MISSION & VISION

The Community Foundation makes a difference through **philanthropic leadership.** We envision San Luis Obispo County to be an **enduring, thriving & engaged community.**

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**2017 Board of Directors**

Jim Brabeck, *Los Osos*
Jeff Buckingham, *San Luis Obispo*
Sandy Dunn, *Avila Beach*
Grenda Ernst, *Atascadero*
Gwen Erskine, *Templeton*
Jim Glinn, *Cayucos*
Ben McAdams, *San Luis Obispo*
Steve McCarty, *San Luis Obispo*
Joan Parker, *San Luis Obispo*
Mike Patrick, *San Luis Obispo*
Tom Sherman, *San Luis Obispo*
Linda Somers Smith, *Avila Beach*
Johnine Talley, *Arroyo Grande*
Bill Thoma, *Avila Beach*
Mary Verdin, *Arroyo Grande*

**Board Officers**

Mary Verdin, *President*
Jim Glinn, *Vice-President*
Tom Sherman, *Treasurer*
Grenda Ernst, *Secretary*

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**Past Board Presidents**

Dean Miller, 2001–2002
Julian Crocker, 2003–2004
John Dunn, 2007–2008
Wendy Brown, 2009–2010
Dee Lacey, 2011–2012
Steve McCarty, 2015–2016
DEAR FRIENDS,

We are pleased to share many exciting updates from your Community Foundation in our 2017 Annual Report.

Thanks to the commitment of so many, we were able to distribute a record $5 million in grants and scholarships to support a variety of important work in San Luis Obispo County. Forward-thinking donors and community partners, such as yourself, have made this impact possible.

When devastating fires and floods unexpectedly struck our neighbors in Napa and Sonoma, then Santa Barbara and Ventura, we activated our Disaster Support Fund to distribute more than $15,000 in grants supporting our fellow Californians. In addition, through a private family foundation a significant grant of $100,000 implemented a nationally recognized mental health first aid program serving our high school youth facing unprecedented challenges. We also launched an exciting new grants program designed for small nonprofit organizations called BUILD. Finally, we provided funding to launch a new scholarship and mentorship program supporting disadvantaged foster youth across our county, so they may achieve their dreams.

We believe in the power of philanthropy to help build a stronger and more vibrant region.

During 2017, charitable assets under management grew to nearly $60 million and provided grant and scholarship funding to almost 300 different funds at the Foundation, leaving an indelible impact across our region. These numbers represent the tremendous spirit of giving in San Luis Obispo County and the belief in The Community Foundation as a trusted partner. Our charitable assets represent the impact we make together on the people and the place we call home.

From here, we look forward to the future as we celebrate 20 years of impact in 2018. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, thank you for being a part of our Community Foundation family!

Mary Verdin
President
Heidi H. McPherson
Chief Executive Officer
The Foundation presented more than $234,000 in scholarships to 58 students from all over San Luis Obispo County.

Total Awarded in Scholarships:

$234,250

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Community Foundation assists individuals, families and businesses with a simple yet powerful way to provide scholarships to help people achieve their dream of higher education. Scholarships have a significant impact on the student recipients by helping them seize an educational opportunity that can set them on a path to independence and success. They provide life-long opportunities for students and a better-educated workforce for the community.

Memorial scholarships honor the legacy of the donor and their values or their profession.

For instance, Maureen “Mo” Clancy lived to help others and will forever be remembered as a strong-willed, loving and passionate person. This memorial scholarship provides support to San Luis Obispo County girls who participated during high school in cross country and/or track and field and who will pursue a post-secondary education.
Scholarships were awarded to students in **every school district** across San Luis Obispo County.

**Sera Day Coryell Nursing Education Scholarship**

Jima and Marcia Coryell with recipients Jocelyne Gonzales Perez, Emily Riforgiate, Graceanne Garza, and Payal Patel

**Richard J. Weyhrich Leadership Award**

**Dylan Prins**

Douglas DeGross Scholarship for Automotive Studies

**Kaley Allchin**

John and Yvonne Hsu Edmisten Scholarship in Memory of Allan Voigt, M.D.

**Luke Wilenius**

Marion C. and Mark W. Wilson Nursing Scholarship
Donors have an important role as partners in our philanthropic impact. Local charitable giving enhances our community’s life and values. We offer simple, powerful and highly personal approaches to giving. Our Donor-Advised Funds support a whole host of important nonprofit programs for our community, including those serving youth, the environment, the arts, historic preservation, education, social justice, disaster relief, health and human services, and many others.
“When we wanted to give back to the community, The Community Foundation provided the long-term structure to make a specific impact on housing needs in SLO county.”

— Mary Trudeau, Vice President of The Mortgage House

“...substantial funds will be administered by the Foundation for years to come benefiting the youth of our county who want to participate in sports and the arts.”

— Bob Wacker, Chairman, CIO, and Partner of Wacker Wealth Partners

92 Donor-Advised Funds
341 Total Grants Awarded in 2017
$4,097,118 Total Awarded
The vibrant and diverse community of nonprofit organizations in San Luis Obispo County provide support and services that enrich and improve the quality of life for all calling this beautiful county home. The Community Foundation supports and partners with many nonprofit organizations through our numerous grant programs addressing various community needs.

$5,479,466 Awarded in Grants in 2017

- Arts $445,039
- Community Enhancement $679,493
- Education $2,576,176
- Health & Human Service $1,512,088
- Scholarships & Awards $266,670
- Total Awarded $5,479,466

558 Total Grants

“We consider The Community Foundation a lifetime partner in serving our friends, neighbors and families affected by mental illness.”

— Jill Bolster-White, Executive Director, Transitions-Mental Health Association
SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The Community Foundation provides many programs and services beyond providing grants and scholarships that improve accessibility to specific community needs and open doors to opportunities to make an impact across San Luis Obispo County.

In Our Backyard

In 2017, we offered five unique interactive education sessions for our donors as part of our popular In Our Backyard series.

Programs included:
- Every Girl Has A Voice
- A Time for Tolerance
- Our Dreamers
- Meet A Seastar
- In Our North County Backyard
The Women’s Legacy Fund

The mission of the Women’s Legacy Fund, a $1.4 million-dollar endowment, is to be a catalyst for philanthropy that improves the lives of women and girls in San Luis Obispo County. In 2017 they provided $45,000 in grants to local programs that empower girls with the skills, knowledge, and support to overcome gender inequities, stereotypes and build resilience.

The Growing Together Initiative Fund

The Growing Together Initiative (GTI) Fund distributes grants to local organizations that address issues and service needs of the county’s lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. GTI provides grants to local Genders & Sexualities Alliance (GSA) student-run clubs to provide support for a safe and supportive environment for LGBTQ youth.

Access for All Fund

Access for All’s mission is to assist in creating an accessible community where people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in all aspects of SLO County life. They recognize individuals and businesses that work to support a barrier-free SLO County by presenting the Paul Wolff Accessibility Advocacy Award.

Professional Advisors Luncheon

The Annual Professional Advisors Luncheon provides an educational and networking opportunity for local professional advisors to learn more about their role in raising awareness of charitable giving within our community.
COMMUNITY IMPACT

The Community Foundation works with local organizations to address the challenges occurring across San Luis Obispo County. Although these needs cannot be met overnight, we are very proud for the opportunity to make huge strides in making a difference.

16,000 elementary and middle school students countywide gained free access to visual & performing arts

1,000+ high school students received college readiness support

3,000+ individuals accessed various health preventative & intervention services

75 Households received support with finding & maintaining housing

Disaster Support Fund

Through the Disaster Support Fund, the Foundation offers a way for the San Luis Obispo County community to unite & share in supporting the victims and heroes of devastation. In 2017 we supported our neighbors in northern California as well as in Santa Barbara and Ventura who experienced devastating fire and floods.

Compassion for Animals

Through support provided by a donor advised fund, the Foundation was able to donate $40,000 to a local humane society for the purchase of a new transport van. This life-saving vehicle allows the nonprofit to assist other shelters with overcrowding and is an important part of the great work that the nonprofit does across our community.
The School Matinée Program

In 2017 the Foundation awarded $10,000 to support the School Matinee Program at the Foundation for Performing Arts to cover the transportation costs of thousands of local school children to attend performances at a world class facility.

SMART Girls

The Women’s Legacy Fund provided a $40,000 3-year grant to the Boys & Girls Club of North SLO County for their SMART Girls curriculum for middle-school girl participants. The program includes education on healthy lifestyles, relationship management, and sexual health and peer pressure bullying, which is in congruence with WLF priorities.
# Financial Summary

**As of December 31, 2017**

## Statement of Financial Position

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$4,885,056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments, Carried at Market Value</td>
<td>50,490,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes Receivable &amp; Other Assets</td>
<td>236,728</td>
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<tr>
<td>Real Estate Held For Sale</td>
<td>314,687</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficial Interest in Charitable Remainder Trusts &amp; Charitable Gift Annuities</td>
<td>2,028,328</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment (Net of Accumulated Depreciation)</td>
<td>1,628,191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$59,583,166</strong></td>
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</table>

### Liabilities & Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payables &amp; Other Liabilities</td>
<td>$343,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities Under Split Interest Agreements &amp; Charitable Remainder Trusts</td>
<td>744,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds Held for Agencies</td>
<td>3,767,817</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,855,960</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Assets, End of Year**  

$54,727,206

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets**  

$59,583,166

Financial information is based on audited financial statements prepared by Caliber Audit & Attest, LLP. Audited statements and Form 990 available on website.
Statement of Activity

Net Assets, Beginning of Year $50,821,860

Additions

Contributions & Other Support $4,396,475
Gain on Investments 6,180,017
Total Additions $10,576,492

Expenses

Program

Grants & Scholarships $5,215,170
Program-Related Operating Expenses 885,755
Total Program 6,100,925

Administrative & General 386,859
Development 183,362

Total Expenses $6,671,146

Change in Net Assets $3,905,346

Net Assets, End of Year $54,727,206

Five Year Growth Chart

Charitable Assets Under Management (in Millions)
Staff
Heidi H. McPherson,
Chief Executive Officer
Karen Bolen,
Finance Associate
Angela Hollander,
Senior Scholarship Program Associate
Donna Jones,
Director of Finance and Administration
Cecelia Mazelin,
Office Manager and Program Associate
Erin McCall,
Communications and Program Associate
John Neylan,
Donor Services and Grants Associate
Len Smolburd,
Grants Manager

Special Thanks
The Community Foundation donors,
volunteers, nonprofit grantee partners, and
our many committee and Board members.
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& Girls Club San Luis Obispo County,
Peoples’ Self-Help Housing, Food Bank
Coalition of San Luis Obispo, San Luis
Obispo Symphony, Woods Humane Society

Founders
M. Richard & Joyce J. Andrews Foundation
in honor of Carrol Pruett
Lyn & Jim Baker
Barbara Bell
John & Barbie Butz & Family
Vicki & Howard Carroll
Paula & Chris Daman
Alison & John Denlinger
John DeVincenzo
Linda & Terence Fibich
Morgan Flagg Family Foundation
in memory of Lou & Lori Flagg
Vel & Abe Flory
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Ann C. Freeman
Diane & Al Fritz
Patricia Gomez & Frank Seiple
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Cindy & Karl Wittstrom