

BETTER TOGETHER

2012 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

CF
THE COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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ABOUT US

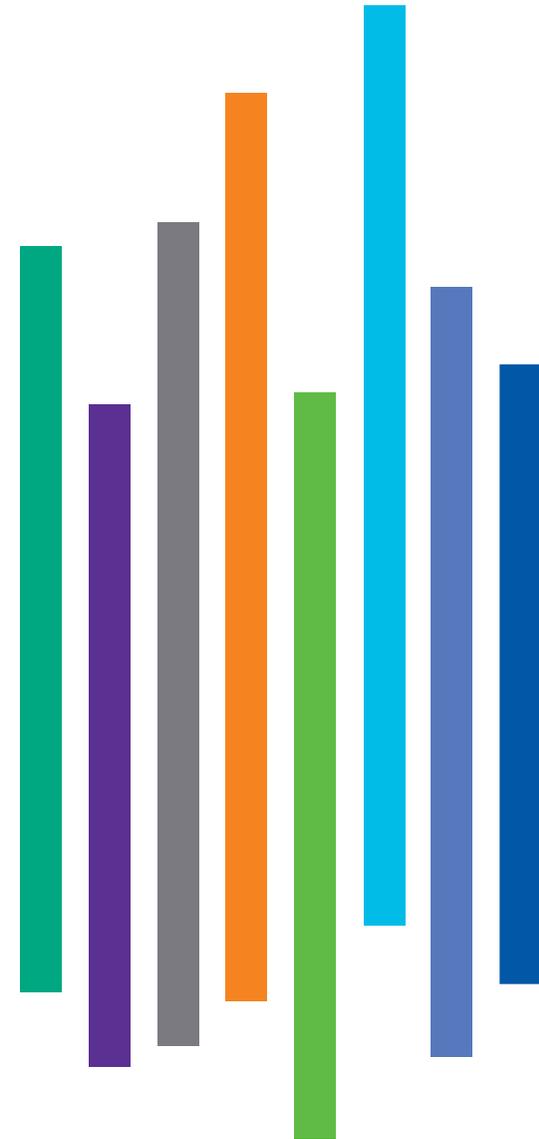
The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington was founded for the sole purpose of promoting and facilitating effective philanthropy.

Since 1984, the Foundation has demonstrated that local, collective action works by connecting our community's generosity to the acute needs of Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania counties. Our organization brings together individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits to better coordinate the investment of charitable dollars.

Our staff provides impactful giving strategies to people of all means. When you come to the Community Foundation with a dream to make the world a better place, we offer flexible charitable solutions that can bring it to life. We also provide an in-depth understanding of local issues and the expertise necessary to administer your charitable intentions.

Today, your Community Foundation is comprised of almost 300 charitable funds, which address a broad spectrum of needs and opportunities through the work of local nonprofits and institutions. Along with other charitable contributions, these funds have been invested for growth and have successfully distributed nearly \$130 million in total grants.

It's a shining example of how our region can grow better when we all invest in its future together.



ACHIEVING BETTER, TOGETHER

Each of our individual passions and values create unique identities. They represent our motivations as citizens and define our visions for a healthy community.

Diverse perspectives are of particular importance to the Community Foundation, because together they define broad areas of interest and need. These ideas and causes unify our communities around shared goals, and they are vital to the work of the Community Foundation.

This organization strives to better address the social, cultural, educational and environmental challenges of our region. As you will see inside our 2012 annual report, our community granting programs are central to these efforts. During the recent recession these programs allowed us to direct resources toward pressing needs, such as hunger and education. Additionally, we set strategic goals, like investing in early childhood education to help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. Through these programs we actively move our region toward a better future.

The Community Foundation is the catalyst for bringing together funds and agencies in a partnership to create positive change in the community. Our skills and talents

shine through in identifying needs, making connections and aggregating resources. In doing this, we engage citizens and empower organizations to achieve better philanthropic outcomes.

This is how we are strengthening philanthropy throughout the region.

On behalf of people like you—people who love our community, believe in its future, and want to fulfill its potential—the Foundation is able to ensure a better quality of life for everyone who calls southwest Washington home.

Let's continue achieving better, together.



Kaycee Wiita
Board Chair



Richard Melching
President



Kaycee Wiita, Chair



Greg Goodwin, Vice Chair



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Steve Hix



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Vaughn Lein



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Terry Prill



Scott South



Rick Wollenberg



Dr. Candace Young

Our Board of Directors exemplifies the virtues of collaboration and giving back. These respected professionals and community leaders combine their expertise to develop policies and initiatives that guide the Community Foundation's success. Thanks to their extraordinary commitment, the benefits of philanthropy will continue to grow throughout southwest Washington for many years to come.

OUR BOARD



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President



Jennifer Rhoads, CFP®
Vice President of Development,
President Designate



Mary Pringle, CPA, CGMA
Chief Financial Officer



Anne Digenis
Donor Services and
Grants Officer



Kristen Turek
Donor and Nonprofit
Services Officer



Judy Lundeen
Development Associate



Pam Cabanatuan
Accountant



Maury Harris
Marketing and
Communications Specialist



Huyen Shaw
Executive Assistant



Ellora La Shier
Program Assistant
and Receptionist

Our professional team manages organizational operations, but also provides expertise that shapes our region's philanthropy. Each employee shares a commitment to finding effective solutions for southwest Washington's greatest needs. Together, we thank you for the opportunity to work hand-in-hand, making strategic charitable investments to improve our region.

THANK YOU

Each year, we use this report to thank our wonderful donors, volunteers, partners, nonprofits and civic leaders. Without each of you and your ongoing efforts, our successes would not be possible.

Because of the generosity of our fundholders and donors, we are able to continue supporting important causes and expanding philanthropy. Because of our dedicated volunteers who serve on committees and advisory boards, we are able to uphold high standards of professionalism and stewardship. And finally, because of our community partners, nonprofits and civic leaders, we continue to find effective and innovative ways to address our region's most pressing needs.

We hope the stories shared within these pages capture the importance of these relationships, and how they are making southwest Washington better.

None of this happens without you, so thank you for all that you continue to do for this great community.

OUR TEAM

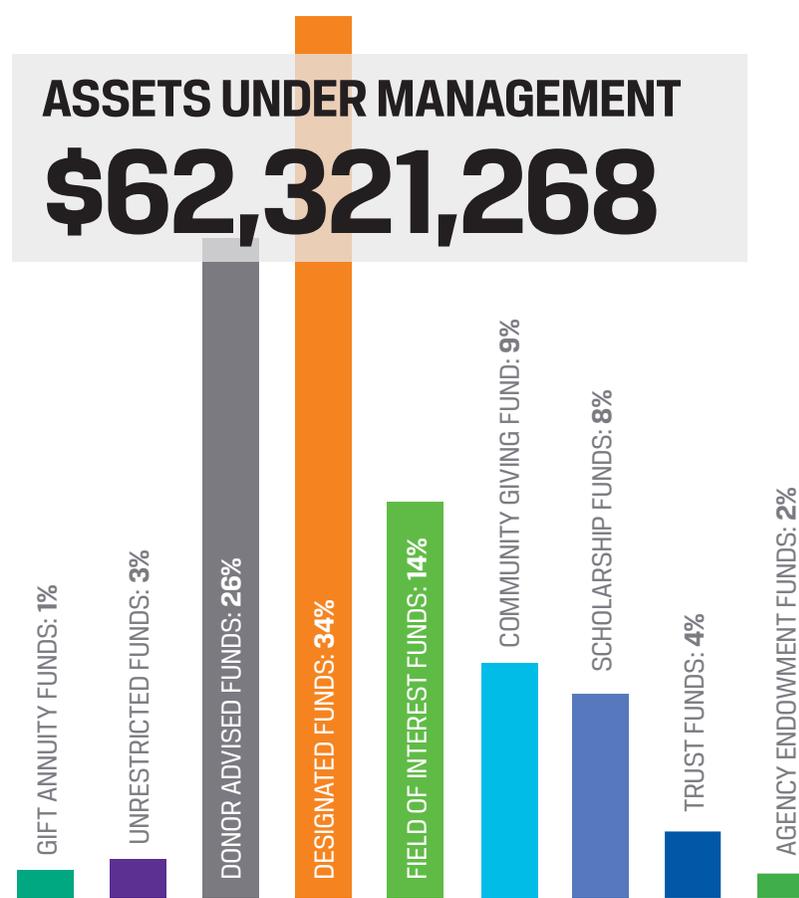
WE GAVE ACTIVELY

Our donors and fundholders gave steadily in 2012, which added up to nearly \$6 million in new gifts to the Foundation. Of those gifts, Donor Advised Funds were by far the most popular charitable vehicle, which allowed our fundholders to immediately invest dollars back into the community.



GROWING OUR FOUNDATION

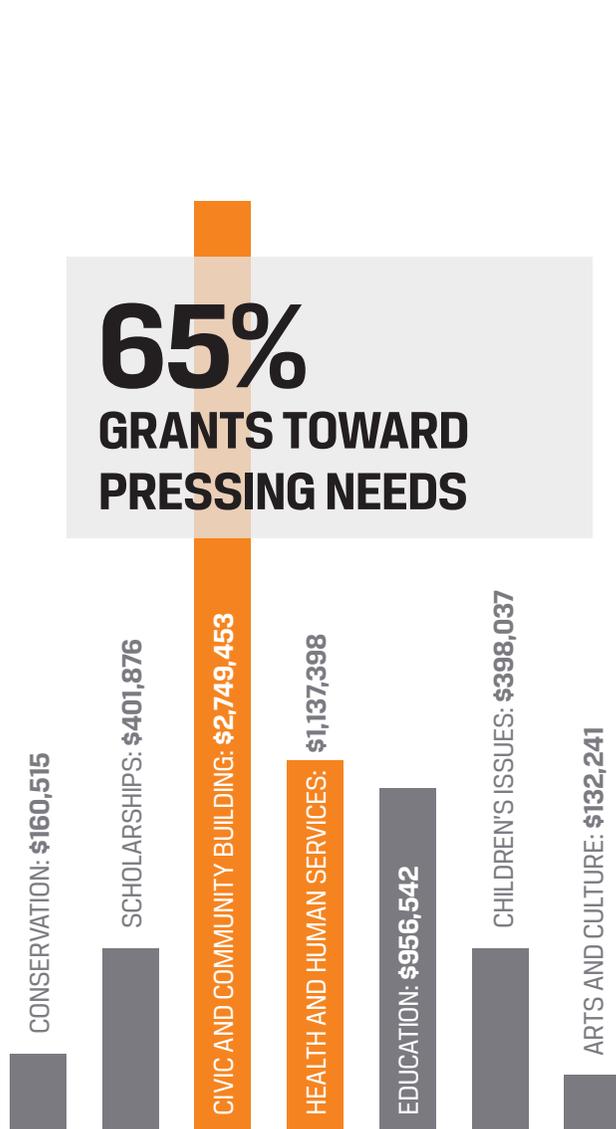
At the end of 2012, the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington held more than \$62 million in assets under management. These dollars are invested for growth and will eventually improve the overall quality of life in this region through the advice of our fundholders.



2012 FINANCIALS

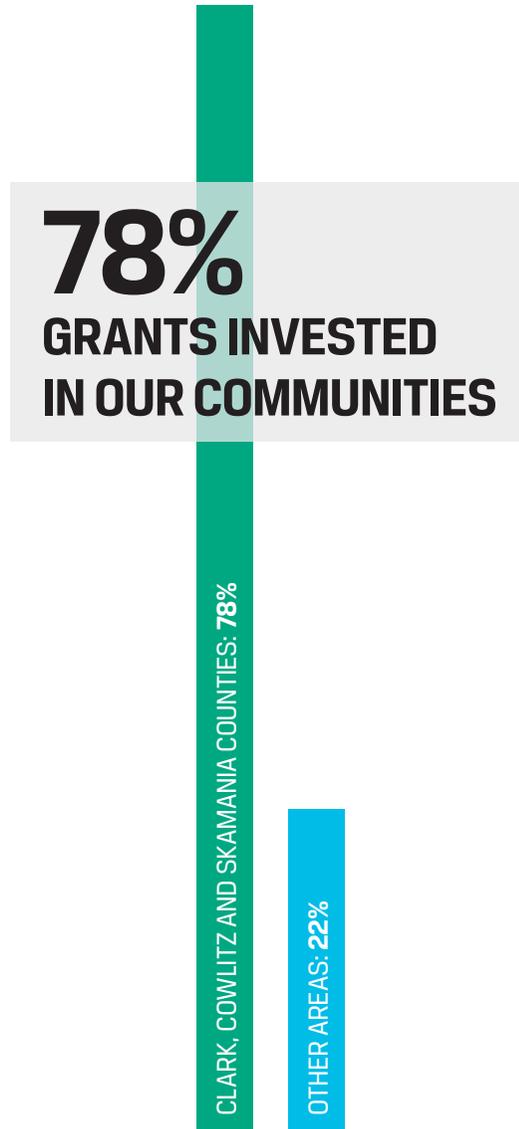
OUR COLLECTIVE SUPPORT

With the local economy still making a comeback in 2012, the Community Foundation distributed nearly \$6 million in grants—almost as much as we received in gifts. Two causes addressing the negative effects of the downturn accounted for 65 percent of grants made in 2012.



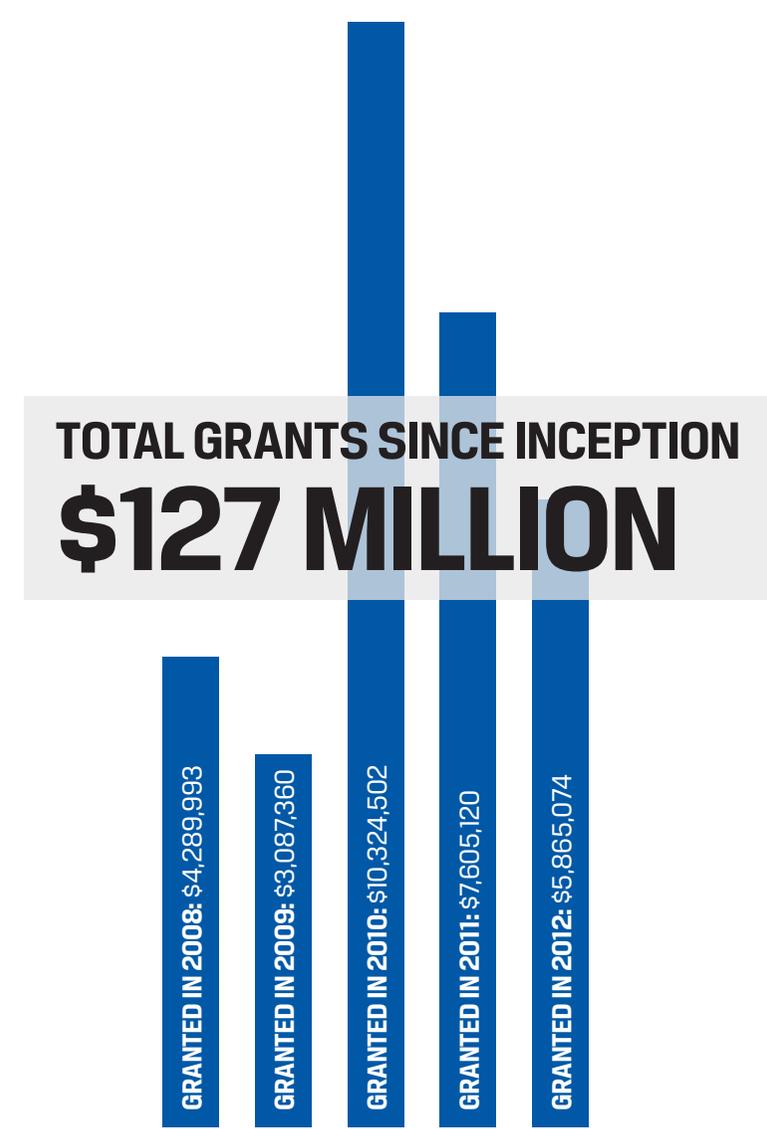
WE INVESTED LOCALLY

78 percent of the Community Foundation's grant dollars were invested back into Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania Counties through the projects and programs of local organizations.



GROWING OUR CAPACITY

Over the last five years, the Community Foundation has distributed an average of nearly \$6.25 million in grants each year. Our combined philanthropic spirit has surged the Foundation's granting to nearly \$130 million over the past 28 years.





YOU BRING PERSONAL GOALS.

WE BRING CHARITABLE EXPERTISE.

TOGETHER, WE DESIGN A BETTER

FUTURE FOR OUR REGION.

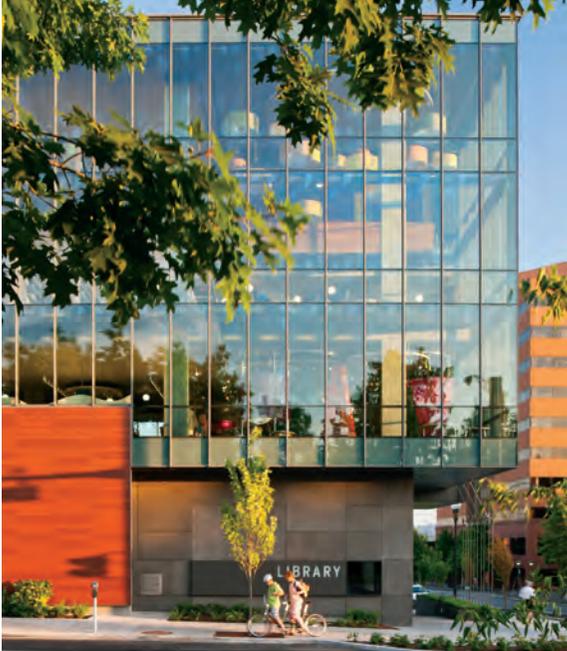
The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington strives to assist donors in realizing their charitable goals. Our wide variety of giving tools allow us to meet the varied needs of donors in our community by providing easy, flexible ways to give with impact that also achieve the greatest tax benefits available.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS are as flexible and unique as you and your family. If you support a number of causes or have considered establishing a private foundation, we recommend this type of fund as a strategic, hassle-free and inexpensive vehicle for your giving. Tailored to your needs, it allows you to make contributions at any time,

receive immediate tax deductions, grow your principal tax-free and recommend grants on your own schedule.

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS address specific issues in our community, such as the arts or children's issues. These funds allow you to broadly support your passion. From there, you can choose to advise the Community Foundation through grant recommendations, or relax and let our expert staff and grants committees fund effective programs and projects in your chosen area of focus. These funds also offer a great way to honor a loved one's charitable interests or your own by establishing a lasting legacy.

INDIVIDUAL GIVING



Nic Lehoucq Architectural Photography

DESIGNATED FUNDS allow you to provide regular support to one or more charitable organizations that address your concerns or values. These funds also ensure that your gift will remain true to its intent over time. You "designate" charities when you create the fund and the Community Foundation grants to them automatically on a schedule that you determine. However, if a designated organization dissolves or dramatically changes its mission, the Foundation responds to those changing circumstances to uphold your original intent.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS enable students to pursue their goals and dreams through advanced education and can also be customized to represent your values or areas of interest. They can be designed to memorialize someone special, or—in other cases—individuals, families and businesses might define educational values important to them. Either way, the increasingly expensive dream of continuing education is made more accessible for hard-working students every year.

PLANNED GIVING allows you to establish or name a fund at the Community Foundation in your will or estate plan. Through this thoughtful action, you can live life comfortably, provide for your family and still offer lasting support for the issues and charities you care about most. In addition, our trusted stewardship gives you a sense of security in knowing that your heartfelt gift will continue to serve its intended purpose in a way that appropriately honors you.

LIFE INCOME GIFTS allow you to realize the tax advantages of making a gift now, while retaining the financial security you and/or your loved one(s) desire through consistent income from that gift. Charitable Gift Annuities,



Charitable Lead Trusts and Charitable Remainder Trusts provide many options to design an income strategy that meets your financial needs and also affords the satisfaction that your favorite cause will benefit as well.

BETTER TOGETHER

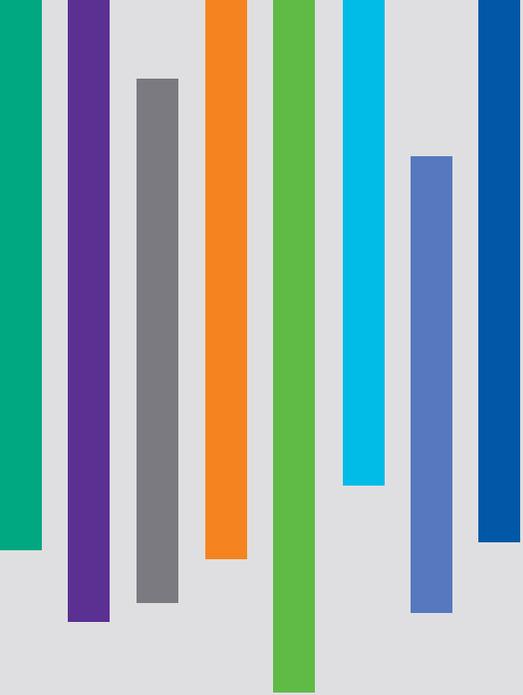
For a complete list of fund holders, contributors and planned gifts, please visit <http://bit.ly/CFSWW2012>

VANCOUVER
ROOM
SPONSORED BY
Paul B. Speer and
Deborah D. Speer



BETTER TO ENGAGE

Deborah and Paul Speer enjoy a room they sponsored at the Vancouver Community Library.



"We are very thoughtful about our giving, so we found considerable value in the Foundation's research and nonprofit expertise."

Paul Speer, Fundholder

PAUL AND DEBORAH SPEER WANTED TO DIRECT MORE GIFTS TO THE COMMUNITY THEY CALL HOME, BUT THEY NEEDED A PLACE TO START.

After a bit of digging and a valued referral, they discovered the Community Foundation. Here, they could leverage existing knowledge about local nonprofits and also receive the professionalism they were looking for in a trusted charitable partner and steward.

The Speers jumped right in, opened a Donor Advised Fund and met with their Donor Services Officer, Kristen Turek, to discuss goals and identify suitable giving opportunities. Although they have lived in Clark County for 30 years, the Foundation allowed them to uncover new opportunities to expand their giving and see impact in their own backyard.

Through their fund, the Speers are supporting diverse causes such as education, human services and animal welfare to realize their vision of a better

community. To maximize their impact, they've also chosen to channel their contributions of time and money toward carefully selected, capacity-building investments.

This approach relies heavily on the Foundation's research and evaluation and enables their favorite organizations to pursue big ideas. For our community, it means partnering to build more cornerstone projects like the Share Fromhold Service Center and the Vancouver Community Library.

It means giving a helping hand to others, inspiring our children to imagine and encouraging our region to dream of what is truly possible through philanthropy.

BETTER TOGETHER



BETTER TO ENDOW

Lacey and Alyssa Dykgraaf received scholarships in 2012 from the Mason Nolan Scholarship Fund.



"Creating educational opportunities for young people is compelling because it can enhance their entire lives."

Mason Nolan, Fundholder

MASON NOLAN IS A NUMBERS MAN. HE IS ALSO A MAN OF VISION, WHICH IS WHY HE CHOOSES CHARITABLE INVESTMENTS WITH LONG-TERM IMPACT.

Back in 1984, as Vice President of Finance at *The Columbian*, he became one of the original contributors to the Community Foundation. After a meeting with founder and executive director, Mary Granger—a close friend and neighbor of his—Mason decided to support both the Administrative Endowment Fund and the Community Giving Fund. Even then, he realized that the organization had the potential to become a philanthropic hub for our region.

This same foresight has factored into many of his gifts to this day, especially the scholarships provided to local students through the Mason Nolan Scholarship Fund.

Opening this fund at the Foundation allowed Mason to give and grant on his own terms and timeline. He can schedule his charitable contributions

around tax planning strategies and also personalize scholarships to his interests, like the one he has dedicated to the children of employees at *The Columbian* newspaper. Mason has also provided educational opportunities through Clark College's Penguin Promise and the local "I Have a Dream" program.

Helping students overcome the increasing cost of tuition and changing their lives for the better has become a real point of pride for this retired accountant, and it will also continue to impact lives long into the future. That's because Mason named the Community Foundation as a beneficiary of his estate.

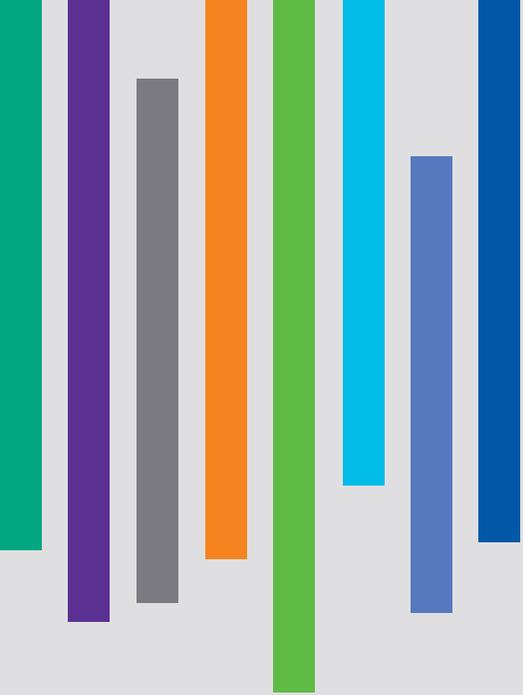
This thoughtful decision ensures continued support for his favorite causes, including the education of our region's youth.

BETTER TOGETHER



BETTER TO ADVISE

Mike Macnab participates in a Northwest Planned Giving Roundtable meeting.



"I don't volunteer for professional reasons. I'm out to help educate—to advance the knowledge base, so we can all succeed. That's the important part."

Mike Macnab, Trust Officer
Sterling Bank Wealth Management

AS A PROFESSIONAL, MIKE MACNAB HAS
A WEALTH OF FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE.
AS A VOLUNTEER, HE APPLIES IT TOWARD
MAKING HIS COMMUNITY BETTER.

Mike inherited this charitable nature from his parents and today volunteering has become a passion. It allows him to stay abreast of the latest financial rules and strategies, while supporting organizations that he believes in. A few of these groups include the Northwest Planned Giving Roundtable, the Estate Planning Council of Southwest Washington and the Community Foundation's Professional Advisory Council.

These organizations bring advisors together to share expertise and promote charitable planning. In particular, the Professional Advisory Council offers Mike, and other advisors throughout southwest Washington, the opportunity to share anecdotes and gain insights on how to best provide personalized, charitable solutions for their clients.

For Mike, this process often starts with exploring a client's charitable intent. After helping them define their goals, he recommends a plan of action that may involve partnering with the Community Foundation. In his opinion, the Foundation is the heart of local philanthropy—a place for residents who want to make southwest Washington better—because the Foundation supports every area of concern. It provides this charitable freedom through simple tools that accomplish complex goals.

Ultimately, this flexibility and support means that Mike's clients can easily address all of their charitable concerns, while fully enjoying the experience of giving. For somebody like himself, who equally values education, health care and community development, the benefits are clear.

BETTER TOGETHER

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Professional Advisory Council represents a diverse range of expertise and provides vital assistance to the Foundation in building an even stronger philanthropic community in southwest Washington. The Community Foundation gathers this distinguished group twice every year to present and discuss different topics surrounding charitable giving. To find more information, please visit www.cfsww.org.

*Denotes Steering Committee



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 First Pacific Associates
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 Sterling Bank Wealth Management

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We are proud to recognize our friends who educate their clients about the rewards of philanthropy and refer them to the Community Foundation when appropriate. Thanks for strengthening our community by encouraging philanthropy.

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Interwest Financial Advisors, LLC

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Ferguson Wellman Capital Management

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Brian Wolfe, PC

BETTER TOGETHER



YOU BRING COLLECTIVE STRENGTH.
WE BRING ENDURING STEWARDSHIP.
TOGETHER, WE GUARANTEE BETTER
SUPPORT FOR LOCAL NONPROFITS.

Time and again, the communities of southwest Washington have proven that we can accomplish great things when we come together. The Community Foundation sees this in action every year as important projects and programs are funded through our community granting programs, as local nonprofit organizations open endowments to sustain their long-term viability and as more and more donors like you acknowledge the importance of our mission through generous gifts to our supporting funds.

For us, these acts continue to confirm our core belief that our community is one of support and compassion.

COMMUNITY FUNDS are flexible, unrestricted funds that allow the Community Foundation to respond to emerging local needs and crises. **The Community Giving Fund, Cowlitz County Community Fund** and **Youth Philanthropy Fund** are "charitable savings accounts" dedicated to protecting and serving the needs of our region. Each year, our respected granting committees evaluate applications and grant these funds to local nonprofits. This ensures that each investment makes a real difference in southwest Washington. With no minimum requirement for contributions, these funds also provide every citizen with a guarantee that their gift will have a real and permanent impact in our region.

COLLECTIVE GIVING



"Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has."

— Margaret Mead

ORGANIZATIONAL ENDOWMENTS allow local nonprofit organizations to sustain their missions by building customized endowments. Through the Foundation's prudent oversight, an organization can make a modest initial investment that will generate substantial operational and program revenue over the long-term. This gives an organization the freedom to focus on its strengths—fundraising and program development. In addition, the Foundation also provides valuable assistance in growing these funds, because solid endowments ensure a stable future for nonprofits and the people we all serve.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SUPPORTING FUNDS are the driving forces behind the Foundation's mission and existence. While service and investment fees support the management of Community Foundation funds, other important Foundation operations rely on annual gifts and commitments to the **General Fund** and **Administrative Endowment**. Because of these gifts, we are able to build community partnerships, develop innovative programs and organize educational events. These and other aspects of our work are all important to promoting philanthropy and improving our region's quality of life.

BETTER TOGETHER

For a complete list of fund holders, contributors and planned gifts, please visit <http://bit.ly/CFSWW2012>



BETTER TO EMPOWER

Volunteer Ellen Jones mentors Heather Hale during a Going Places Network breakout session.



"We have great success metrics, but for me it's less about job placements. It's the heart in our program, and how we empower women with the belief that, 'Yes, I can do this!'"

Barbara Attridge, Executive Director
Dress for Success Oregon

COMMUNITY GIVING FUND

Thanks to thousands of generous gifts, large and small, this endowed fund has grown into a vital source for local grantmaking. Each year, these grants provide organizations with the means to improve our community through a broad range of issues in Clark and Skamania Counties. If you are interested in learning more about our grants or the granting process, please visit www.cfsww.org.

Last year, the bulk of our Community Giving Fund grants focused on reestablishing the livelihoods of our neighbors most affected by the economy. One grant in particular equipped Dress for Success Vancouver to operate its Going Places Network, a career development pilot program designed to lift low-income women out of poverty. With \$15,000, the organization completed three cohorts, empowering 47 women to set and achieve employment goals.

The program invited dedicated, resilient women to attend a 12-week program where they learned a variety of career skills and gained access to valuable resources, such as business attire. Each week, local professionals volunteered their time to present relevant topics, facilitate meaningful discussions, and serve as strong role models and mentors. While each participant left with valuable skills, the most important asset they found was the confidence needed to take back their lives.

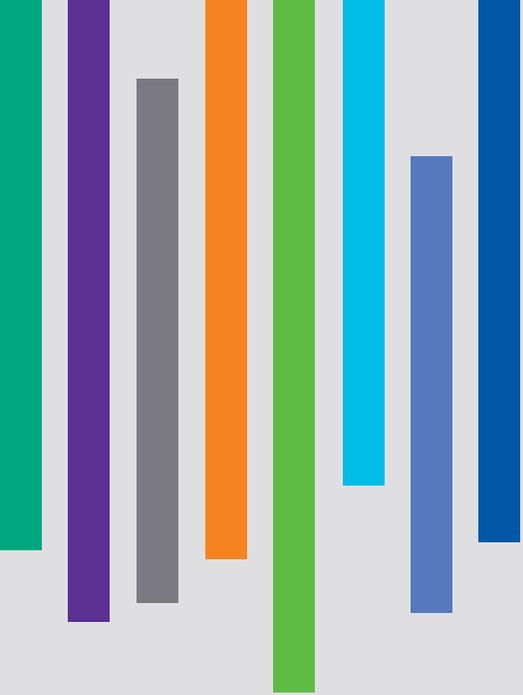
After arriving discouraged, the women bonded and began encouraging each other to accomplish their goals. By the end of the program, each woman left with a circle of support and a certificate of completion, but the results went beyond friendships and a piece of paper. Last year, 72 percent of the women ended up in stable jobs because of the skills and confidence they earned.

These are exactly the triumphs Dress for Success aimed to achieve when it began seeking a stronger presence in southwest Washington, and the Community Foundation has been a proud partner in incubating its pilot programs. Each is valuable in determining which approaches are most successful, so that Dress for Success can give many more struggling women a welcome boost.



BETTER TO NOURISH

Chef instructor Keven Robinson trains Tena Vaughn at the Grounds for Opportunity Café in Kelso, Wash.



"Just like individuals, organizations can't go it alone. We all rely on each other's skills and talents to strengthen the work we do, which is what makes collaboration so critical."

Ilona Kerby, Executive Director
Lower Columbia Community Action Program

COWLITZ COUNTY COMMUNITY FUND

Established with the goal of becoming endowed, this fund addresses the distinct needs of Cowlitz County through annual gifts and grants. Local leaders and active citizens spearheaded the idea and now comprise the grants committee that assesses which proposals can generate the greatest impact. If you are interested in learning more about our grants or the granting process, please visit www.cfsww.org.

Awareness of this fund has increased in Cowlitz County, due in part to their recent focus on a topic that is at the core of people's daily lives: health and human services. In 2012, this included a \$4,600 grant to the Lower Columbia Community Action Program that added a key ingredient to an innovative project, five years in the making.

The funds allowed the organization to purchase a much-needed convection oven for their Grounds for Opportunity Café, but the bigger story is behind the placards that adorn the restaurant's tables and chairs. These badges represent the hundreds of gifts that helped establish this "kitchen with a mission."

That's the tagline of this social enterprise, which fulfills a social mission from a business perspective. In this case, it calls for one-part restaurant and one-part meal center to train aspiring chefs,

produce senior meals and support these social programs through the restaurant's profits.

Over the course of 16 weeks, four to eight students learn fundamental culinary skills while preparing orders for the restaurant and the Meals on Wheels program. Last year, these student chefs produced 28,500 senior meals with the café's new convection oven. To further prepare for successful careers in the food industry, the curriculum also teaches students soft skills.

So far it has been a recipe for success, with 71 percent of participants having secured jobs at local restaurants. Along the way, they also add value to our community by preparing hundreds of healthy, fresh meals for seniors every day. That's a gratuity that participants can take to heart, and eventually to the bank.

BETTER TOGETHER



BETTER TO REACH OUT

Outreach worker Robin Alley engages with street-dependent youths Amanda Blevins and Christian Peple, while her teammate Joseph Bonnell looks on.



"It's difficult to measure these kinds of outcomes with tools like fidelity scales or return on investment charts, because the lives of homeless youth, sometimes literally, hang in the balance."

Dennis Lundberg, Associate Director
Janus Youth Programs

YOUTH PHILANTHROPY FUND

This program is designed to immerse high school students in the process of grantmaking. Students identify issues affecting their peers and recommend grants to organizations that directly address those concerns. Upon completion, students understand what it takes to develop a grant application, institute a review process and conduct effective site visits to nonprofits. Additional information about the program can be found online at www.cfsww.org

Experiencing the reality of youth homelessness in Clark County moved the Youth Philanthropy Program into action. One visit to The Perch, a drop-in center for street-dependent youth, introduced Youth Philanthropy students to a few of the 500-plus young people in Clark County who face homelessness every day.

Many of these youth end up on the street after running away, being forced from home or "aging out" of institutional care. Without the necessary supports, they often end up falling back into unhealthy circumstances. This is why Janus Youth Programs maintains The Perch as part of its Yellow Brick Road street outreach program.

From this modest house, skilled outreach workers conducted more than 7,000 face-to-face contacts last year. These engagements help determine needs, provide information and refer vulnerable

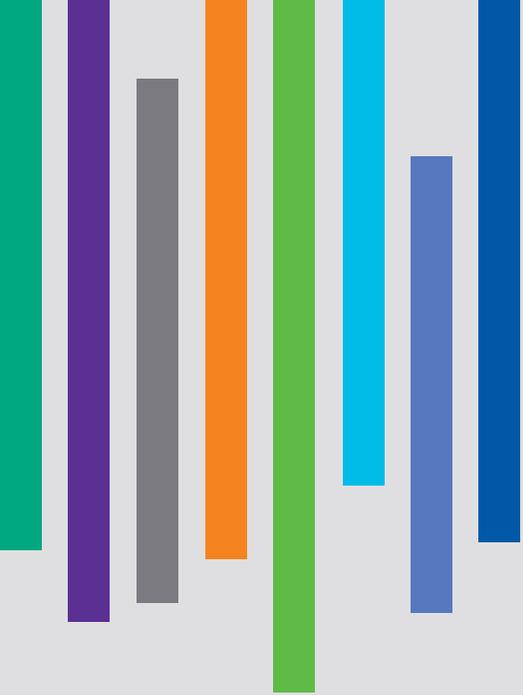
youth to appropriate resources. For example, over the course of last year, they helped save a young man's life by pulling him out of a suicidal crisis; they transported a young woman back to safe, family supports by purchasing a bus ticket; and they stabilized a budding family by escorting an expectant mother to medical appointments and referring her to transitional housing.

These are just a few of the stories that inspired the Youth Philanthropy Program's \$3,500 grant for outreach supplies, transportation and promotional materials, but there were many more just like them. This grant provides at-risk youth with meaningful, non-judgmental interactions that may eventually steer them away from the trauma and despair of street life toward the promise of happy, healthy futures.



BETTER TO CHALLENGE

Scott Schneider, Ken and Dean Kirn, Harris Dusenbery and Douglas Hamilton supported the Administrative Endowment Fund with gifts in 2012.



"Strong endowments require a strong community, and this campaign has shown what can be accomplished when we support a shared vision."

Rick Wollenberg, Board Member
Community Foundation for Southwest Washington

ADMINISTRATIVE ENDOWMENT FUND

This fund enables our staff to offer comprehensive philanthropic services to our donors and many nonprofit organizations, which include conducting research, evaluating programs and outlining effective charitable giving strategies.

The Community Foundation ended 2012 with the hope of raising \$100,000 for the Administrative Endowment. This ambitious goal began when The Wollenberg Foundation presented a \$100,000 matching grant to spark contributions for the Foundation's important work.



Rick Wollenberg

Not only did this bold statement acknowledge the Foundation's value, it also inspired a community of supporters and partners. It energized people like you to contribute dozens of gifts ranging from \$30 to \$35,000. Each of these thoughtful contributions was then doubled thanks to

The Wollenberg Foundation's commitment.

In the end, your hard work and generosity, along with that of Community Foundation staffers and

Board Members, exceeded expectations. The \$100,000 match was fulfilled an entire year before it was set to expire and the Administrative Endowment has grown accordingly. This fund now consists of \$2.2 million, which provides permanent and consistent revenue for the Foundation's annual operations.

Building community partnerships, developing innovative programs and organizing civic events will now be accomplished more often and more effectively. These aspects of our work are key to promoting philanthropy and improving this region's overall quality of life, and they will continue to play an important role in our region's future.

As a community grows, so too should its capacity, and endowments such as this are one way we can guarantee our own prosperity in southwest Washington.

BETTER TOGETHER



OUR MISSION: TO SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON THROUGH PHILANTHROPY.

THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON

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