry County with an emphasis on food insecurity. (2015)

CASA - Del Norte Endowment Fund



Curt Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Del Norte was established as an

independent program in 2002 to be a powerful voice for the abused and neglected children of Del Norte County. Their mission is to support and assist children in the juvenile dependency program by providing well-trained volunteers to advocate objectively in the child's best interest. CASA Advocates provide a consistent and important one-on-one advocacy, which can make a lifetime difference to each child. CASA Advocates work with the child, the family, juvenile court, and supporting agencies to ensure each child is placed in a safe, permanent, and loving home where they have the opportunity to fulfill their potential. In 2005. CASA of Del Norte received an anonymous donation to open an endowment fund. The purpose of the fund is to support ongoing recruitment, screening, and operation in the form of daily support to the CASA volunteer advocates. (2005)

Wayne Roberts & Kevin Hartwick Catch It Fund



The "Catch It" Fund was established by local rodeo enthusiasts with the vision of enhancing and expanding

programs and opportunities within the region for youth and their families. This fund is intended to support and benefit local youth activities and agricultural pursuits directly or indirectly related to the Del Norte County Fair. (2006)

Circle of Change Endowment & **Expendable Funds**



Women of the Wild Rivers region have come together to form a giving circle with combined resources in order to support local charitable causes and enrich the

lives of the members of our community by contributing funds to build and grow cultural, economic, and educational programs within the region. The endowment fund is intended to provide a perpetual annual gift to the region for various projects and programs including those providing support to women, children, seniors, the arts, and economic development. The expendable fund will support regional programs and projects as chosen by the members of the circle throughout the year. The expendable fund focuses on issues affecting women, children, seniors, the arts, and economic development. (2008)

Coulson Family Fund



The Coulson Family Fund was established in 2013 by Betty and Walter Coulson and their children. Walter got his start in logging and loved the industry. The

Coulson Family Fund supports charitable work in our region by addressing changing needs as they arise. (2013)

Curry Health Network Equipment Fund



Curry Health Network consists of their hospital, Curry General Hospital, and a series of clinics in Brookings, Gold Beach, and Port Orford, OR. It also includes their well-equipped new clinic setting at Curry Medical Center in Brookings. This fund has been set up to support the procurement of new equipment for the hospital and its outlying clinics. (2012)

Del Norte Area Fund

Del Norte Area Fund was established in 1988 with an initial gift provided by the late George and Millie Merriman. It was their hope that a foundation patterned after Humboldt Area

Foundation could be established for Del Norte County. Fund income is designated for projects in the Del Norte area. (1988)

Del Norte Area Youth Fund



This advised endowment fund, a component fund of the Del Norte Area Fund, was

established with proceeds from the Kid Town project in Crescent City. It is intended to provide support for projects related to youth throughout Del Norte County. (2001)

Del Norte Child Care Council Fund



The Del Norte Child Care Council is a private nonprofit corporation

established in 1980. Its mission is to provide and support services that promote and encourage quality care, education, and healthy growth and development of all children and families in the Wild Rivers community. The agency provides childcare, referrals to services, childcare training, school age and preschool childcare centers, traffic safety and car seat training, and supervised visitation and other child abuse prevention activities. The council is governed by a volunteer board of directors and audited annually. Contributions to this fund will assist the council in expanding and supporting its activities and services to the children of the Wild Rivers community. (2005)

Del Norte County Historical Society Fund



Del Norte County Historical Society was established in 1951 by a group of

citizens who wanted to record the rich history of Crescent City and Del Norte County. In 1965 the Society opened its museum in downtown Crescent City and took over operation and maintenance of Battery Point Lighthouse for the county through an agreement with the US Coast Guard. The board of the historical society set up a fund with Wild Rivers Community Foundation in 2006 to bolster



' Human Centered Design

Supporting Work in the Community

"How do we grow our own local healthcare workforce?"

"How can we prepare our community for natural disasters?"

"How do we make sure nobody goes hungry?"

There is no quick fix or single organization, agency or person that can provide a solution, so WRCF has introduced a relatively new approach — human centered design — which explores possible solutions, sets clear goals and brings many organizations to the table, while

"The work starts by deeply listening and co-designing solutions with those closest to the issues," said Michelle Carrillo, initiative director for Building Health Communities.

acknowledging the history and context of the region.

Staff at WRCF work alongside community teams to build research plans, conduct "empathy Interviews" with people in their homes, businesses and classrooms to gain deeper learning that puts local knowledge and experience at the heart of the work. Through small, intimate group sessions and larger community gatherings, residents learn about and construct powerful solutions to address big challenges. The approach is about co-creating and testing solutions with people closest to a particular challenge, and builds off the inherent creativity of individuals and communities facing adversity every day.

One local example of human centered design at its best is the 3READ23 Initiative, which began in 2016 with the audacious goal: "We guarantee that all third graders will read at third grade level by 2023 in Del Norte County." The community-based partnership includes educators, business and community leaders, parents, nonprofits and the school district.

The subsequent successes and lessons learned by the 3READ23 Initiative have created a model that is now being used to address other large community challenges. The City of Crescent City is using co-design in their master plan for Front Street Park to engage with residents in a deeper way, and tested it earlier this year with the pool master plan. Also, the Yurok Tribe is co-designing their long-term strategic plan with members using this same approach. **To learn more watch the video at /bit.ly/wrcfhumancentered.**

The Nick & Lisa Rail Music Fund



was just your average fourth grader at Redwood Elementary School where my brother, a year older than me, was already an accomplished artist at the ripe old age of 10. He was winning blue ribbons in the adult division at the county fair while I struggled to discover my own creative niche.

Then, I got lucky. Twice!

My school offered band class for the first time and, during an assembly, a magical man demonstrated the various band instruments we could play. Music! That's what I wanted to do. Of course, joining the band meant buying an instrument. I made the "pitch" to my parents and, to my surprise, they said "yes."

Our long-term goal is to build a performing arts center at Del Norte High School."

I remember opening the case of my brand new cornet for the first time. It was an incredibly empowering and magical moment for this nine year old — and to this day I have no idea how my folks could afford it. Holding that cornet and being in a band, it was as though someone flipped a switch deep inside me and "Shazam!" I was suddenly part of an invincible team, setting out on a musical adventure so big and so wonderful that we budding musicians had no idea where it would take us.

For me, after playing in all kinds of music groups throughout high school and college, the adventure led to a successful career in music retail. And now it's time to give back, to provide children in Del Norte County with the same musical opportunities I had when I was growing up.

The Nick and Lisa Rail Music Fund is focused on improving the scope and quality of band instruments for all elementary, junior and high school music programs so that no child will be denied the chance to play. We're also establishing resources that will guarantee that the instruments stay in good working condition for years to come.

Our long-term goal is to build a Performing Arts Center at Del Norte High School. The school district and community deserve a modern venue to showcase the creative talents of our youth, including band, choir, orchestra, dance and theater. We welcome your help in achieving this goal.

— Nick Rail

support for these and related efforts. The fund provides support for the museum's research facility and the ongoing operations of both the museum and the lighthouse. Other financial support for the society's efforts comes in the form of volunteer labor, memberships, entrance fees, and sales of books and other items at both facilities. (2006)

Del Norte County Public Library Discretionary Fund

The Del Norte County Public Library Discretionary Fund provides general support to the library to enhance learning and ensure access to information throughout the library's service area. This fund was established to enable the board of directors for the library, as fund advisors, to explore new ways to advance the library's mission. (2006)

Del Norte Library Foundation Fund



The foundation was established in 1997 to ensure that the Del Norte Library will continue to meet the needs of the community in the future. Income

from this endowment directly supports the library by purchasing needed items and enhancing library services. (1997)

Del Norte Physicians' Recruitment and Retention Fund

This fund was started in 2007 by several community-minded businesses, organizations and individuals. It was established with the goal of promoting healthcare in Del Norte County by recruiting and ultimately retaining physicians for this area. (2007)

Del Norte Senior Center Endowment Fund



The Del Norte Senior Center **Endowment Fund** was established as a means of

supplementing the funds received by the Del Norte Senior Center from federal and state grants in order to carry out its programs for Del Norte County seniors. The ultimate goal of the endowment fund is to ensure the long-term continuation and expansion of the many life-enriching and supporting programs for seniors through the senior center. The programs involve the three essential elements of healthy living for seniors: nutrition, health

maintenance and socialization. This planned giving program will support the senior center in providing these services for generations to come. (2005)

Maritess Faith Demoret Memorial Fund



Originally from Pensacola, FL, Tess moved to Gasquet, CA in 2009 with her husband Robert Sewell. A deeply spiritual person, she had a strong connection with the

natural world and a profound impact on the lives of the many people who loved her. Tess planned on returning to school to earn her MSW before she passed away in an auto accident at the age of 31. It was her dream to help children who are abused and create a kinder, more loving world. This fund was established to carry on her dreams and protect the children who cannot protect themselves. Please help us honor her memory and carry on her dreams by helping this very righteous cause. (2011)

Duncan Family Fund



The Duncan Family Fund, established in 2005 by Anne Marie and Gregory Duncan, benefits children by supporting programs and projects in the Wild Rivers region. (2005)

Education for Life Hmong Scholarship



"It takes a whole community for a student to achieve education for life," shared the Rev. Dr. Paul

Joseph T. Khamdy Yang. With that vision, in honor of Dr. Yang, to bridge the Hmong-American community and larger communities, and to support our Del Norte County Unified School District students' future in higher education, HMong American National Development Services established the Education for Life HMong Scholarship on May 12, 2014. With the magnificent support of many community members, HANDS was founded by three Del Norte High School

students: Jeremiah Yang, Jonathan Yang, and Destiny Yang. The Education for Life HMong Scholarship is to be given to one recipient of HMong decent, and one out of the two recipients must be female. Thank you for your extravagant generosity for our children our future now. Education for life. (2015)

G. Russell Field Scholarship **Trust Fund**



G. Russell "Russ" Field, a photographer for the US Navv and a longtime resident of Smith River, died on February 10, 1998, leaving his estate to Humboldt Area Foundation

for the creation of the G. Russell Field Scholarship Trust Fund. A memorial endowment fund, the annual net income provides scholarship awards to graduating seniors of Del Norte High School planning to attend four-year accredited colleges or universities and pursue courses of study in fields other than theology and chiropractic medicine. His trustee, Joan Field, confirmed that Russ denied himself a great deal in order to be able to create this fund to help young people, "our hope for the future." (1999)

Friends of Brookings-Harbor Aquatic Center



Friends of the Brookings-Harbor Aquatic Center is a nonprofit corporation

dedicated to the development of a sustainable community aquatic center to enhance access to year-round fitness and recreational programming that will promote wellness and improve quality of life for every member of our community regardless of age, fitness level, or physical capabilities. We believe an indoor aquatic center offering active recreation and fitness programs affords countless avenues to address community wellness needs including concerns about health (obesity and chronic diseases), the economy (job creation), and society in general (after-school activities and opportunities for the disabled and seniors to remain active despite physical limitations). (2011)

Friends of the Del Norte County **Fair Fund**



This fund was the long-term vision of community partners and the 41st District Agricultural

Association Board. The fund's purpose is to finance special projects which will ultimately enhance the community's overall use of our fairgrounds and support current and future projects and activities at the Del Norte County Fair. (2006)

Friends of the Family Resource Center



The first Family Resource Center (FRC) in Del Norte County was established in Crescent City to provide a warm, inviting, and accessible place where families can enjoy a variety of enriching activities and connect with many support services, from community resource and referral services to school readiness programs. Centrally located in a neighborhood near schools and outdoor play fields, the FRC provides a safe, neutral, and supportive environment that offers family fun activities, birthing classes, playgroups, parent support groups, nutrition education, early developmental screenings, books, games, and resources for check-out, parents and educator trainings, meeting space for partners, a children's garden, story times, movement and music, art and science activities, and parent education classes. The FRC is so valuable that First 5 Del Norte has committed to provide long-term financing to ensure the site is a permanent resource for the community. However, to expand activities and programs to serve more families, and to meet current needs for children and youth, the FRC needs new financial community support. (2015)

Friends of Langlois Public Library Fund



The Friends of the Langlois Public Library opened their fund to support

the work of the Langlois Public Library. As an organization, they hope to grow their funds and use them for future library construction. This library plays an important role in the small community, providing Langlois with a central meeting place for many. (2011)

Friends of the Wonder Bus



The Wonder Bus is a mobile book and toy lending library. The Wonder Bus travels throughout Del Norte County offering enriching

early literacy programs at preschools, apartments, elementary schools, and community events. The Wonder Bus also serves Del Norte's outlying, isolated communities. This collaborative effort provides accessible and responsive library and early literacy programs and services, educational resources for parents, siblings, and caregivers, and skill-building tools to Del Norte's children ages 0-8. First 5 has funded the staffing of the Wonder Bus for many years. However, the current demand exceeds the resources needed to expand programs that help our children prepare for kindergarten and become successful readers in school. With community support of donations to this fund, the Wonder Bus will be able to serve more children and to provide new books and educational programs to Del Norte children. (2014)

Vivian & Leonard Goodwin **Endowment Fund**





The Rowdy

Creek Fish

nonprofit

ecological

Hatchery is a

project working

to increase and perpetuate the native runs of steelhead and Chinook salmon in the Smith River, which is the last free-flowing river in California. The fish hatchery was built in 1968 entirely with donated funds, labor, and materials. The property was donated and the hatchery sits at the confluence of Dominie and Rowdy creeks. The Vivian & Leonard Goodwin Endowment Fund was established to benefit the Rowdy Creek Fish Hatchery. Mr. Goodwin, who founded the fund, passed away on August 16, 2006. He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Vivian. (2006)

Green Diamond Resource Company Fund



The Green Diamond Resource

Company Fund, established in 2005, will consider grant requests for fisheries and wildlife habitat restoration, forestry/habitat education, and research. (2005)

Richard Hanson & Bonnie Cushman **Memorial Fund**



Richard Hanson and his sister Bonnie (Hanson) Cushman were lifelong residents of Fort Dick. They

both loved people and served the community in their own ways. Bonnie was always very proud of Richard's many years of service as chief of the Fort Dick Volunteer Fire Department. This fund was set up in their honor to continue lifting up the community they loved by supporting the bravery and dedication of the Fort Dick Volunteer Fire Department. The fund will aid them in acquiring new machinery and equipment, maintaining their buildings, and other such needs that arise. (2016)

Zach Hegelmeyer Memorial **Endowed Scholarship Fund**



Zachary Warren Hegelmeyer died unexpectedly on Feb. 15, 2018, while surfing in Bali, Indonesia. Zach was born in Riverside, on Nov. 11, 1991, to David and Michele Hegelmeyer. Soon after,

the family moved to Crescent City where Zach grew up. Zach excelled at team sports, playing baseball and basketball for Del Norte High. He attended George Fox University where he continued playing baseball and graduated cum laude. Zach moved to Bend, Oregon in 2013, bought a house around the corner from his parents and worked as a bartender and brand ambassador for 10 Barrel Brewing. He loved walking his girlfriend's dog, Ike, along the Deschutes River and snowboarding on Mt. Bachelor. Zach was a passionate young man who loved adventure and devoted a fierce intensity to his work, relationships and fun. He was known for his charisma, sincerity and goofy sense of humor. Zach's Christian faith inspired

Local Work Shared On National Stages

Nearly two decades ago, local leaders in Del Norte and Curry counties had a vision to create a permanent community-based resource to support the many needs of the region. That resource is Wild Rivers Community Foundation and one of its many roles is to lift up the challenges we face and share our communities' successes with state and national audiences to gain broader support for our good work. Examples of that effort include:



Aspen Opportunity Youth Forum 2019

WRCF staff participated in a live broadcast panel discussion about using entrepreneurship as a way to engage youth. The forum united a broad network of funders, organizations and youth leaders dedicated to the national movement of reconnecting with youth who are unemployed or not in school.



Jefferson Funders Forum 2019

As part of a large delegation of local partners, Melodee Mitchell, director of the Del Norte Child Care Council, shared the success of the "3READ23" literacy initiative with more than 60 funders and nonprofit representatives from Washington, Oregon and California. The success of the region's collaborations and human centered design work was the highlight of the forum in Roseburg, Oregon.



Nonprofits and the Governor's Office

As California governor's senior advisor on social innovation, Kathleen Kelly Janus (third from the left) visited with WRCF, BHC and community partners during her tour of Del Norte County. Janus was impressed with the restorative justice work of Judge Abby Abinanti (middle) of the Yurok Tribe's Wellness Court.



"Culture of Health" Finalist

Community leaders from Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation, the Yurok Tribe and Del Norte County shared their good work with representatives of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, which tapped our region as one of the 12 national finalists for the "Culture of Health Prize." We were recognized for our community collaborations that improve the health, safety and well-being of our residents. Depicted here: Open Door Health Clinic's "RX for Wellness" and garden program was a featured stop on the RWJF tour.

sually shy and guiet, 22-year-old Anna Lor stood confidently before an audience of more than 300 people to share her experience with BHC's 2019 Youth Training Academy.

"I'd like to thank all of our community partners and leaders because without their support, I probably wouldn't be standing here today if it weren't for my experience in YTA," Anna said. "It really helped me to open up, feel comfortable, as well as learn how to take care of myself. It was also because of YTA that I was able to have the job I have now and the experiences that came after."



Training Academy Community Collaborations Benefit Our Youth

Youth

Anna's words capture the spirit and the mission of our successful YTA program, started in 2012 by local youth and community partners with a vision to create more opportunities and meaningful experiences for local youth. In the last seven years, YTA has provided hundreds of youth, ages 14-24, with a variety of trainings, projects and activities that help them gain career-readiness skills and connect with adult mentors and community members. Critical to YTA's continued success is the growing number of community partners that include nonprofit agencies, College of the Redwoods Del Norte, local businesses and committed individuals. Local nonprofit organizations host the individual pathways and take responsibility for pathway design, curriculum, projects, and youth stipends. College of the Redwoods Del Norte integrates YTA into their adult education programming, giving YTA participants access to college resources and opportunities to pursue secondary education.

WRCF has played a supportive role with this program through the years as the backbone for the BHC Initiative. In 2009, residents and youth shaped a vision that would encourage youth to dream — and it would be the community's responsibility to help them realize those dreams. The path to achieving that vision started with creating opportunities that provide youth with hands-on, career-based experiences that develop skills and readiness. The YTA has become one of the ways in which youth learn skills such as doing research, analyzing policies, public speaking, writing and media.

Every year, the YTA program concludes with a "showcase" in which youth share and celebrate their accomplishments with hundreds of community members. Anna, serving as keynote speaker for the 2019 showcase, said, "What made me really grateful was being around all of these young people and seeing the excitement they had despite all that was going against them. I loved hearing how they couldn't wait to go off and do what they love and pursue their dreams!"



Building a Place for Cultural Healing Traditional Sweat Lodge

ribal men in Klamath seeking healing and spiritual experiences can now use a new sweat lodge made of rock, clay and redwood planks — the result of a recent collaboration among local tribal members, community organizations and individuals.

"Traditionally our men have been tied to a sweat lodge, so we're building one to get the guys back in tune with something they've always been a part of," said Yurok tribal member Skip Lowry, who helped oversee the project.

Traditional tribal sweat lodges, like this one built on Resighini Rancheria land, are commonly used for ceremonies that involve the burning of special herbs, prayer, songs and stones heated in fire to warm the interior of the structure.

To build the sweat lodge, volunteers dug out the ground, gathered large rocks, created clay from natural resources, and split and fashioned redwood logs by hand into planks for the walls and roof of the structure.

"I was lucky to work with a couple of (tribal) elders who taught me how to split the planks," Lowry said. "Some of the elders are still here, but their knowledge is becoming a lost art."

The project was spearheaded by the Resighini Tribe of Klamath. Redwood Voice interns and WRCF staff members Meng Lo, Elijah Brunsen and Jayden Cornett, who helped capture the project on video from start to finish, were invited to participate in the grand opening. See the video, edited by Redwood Voice intern High Lo, at www.facebook.com/redwoodvoice.dnatl/videos

Funders and donors of the sweat house project include the Native Cultures Fund, Humboldt Area Foundation, Wild Rivers Community Foundation, The California Endowment, Building Healthy Communities, Tom and Stephenie



Perritt Community

Efforts to "Grow Our Own Health Workforce" Yields Results

Health Career Pathways

ocal resident Anthony Grosso has parlayed his passion for health and well-being into a full-time teaching position where he inspires high Del Norte High School students to pursue healthcare careers. It's just one of many successes in the ongoing, collaborative effort to "Grow Our Own Health Workforce" in Del Norte County, a medically underserved area that struggles to recruit and retain healthcare professionals.

"Local healthcare employers and educators are working together to solve this challenge, and have signed onto a proclamation committed to providing classroom guest speakers, work based learning opportunities for youth, and to exploring and offering move up strategies for existing employees," said Barbara Browning, of the California Center for Rural Policy.

For several years, Browning has brought together local community collaborators and has played a critical role in a regional effort to rebuild the RN-to-BSH program at Humboldt State University.

Recent efforts include placing curriculum and materials in K-12 schools for youth to explore health-related careers, starting as early as kindergarten with dramatic play kits. Del Norte High School is offering a health-related Career Technical Education program (with Grosso's help) and a Science Based Health Pathway (with teacher Gaile West's help), both of which encourage youth to consider being doctors, nurses phlebotomist, pharmacy technicians and front office duties.

"One youth who has chosen to pursue a health career based on our work is Avery Hernandez, Browning said. "Since learning about the career from a guest speaker in her CTE Health Foundation class, Avery is planning on a career as a clinical lab scientist."

College of the Redwoods Del Norte has been a powerful collaborator with WRCF and, with significant support from BHC and Sutter Coast, has successfully brought back the LVN-to-RN Bridge Program to Del Norte County.

"This work is beginning to take on an exciting momentum of its own as we grow closer to the goal of building our health workforce from within," Browning said.



Anthony Grosso talking to health class.



Avery Herndandez, left, and fellow student, Sabrina Pingree, in the Health Career Pathways program, practice first aid.

him to value loyalty, fairness and compassion; he was quick to include outsiders and encourage those who doubted themselves. (2018)

Gil & Ann H. Hess Memorial Fund



When Gildard Hess was 19 years old he moved from Iowa to Oakland, CA. Though Gil had only completed one quarter of college before

taking a job as a welder for a sheet metal manufacturing business, he became the owner and built the business from a few people to over 150 employees. Another of Gil Hess' innovative achievements is his patented design of the baggage carousel, which is still used today in airports around the world. Married for 55 years, Gil and Ann Hess enjoyed great success in life and in business. In 1970, Gil and Ann retired to Del Norte County. Gil felt strongly about supporting students who may not shine in an academic setting, but who share his visionary thinking and entrepreneurial spirit. Therefore, the Gil & Ann H. Hess Memorial Fund is primarily dedicated to supporting innovation and entrepreneurship in Del Norte students. (2013)

Dr. Janis C. Heuser Feline Fund



The Dr. Janis C. Heuser Feline Fund was established in 2014 to support the total loving care and keeping of cats and kittens, including medical care, spay, neuter, a permanent shelter for

abandoned cats, and a retirement center. This endowment fund will support the work in Gold Beach and central Curry County for providing complete and loving care and keeping of cats and kittens. Dr. Janis C. Heuser has been serving the needs of cats and kittens in Curry County for over 27 years. The endowment fund will continue her work now and in the future to provide ongoing support for cats and kittens in Curry County. (2014)

Amy Kaufmann Memorial Fund



Amy Kaufmann loved life. She enjoyed hiking, wilderness camping, snowboarding, mushroom hunting, fishing, rafting the Smith River, traveling, playing softball, and she loved her job working at Dr. Peter Tardiff's

veterinary office. Amy loved all animals, especially her dog "Green." Amy was very concerned about the welfare of family pets and the alarming rate of unwanted pets and the uncontrolled pet population. Part of the problem can be attributed to the limited financial resources of some pet owners. The Amy Kaufmann Memorial Fund was established after Amy's life was tragically taken on January 25, 2010, at the age of 26. Amy was very actively involved in the free spay and neuter clinics in Crescent City and the Del Norte Humane Society's K9 Olympics fundraiser. Amy's Fund was created to be used in perpetuity for the spaying and neutering of Del Norte County cats and dogs. (2010)

Noel & Margaret LaCombe Fund



Mr. and Mrs. LaCombe, long-time residents of Crescent City, established this fund to provide scholarships to Del Norte High School

graduating seniors. Noel and Margaret did not have the opportunity to further their education. Mr. LaCombe passed away in 1992 and Mrs. LaCombe, in January of 1998. (1991)

Let the Music Play Fund



The Let the Music Play Fund was established in 2014 to support charitable work in the

region with an emphasis on music and the arts for middle school students. Specifically, Act 1 of Let the Music Play Fund helped to support the purchasing of musical instruments for the music program at Smith River School. This fund will continue to serve as a vehicle to support music and the arts for our middle school students throughout Del Norte County and adjacent tribal lands. (2014)

Lighthouse Repertory Theatre Performing Arts Center Building Fund



The Lighthouse Repertory Theatre Performing Arts Center Building Fund will provide the theater group

the home it needs and a community arts center available for public use. Since LRT was founded in 1978, it has performed dozens of musicals, dramas, and comedies for thousands of people in a school auditorium. The Lighthouse Repertory Theatre is organized to foster and produce the best obtainable and most adaptable plays of the living theater for the entertainment and benefit of the community. (2005)

Martinelli Family Trust Fund



The Martinelli Family Trust was set up in 2005 by Thomas and Robin Martinelli. It was their intention to have this trust focus on the needs of children, the elderly, and the disadvantaged of our community. Their initial funding of the trust will be used to help those in need of temporary housing, food, and on occasion, emergency pharmaceutical assistance. Hopefully, future funding will target various projects in the Wild Rivers community. (2005)

Maureen McHugh Martinelli Spirit of Buona Ventura Memorial Endowment Fund



Spirit and Charity. These words capture the life and essence of Maureen McHugh Martinelli. Established in 2007, the

Maureen McHugh Martinelli Spirit of Buona Ventura Memorial Endowment Fund will support St. Bonaventure School's annual Maureen McHugh Martinelli Spirit Day and promote social justice and charity through matching student support of Heifer International. (2007)

Northcoast Marine Mammal Center Expendable Fund



The Northcoast Marine Mammal Center (NMMC) rescues and rehabilitates sick, injured and entangled marine mammals so they can

be released back into the wild. Even though the work is done by volunteers and costs nothing, the average spent on food and medical care for just one animal is \$900. Most of the marine mammals rescued are the result of encountering people, dogs, trash and fishing gear. NMMC works hard to educate the community on the impact they have on marine mammals and the importance of preserving the oceans where they live. Establishing this fund helps insure that the Northcoast Marine Mammal Center will continue to give marine mammals a second chance at life. (2018)

No Hungry Kids – Wild Rivers Coast



No hungry kids is the goal of this fund. Set up with the assistance of community partners, children's nutritional needs will be

addressed by providing meals and improving food security for children, primarily during the summer. This is to be accomplished through the coordination and facilitation of existing resources and contributions. (2008)

North Jetty Cats Plus Endowment Fund



The North Jetty Cats Plus Endowment Fund was established in 2005 to provide for the total care and keeping of cats and kittens in

Curry County, OR including medical care, spaying, neutering, and shelter. As an endowment fund, the capital will remain intact and the interest income will provide ongoing support to North Jetty Cats Plus. Over the past 13 years North Jetty Cats Plus has medically treated, spayed/neutered, and adopted into loving homes nearly 4,000 cats and kittens. This fund was established by Ursula Elliot and Janis C. Heuser, DVM to financially guarantee the medical and loving care demonstrated in the past will continue and expand in the future. Long-term goals include providing ongoing support for a feline retirement center, shelter, boarding facilities, and a cat cemetery where cats can be laid to rest with gratitude and love. (2005)

Dr. Cecilia M. Patton, DC, **Scholarship Fund**



Ann Bolger established this scholarship in honor of her daughter Dr. Patton. Ann Elizabeth Bolger, a Chicago native, fell in love with Crescent City after her

daughter moved here in 2004. Dr. Cecilia Marie Patton loves to see people get well through chiropractic, particularly with Chiropractic BioPhysics (CBP) a method of spine analysis and treatment. She supports CBP NonProfit, a brilliant group of doctors and researchers who work tirelessly to advance chiropractic science and effectiveness. As an Advanced Certified CBP practitioner, Dr. Patton achieves spine realignment results that are unique and different for people compared to what traditional chiropractic allows. With her mother's love of education and Dr. Cecilia Patton's first-hand knowledge and experience they wish to encourage interested students to pursue a humanitarian chiropractic degree with a focused specialty in CBP technique as a fulfilling career choice.. (2017)

Physician Recruitment Loan Repayment Curry County Fund

In response to physician shortages, the Wild Rivers Community Foundation established the Physician Recruitment Loan Repayment Curry County Fund. The fund helps recruit medical doctors by offering a medical school loan repayment plan in yearly increments for each year served in Curry County, up to a maximum of 4 years. Applicants must serve in a needed field of medicine in Curry County for at least 2 years to qualify. (2008)

Physicians' Community Fund



Income from the Physicians' Community Fund, an advised fund, is available for distribution to North Coast nonprofit organizations to serve

humanitarian, cultural, educational, or charitable purposes. (1995)

Nick & Lisa Rail Music Fund



The Nick and Lisa Rail Music Fund was established in 2018 to support Music and the Arts in Del Norte County, focusing first and foremost on music

education in the public schools, especially instrumental. Immediate goals are to improve the scope and quality of band instruments for all of the elementary, junior high and high school music programs. Ongoing goals are to continue building this inventory and providing the resources to maintain it. Our long term goal is the construction of a Performing Arts Center on the High School campus. The Arts are alive and well in Crescent City, yet there isn't a proper stage anywhere in the County for groups to perform. The school district and community at large deserves a modern venue to showcase the talents of our youth, whether band, choir, dance, or theater. We welcome your help in achieving this goal. (2018)

Ray "Buck" Rosendahl Memorial Pet **Assistance Fund**



In 2004, Buck and his bride Tracie began an amazing and life-changing journey together in beautiful Gold Beach, OR. There they opened and

developed Woof's Dog Bakery and Pet Supplies, a holistic pet nutrition center. With two locations on the southern Oregon Coast, they touched many lives while making meaningful friendships along the way. Ray "Buck" Rosendahl left this earth on February 17, 2016, at his home with family and friends by his side after battling cancer. He was 71 years young. "Buck" will not be forgotten. The Ray "Buck" Rosendahl Memorial Pet Assistance Fund was established in 2016 in his honor to provide support for the total care of animals in Curry County, OR. (2016)

R. Baird & Jane Rumiano Family Fund



Baird and Jane Rumiano have lived in Crescent City for most of their adult lives. They raised their two boys, Joby and Tony, in Del Norte. Both

attended local schools and completed their college education at Humboldt State University. Del Norte and Humboldt counties have been good to the Rumianos. They wish to give back to the community by way of this fund intended to build financial stability, community participation, and enrichment by supporting athletics, scholarships, training for volunteers and volunteerism, and other programs supporting self-sufficiency in the people, the natural resources, and the beauty of our area. Baird is owner of Rumiano Cheese Company and Jane has been a high school tennis coach and instructor for over 30 years and still continues her love of the game. (2009)

Philip & Beth Schafer Fund

Longtime residents of Del Norte County, Philip and Beth Schafer established a fund to support needs as they arise in Del Norte County. (2008)

Search & Rescue Endowment Fund



A young child with autism, Colin Buchanan was lost along the North Fork of the Smith River in 2004 while hiking and fishing with his father. When the Del Norte County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team received the call, they immediately recognized the severity of the situation for Colin, who is nonverbal and unable to call out for help. Search and Rescue responded quickly and the child was picked up by a helicopter 30 minutes before nightfall. Colin Buchanan's family established this fund to provide ongoing support to Search and Rescue for everyone in Del Norte County. They are a skilled team of committed community volunteers, providing ground searches,

technical rescues, swift water rescues, and dive rescues in coordination with the Del Norte County Sheriff's Office. As the fund advisors, the Search and Rescue Board of Directors makes recommendations for expenditures. (2005)

Smith River Salmon & Steelhead Habitat Restoration Fund



This fund supports habitat restoration projects and related planning and education within the Smith River watershed.

The Smith River is legendary for its native salmon and steelhead. These fish have always been a part of the culture and human habitation within the watershed, beginning with Native Americans thousands of years ago to the local community and tourists visiting the watershed today. This fund represents the collaboration of three entities: Green Diamond Resource Company, Del Norte County's largest private landowner; Smith River Alliance, a watershed organization founded in 1980 that is active in river and fish restoration projects; and the Smith River Advisory Council, an independent group of representatives from public and private entities with a shared interest in watershed habitat restoration projects. (2005)

South Fork/Big Flat Endowment Fund



The South Forth/Big Flat Endowment Fund was established by Bob Steven in memory of John and Mildred Nichelsen. Bob felt blessed to be able to

continue John and Mildred's legacy by giving back for the betterment of Del Norte County. Del Norte County was built on industry, and John's career that he loved was tied to the timber industry. At Bob's direction, this fund supports charitable work in Del Norte County to address changing needs as they arise. (2016)

South Fork/Big Flat Endowment Scholarship Fund



Siblings John and Mildred Nickelsen learned the true meaning of grit at a very young age. Losing their father in an accident when they were kids forced

them to face the adult world early on. This challenge in their youth made them strong and they both led successful, fulfilling lives. John and Mildred were firm believers in education and that one should never stop learning and developing. They were true examples of what can be accomplished through determination, hard work and commitment even in the face of adversity. In memory of John and Mildred, the South Fork/ Big Flat Scholarship Endowment Fund was established by Bob Steven in 2018. At Bob's direction, scholarships from this fund will be awarded in Del Norte and Curry counties to support students pursuing science, professional and industrial careers. (2018)

Ted Souza Memorial Fisheries Fund



The Ted Souza Memorial Fisheries Fund was established by the Friends of Del Norte to commemorate a dedicated life of serving as a

longtime board member and treasurer. Ted was an avid outdoorsman with a true love for the Smith River. He was a fisherman who committed his life to saving and restoring our historic salmon and steelhead runs on the Smith River. Ted worked hard to keep state fishing regulations commensurate with the decline in fish runs. He supported laws like no bait fishing and catch and release only policies. With his youthful energy and pragmatic outlook, Ted stayed actively involved in local environmental issues into his 90s, an inspiration to us all. Ted's personal motto was: "It is OK to grow older, just don't get old." These funds will be used to further Ted's interests in fisheries' habitat restoration and scientific research to help further the health of salmon and steelhead populations on the Smith and other local rivers. (2017)

Eileen A. Tardiff Memorial Fund



Eileen Tardiff was a loving wife and mother of nine children. She was active in her local community before her diagnosis and struggle with dementia

that resulted in her death in 2005. Through her illness, her family learned of the pressing need in the community for assistance in matters involving senior citizens. They established this field of interest fund in her memory to help ensure that seniors in our community receive the assistance they need. (2004)

Dustin Weber Memorial Fund



Dustin was 25 years old, adventurous, had a dazzling smile, and was loved by all. He enjoyed hiking with his dad and riding his mountain

bike. He was a graduate of Mountain View High School in Bend, OR. Dustin moved to Klamath, CA in February of 2011 to fix up a house that was given to him by his grandmother on Requa Hill. On March 11, 2011, Dustin and some friends went down to the mouth of the Klamath to take pictures of the waves from the tsunami. Dustin was hit by a large surge wave while his back was turned and was swept out to sea. His body was removed in April, four hundred miles north in Astoria, OR. He may be gone but never forgotten. October 5, 1985—March 11, 2011. (2012)

Wild Rivers Community Fund



The Wild Rivers Community Foundation promotes and encourages generosity, leadership,

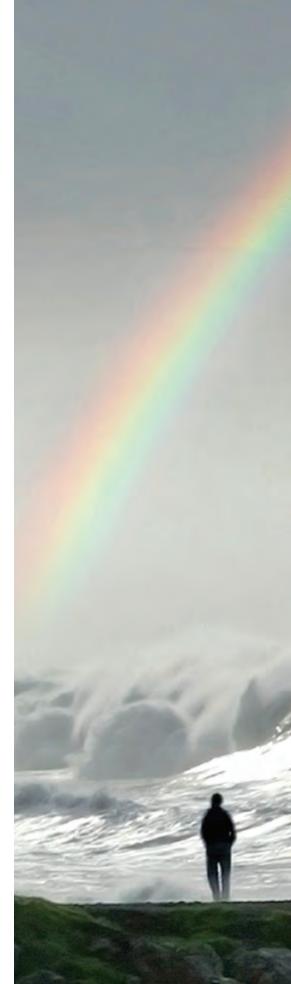
and inclusion to strengthen our communities. It works to keep local capital within the Wild Rivers region. This fund was established to provide opportunities for general discretionary giving to support the Wild Rivers region. (2005)

Wild Rivers Health Forever Fund



As physicians who have raised their families in Del Norte County, they believe quality, accessible healthcare is

essential to the future of the Wild Rivers coast of northern California and southern Oregon. The Wild Rivers Health Forever Fund is dedicated to preserving, improving, and expanding healthcare services for the residents and visitors of the region. Fund goals include the addition of chemotherapy, kidney dialysis, cardiology, primary and specialty care physicians, nurses, and physician assistants. Simply, the commitment is to help local residents receive quality, affordable healthcare without having to leave the area. (2013)



Philanthropic Partnerships

Leveraging Resources to Create Impact and Opportunities



ild Rivers Community Foundation (WRCF) is honored to collaborate with so many diverse philanthropic partners throughout the year to address community needs as they arise in Del Norte and Curry counties.

WRCF believes in the power of partnerships and in the power of people coming together with a united focus and a shared purpose. We engage in these partnerships to build scale and impact that we otherwise alone could not obtain. The collaborative partnerships helped to leverage dollars and impact for Curry and Del Norte County in many diverse ways including the following: Keeping the doors of a veteran-serving organization open, Disaster and Resilience Preparedness facilitation and support, training volunteers to work with foster youth as advocates, provide snacks for after school programs, provide support for sack lunches for Veterans, funding to purchase a new steam table to keep food warm for seniors, support for community theatre and the arts, funding to support literacy through the purchase of books to children in Klamath, and funding Career Technical Education opportunities and projects as presented by youth.

WRCF Partnership Grants

WRCF facilitates two grant rounds each year to support nonprofit organizations, service clubs, schools, tribal governments and faith-based institutions that are providing valuable services to our citizens in the Wild Rivers Region. The following grant rounds would not be possible without the commitment and collaboration of our partners and donors.

Holiday Partnership Grants: This collaboration with our partners supports those institutions and organizations that help provide holiday meals, warm clothing, shoes, and even toys for children who might not otherwise receive them during the holidays providing much needed hope.

Summer Youth Mini Grants are awarded to organizations that provide fun, safe, enriching and healthy activities for children and teens during the summer months when they are not in school. A variety of activities, from acting classes to sports to art camps, offer personal growth and are available throughout Del Norte and Curry counties.

Since its inception WRCF has awarded more than \$3 million in grants and scholarships in Del Norte and Curry counties. Our partnerships and collaborations with private funders, donors, businesses and other foundations help us to leverage dollars to powerfully impact the communities we serve. Thanks to our partners for their generosity and commitment to our communities.

OUR PARTNERS

John G. Atkins Foundation
Brattain Family Trust
The California Endowment
Coos Curry Electric Cooperative
Arthur R. Dubs Foundation
Gordon Elwood Foundation
The Ford Family Foundation
Gil and Ann H. Hess Fund

George Owen Knapp Memorial Fund
Meyer Memorial Trust
Pacific Power
R. Baird and Jane Rumiano Family Fund
Red Sky Roofing
South Fork / Big Flat Endowment Fund
St. Joseph's Hospital Humboldt

Patricia D. and William B Smullin Foundation Dale and JoAnn Thomas Charitable Fund

West Family Foundation

What is Planned Giving?

It may sound fancy, though really, planned giving is simple.

What is planned giving?

Making a plan to make a charitable gift in the future

Why is it important?

The tax code offers different incentives at major life events: marriage, inheritance, sale of a business or investment property and end of life

Some examples of planned giving are:

- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Bequests
- Life Estates
- Charitable IRA Rollover
- Donations of Appreciated Assets

How do you get started?

Your CPA or estate planning attorney can help you decide what is best for you or for more general information, you can contact Gina Zottola at Wild Rivers Community Foundation at 707-465-1238.

Legacy Society Wild Rivers Community Foundation thanks all those who have included a gift for charitable work in their will or living trust. The following are Wild Rivers Community Foundation's Legacy Society members whose gifts will support work they value for future generations. If you would like to join the Legacy Society, please call Donor Services at 707-465-1238. You can join and be listed or remain anonymous. John & Ellen Babin Gary & Becky Blatnick Dan & Kathy Brattain Jon P. & Patrica A. Brunsing William & Maureen Follett Anne Glidden Kevin & Gayle Hartwick Dr. Janis C. Heuser Chester & Lynda O'Neill R. Baird & Jane Rumiano Mike Souza Tom & Toni Stewart Patricia Vernelson Dennis & Becky Wood



Bringing nonprofits together

hen Rev. Daphane Lynn Williams started a new nonprofit in Del Norte County a few years ago, she did so with a dream, a handful of volunteers and tons of tenacity — the perfect candidate for the Nonprofit Alliance.

"I quickly learned that we're not alone — there are other nonprofits out there that need help," said Williams, who created Lynn's Hope House of New Beginnings, a faith-based transitional housing program for formerly incarcerated women. "The NPA is a great resource for any nonprofit, no matter what level you're at. You can get mentorship, inspiration from one another, and learn about potential funding and grants. I'm really excited to keep it going and get the word out to the community."

Membership and enthusiasm is growing for the NPA, which now boasts more than 40 local organizations collaborating and advocating for the entire nonprofit sector in Del Norte and Curry counties. Partners include those in the public health, cultural, housing and educational services.

"The energy of the alliance is focused on exploring innovative ways to share back office support services, local outreach for the 2020 census, and create a plan to keep vital services in our counties functioning in the event of a nonprofit emergency," said NPA Coordinator Keri Mosey.

NPA Coordinator Keri Mosey, second from the left, and other members of NPA meet with representatives from the California Governor's office in September, 2019.

The NPA has come a long way since the 2013 loosely-organized "Brown Bag Lunches," hosted by Wild Rivers Community Foundation, during which local nonprofit executive directors, board chairs, and community partners, including Williams, identified common struggles. The momentum continued in 2017, when NPA received funding through Building Healthy Communities to hire Mosey to organize and lead the Alliance's efforts from the WRCF office.

"New partners continue to join, bringing their valuable perspectives and resources to the table."

A surge in new members in 2018-19 brought fresh energy to the group, and a new grant seeker was recruited to help members find funds, Mosey said. The NPA also developed set standards and best practices that have been shared with numerous nonprofits. The group is currently creating a "cafe-style" back office support program designed to give organizations help in the areas of financing, human resources and grant writing.

"This is an exciting time for the Nonprofit Alliance," Mosey said. "New partners continue to join, bringing their valuable perspectives and resources to the table."

To learn more about NPA or to become a member, contact Keri Mosey at kmosey@wildrivers.cf.org or visit delnortenpa.org

Building Community Disaster Resilience

t's been more than two years since the Chetco Bar Fire threatened thousands of people in Brookings-Harbor area, but the chaos and confusion it caused still weighs heavy on the minds of many residents. That's why many Curry County community partners are coming together to better prepare for future disasters by establishing clear, efficient channels of coordinated resources, information, communication and education.

... many Curry County community partners are coming together to better prepare for future disasters ...

In 2019, Wild Rivers Community Foundation partnered with Meyer Memorial Trust to convene and facilitate numerous one-to-one empathy interviews in Curry County to better understand people's experiences during and after the Chetco Bar Fire. The confidential interviews with residents and system leaders have birthed deeper insight into our communities' strengths, vulnerabilities, and how community organizations and agencies can be more resilient in the face of adversity.

Additional community sessions are planned for 2020, during which the WRCF staff and community members will share what they've learned so far, ask for more input and collaborate on ways to help all organizations, agencies and groups be better prepared for disaster.



Members of the U.S. Coast Guard Station in Brookings deliver canned goods to the Brookings food bank during the 2017 Chetco Bar Fire.

How to Give |

To learn more about planned giving options and to support causes you care about now and into the future, call (707) 465-1238.

Step

DECIDE WHEN YOU WANT TO MAKE YOUR GIFT

Make your gift TODAY, or make a MONTHLY contribution charged to your credit card, or make a plan now to give after your LIFETIME

Step

IDENTIFY HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE YOUR GIFT





Cash Real Property





Other Assets

Step 3

CHOOSE WHERE YOUR GIFT WILL BE DIRECTED

- To support Wild Rivers Community Foundation's community programs, or
- To support unrestricted grantmaking that meets changing community needs, or
- To support community grantmaking that addresses specific causes through your fund or an existing fund listed in this publication



WRCF Funds In Action



WRCF staff members distribute kindergarten readiness backpacks to children and their families at Crescent City's downtown farmers market this summer. The backpacks contain resources that help parents prepare preschool age children for entering kindergarten.



Brookings Harbor High School Knowledge Bowl team receives a \$400 grant from the Brattain Family Student Enrichment Fund in April. The grant supported the team's upcoming trip to a national competition.



Redwood Elementary School in Fort Dick receives a \$9,398 WRCF grant from the Gil & Ann H. Hess Memorial Fund in June to support the purchase of 30 Google Expeditions Virtual Reality goggles that help entrepreneurial students explore the world.



Using a \$600 grant from WRCF's Summer Youth Mini Grant program, the Coos-Curry Electric Charitable Foundation provides 20 Curry County youth with bicycle helmets, snacks and lunch as they participated in the second annual Kids Safety Camp in June.



The Fort Dick Fire Protection
District can check off several
items on its wish list of muchneeded equipment thanks to a
\$9,170 grant from the Richard
Hanson and Bonnie Cushman
Memorial Fund at Wild Rivers
Community Foundation. Current
Fire Chief Randy Crawford
received the check in April from
Tami McClaflin, fund advisor and
longtime friend of Bonnie.



The Christian Help Thrift Store and Food Bank provided 25 holiday food and gift baskets that benefited 98 people in Curry County, including 46 children and teens, using a \$1,000 Holiday Partnership grant from Wild Rivers Community Foundation.

Wild Rivers Community Foundation Board of Directors



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Meagan Curtis FINANCIAL ADVISOR, EDWARD JONES



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Thank you to our retiring board members for their dedication and contributions to the community.



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William Follett



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In 2018 / 2019 Wild Rivers Community Foundation gave \$203,287 representing 114 grants and \$44,250 in scholarships.

We received
90 gifts from the community
totaling approximately
\$230,040.

Wild Rivers Community Foundation, an affiliate of Humboldt Area Foundation and serving all of Del Norte and Curry counties, promotes and encourages generosity, leadership and inclusion to strengthen our communities.

> wildriverscf.org Visit us on Facebook



