Congratulations to Jessica Spring, our fourth annual Foundation of Art winner! Jessica created a unique piece commissioned for the Community Foundation titled *Ingrained*. Asked about her piece, she described the process she went through and what the final product means to her in the sense of community:

The idea for "Ingrained" happened while our family was driving to Yakima. We moved here from Chicago and had never made it that far east in Washington. My son woke up just as we crossed into completely unfamiliar surroundings. His "wow" voiced my surprise—the lack of trees was shocking. My next thought led to the critical part our forest plays in Tacoma. It’s easily taken for granted that forest is a lot like community. It all connects for me: I have felt incredibly nurtured here as an artist, and feel that same strength after a walk through Point Defiance.

I found the cedar shingle sales kit on antique row in Tacoma. Determined to make my own paper, I found some huge Western red cedar logs. The resulting fiber made beautiful paper—all of it dried pasted on my studio windows.

All the panels are letterpress printed with handset text, much of it wood type which has a beautiful patina that shows its age. I wrote all the text for “Ingrained” with the exception of the W.B. Yeats quote. The opportunity to interact with the work by turning the panels, reading the text and feeling the handmade paper all enrich the viewer’s experience. I hope they’ll have a “wow” moment, a chance to appreciate what we have here.

I’m grateful to have the opportunity to make sure that the Community Foundation will share with our community—it’s really an honor.

Jessica has been designing, papermaking and printing for more than 20 years. She loves working with vintage metal type and handmade papers and creates her own style of art using vintage foundry type, printing press and bindery equipment. She is the founder of locally-based Springtide Press, and hails from Columbia College Chicago’s Center for Book and Paper Arts, and teaches at Pacific Lutheran University’s, The Elliott Press and The School of Visual Concepts in Seattle. Information about Spring’s work can be found at: www.springtidepress.com.

**Foundation of Art Award**

In 2008, the Community Foundation established the Foundation of Art Award to recognize the essential role art and culture has in building a vibrant community and to honor professional artists living and working in the region. Each year, more than a dozen artists are nominated and one is selected to create a commissioned piece representing their interpretation of the Pierce County community. Nominees this year included Jennifer Adams, Sean Alexander, Nick Butler, Lynn DiNino, Oliver Doriss, Kristin Giordano, Ellen Ito, Matt Johnson, Rick Lawson, Nicholas Nyland, Elise Richman and Peter Serko.

Each of the artists' work can be seen online at the Foundation of Art Gallery on our website: www.gtcf.org.

**About the Foundation of Art Award**

At our core, The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation is about building connections. Connecting passion to action. Connecting resources to needs. Connecting people to community.

By fostering these connections, we’re working to improve life for all in Pierce County. Thanks to the unwavering commitment of thousands of donors and volunteers who have partnered with us over the past 30 years and their time, their resources and their ideas, Pierce County is a more vibrant, compassionate and engaged place to live.
Dear Friends,

When it comes to the future of The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation—and of our Pierce County community—we remain steadfast in the belief that we can accomplish more, together.

As we reflect on the past 30 years, we’re proud of our work to foster generosity and connect those looking to improve our community with the best avenues to realize that mission. Working together, we’ve sparkled incredible change: helping hundreds of individuals and families to realize their charitable goals, supporting more than a thousand nonprofits in improving the Pierce County community, and distributing more than $84 million in grants and scholarships.

Throughout our long history of service, we’ve focused on expanding and enhancing the value we offer while maintaining an unwavering commitment to strong stewardship and operational effectiveness. We focus on bringing donors, nonprofits, community leaders, businesses and caring individuals together to mobilize the people and resources needed for community problem-solving. Through this work, we’re reminded of the commonalities that connect us all to each other.

This year, we brought more than 15,000 people together through Be the Spark. Launched in conjunction with our 30th anniversary to inspire and unite the community, Be the Spark challenged each of us to think about our own resources and passions, and commit to using them for the common good. We each have the power to make a difference—we can each be the spark.

As your partner in philanthropy, we’re here to help you spark change.

With the rising challenges and financial uncertainty facing our community, we are only inspired by the work that you do to help improve the Pierce County community. You are our most important resource.

As you review our Annual Report, I hope you take a moment to reflect on the important work to work harder, smarter, better—to ensure that each person in our community has the opportunity to live a safe, healthy, productive life.

To guide their grantmaking work and increase their knowledge on issues facing women and girls, the FFW&G has awarded grants to support young people as philanthropists. The culmination of their efforts was awarding $20,000 in grants to effective youth-serving organizations. Read more about their work on page 20.

Welcomed $15 Million Gift
The Community Foundation received its largest-ever single bequest: $15 million from Donald R. and Mary E. Williams. Don, a former member of the Community Foundation Board of Directors, and Mary were quiet philanthropists who resided in the Tacoma area for more than 45 years. The couple had a longtime passion for their community, donating both their time and resources to the betterment of Tacoma. This generous gift will allow the Community Foundation to provide $600,000 in additional grants annually, and by establishing an endowed fund, Don and Mary Williams will support the Pierce County community in perpetuity.

Launched the Youth Philanthropy Board
2011 marked the inaugural year for the Community Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Board, which is changing the face of philanthropy to give young people an ongoing role in funding decisions that directly affect their lives. 12 youth advisors between the ages of 15-24 worked to gain leadership development, civic engagement training, and firsthand insight into the important role philanthropy plays in creating a vibrant community. The culmination of their efforts was creating 110 grants in the past 11 years, totaling more than $650,000.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

Celebrated 30th Anniversary
2011 was a festive 30th year for the Community Foundation, and we celebrated our strong history of growth and community impact. Over the past 30 years, the Community Foundation has:
- Distributed $84 million in grants;
- Supported 1,390 nonprofits;
- Managed 1,500 endowed funds that provided donors with the flexibility needed to meet individual philanthropic goals;
- Granted 2,520 scholarships to youth, totaling more than $2.5 million;
- Supported the launch of several exciting new initiatives including Go Local Tacoma and Tacoma Art Place;
- And much more… see pages 7-8 for more details on our 30 years of operation.

Awarded $2.8M in Grants and Scholarships
The Community Foundation awarded $2.8 million in grants and scholarships during fiscal year 2011. We invested in healthy, stable nonprofits that contribute to a vibrant Pierce County and distributed 210 student scholarships during the fiscal year. 2011 marked the inaugural year for the Community Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Board, which is changing the face of philanthropy to give young people an ongoing role in funding decisions that directly affect their lives. 12 youth advisors between the ages of 15-24 worked to gain leadership development, civic engagement training, and firsthand insight into the important role philanthropy plays in creating a vibrant community. The culmination of their efforts was creating 110 grants in the past 11 years, totaling more than $650,000.

From the President & Board Chair

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As your partner in philanthropy, we’re here to help you spark change.

With the rising challenges and financial uncertainty facing our community, we are only inspired by the work that you do to help improve the Pierce County community. You are our most important resource.

As you review our Annual Report, I hope you take a moment to reflect on the important work that you do to help improve the Pierce County community. You are our most important resource and our most valuable partner. We remain grateful for your support, collaboration, trust and belief in our work.

Rose Lincoln Hamilton
President & CEO

MaryAnn Anderson
Board Chair

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIR

“Do your little bit of good wherever you are; it’s those little bits of good that put together, we’ve sparked incredible change: helping hundreds of individuals and families to realize their charitable goals, supporting more than a thousand nonprofits in improving the Pierce County community, and distributing more than $84 million in grants and scholarships.” — Desmond Tutu

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To guide their grantmaking work and increase their knowledge on issues facing women and girls, the FFW&G has awarded grants to support young people as philanthropists. The culmination of their efforts was awarding $20,000 in grants to effective youth-serving organizations. Read more about their work on page 20.

Revamped Community Grantmaking Process
In 2011 the Community Foundation launched an easier, more nimble grantmaking process that includes a one-click grant application available online, a shortened review process, and an opportunity for multi-year grants. Our 2011 grant awards were awarded to two organizations, Washington Women’s Employment Advisory Board and Washington Community Foundation, providing an opportunity to expand their work through the support of the Community Foundation award.

Strengthened Fund For Women & Girls
Founded in 2000, the Fund for Women & Girls (FFW&G) is a field-of-interest fund of the Community Foundation, working to empower Pierce County women and girls. To address the common underlying problems that this population faces, the FFW&G has awarded 110 grants in the past 11 years, totaling more than $560,000.

To guide their grantmaking work and increase their knowledge on issues facing women and girls, the FFW&G hosted several gatherings across Pierce County in 2011. Each event drew a diverse group of women and girls and provided a platform for them to share their personal stories. This year’s dialogue affirmed the FFW&G’s importance of the Community in the lives of women and girls, and the need...
to continue funding initiatives that focus on fostering self-esteem, self-reliance and empowerment.

Inaugurated Be the Spark
Coinciding with our 30th anniversary, the Community Foundation launched Be the Spark, a community-wide movement to inspire people to take action and help build a more positive, caring community that fosters a sense of hope, respect and optimism.

Be the Spark begins with each of us—in our own families, neighborhoods, schools, and communities—asking what we can personally do to make our neighborhoods a better place to live. Together, we have the power to spark change, to care, to act, to build a better community—for everyone.

As a rallying point for the movement, the Community Foundation hosted Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu at the Tacoma Dome on May 13, 2011 for his last West Coast public appearance. Joining the world-renowned leader was activist Craig Kielburger and over a dozen talented youth performers. More than 15,000 people from across Pierce County and the nation attended this monumental event. Read more on page 9.

Received Three Awards for Be the Spark
The Community Foundation was honored to receive three awards for Be the Spark. The Puget Sound American Marketing Association recognized Be the Spark as one of the best marketing achievements in the Puget Sound, awarding Be the Spark a Pulse Award for “the most innovative blend of marketing materials that produced outstanding results.”

MarCom, an international competition recognized the Community Foundation, bestowing a Totem Award for Be the Spark. Of the 6,000 entries, the Community Foundation’s entry earned a Platinum Award, the organization’s top honor.

Public Relations Society of America Puget Sound also recognized the Community Foundation, bestowing a Totem Award for Be the Spark. Totem Awards are a symbol of creativity and accomplishment for the PR industry in the Puget Sound area and honor the best public relations programs and practitioners in the region.

Enhanced Professional Outreach
During fiscal year 2011, the Community Foundation continued to add strength to our Professional Advisors Committee, which encompasses estate attorneys, CPAs and wealth managers. By offering educational forums for both professionals and their clients, the reach of the Community Foundation is significantly broadened, as professional advisors frequently represent the initial bridge to help individuals and families accomplish their philanthropic goals.

ABOUT US
The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation is a philanthropic organization and trusted partner with the Pierce County community, fostering generosity by connecting people who care with causes that matter. By leveraging community funds, the Community Foundation provides effective, long-term social investment strategies to donors and people of Pierce County in order to address emerging issues facing the community. Building a vibrant, compassionate and engaged community is central to the mission of the Community Foundation. The Community Foundation has a long history of helping individuals, families, corporations and nonprofit organizations achieve their charitable goals. Our flexibility in receiving gifts allows us to accept almost any asset of value and match it with your philanthropic intent. The Community Foundation has a thorough understanding of community needs and the role of nonprofit organizations in serving these needs. It is with this expertise that we are able to act as the bridge between donors and powerful long-term community impact. Over the last 30 years, the Community Foundation has distributed more than $84 million in grants and currently manages $83 million in assets.

For more information, visit www.gtcf.org or call us at 253.383.5622.

Mission
Our mission is to foster generosity by connecting people who care with causes that matter, forever enriching our community.

Vision
The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation visualizes Pierce County as a vibrant, compassionate and engaging community where people and programs collaborate to provide personal, organizational and environmental prosperity. The Community Foundation is a leader in the development of this vision by providing expertise, innovation and inspiration for community members to participate in local philanthropy as a way to connect their personal values with powerful, long-term community impact.
Community Giving for Community Impact

The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation exists because of the passion and commitment of Pierce County residents who believe that people can work together to make a better community for everyone. The Community Foundation began with a mere $10,000 in assets, but with big ideas of what the group could do in the future. Since then, those original pioneers have been joined by the generosity of countless donors, supporters and volunteers. 30 years later the Community Foundation has:

• Distributed $84 million in grants
• Supported 1,189 nonprofits
• Managed over 450 varied funds that provide donors with flexibility needed to meet individual philanthropic goals
• Granted 2,520 scholarships to youth totaling over $2.5 million
• Convened in-depth discussions on key community issues and trends, including youth violence prevention

Celebrating 30 Years

The roots of our organization began with three community members committed to supporting Tacoma/Pierce County.

1977
Greater Tacoma Community Foundation opens offices with $10,000 in assets.

1981
Greater Tacoma Community Foundation is incorporated.

1982

1985
Distributed more than $2.2 million in grants to Pierce County nonprofits. Assets: $1.4M.

1986
First $44,000 in community grants distributed.

1987
Assets: $1.7M.

1988
The book An Agile Servant was published. GTCF was one of eight outstanding community foundations. Initiated Planned Giving Program.

1992
GTFC ranked 25th Community Foundation by size in the U.S. Celebrated first decade of operation.

1993
Gifted the Theatre on the Square to the City of Tacoma.

1998
Assets: $39.2M.

2000
Launched The Fund for Women & Girls and distributed more than $20 million in grants since inception. Assets: $52.7M.

2001
Received Washington State’s Outstanding Philanthropic Organization Award.

2005
Distributed $64M in grants since 1985.

2006
First community foundation in Washington to receive National Standards Seal for Best Practices. Began work to restructure grantmaking process which led to Vibrant Community Framework.

2007
Celebrated 25th anniversary. Received more than $7M in gifts, established $4M funds.

2009
Hosted four community dialogues as part of our work to address the issue of youth violence. $4.5M in gifts.

2010
Managed 450 individual funds. Formed unique partnership with PLU & University of Puget Sound to continue efforts to address and mitigate youth violence.

2011
Celebrated 30th anniversary & launched the Spark. Started Youth Philanthropy Board. Received $5 million bequest from the Williams estate. Assets: $80M.

Looking Forward
We have had tremendous success in our first 30 years of operation, and are looking forward to partnering with fundholders, donors, supporters and community members to continue to have a deep and lasting impact on the community. We have a history of thoughtful, generous people seeking out the Community Foundation to ensure their charitable dollars have an impact on our environment, schools, social services, arts, health and all areas affecting human life. With creativity, passion, and belief in the collective power of a community foundation, we can continue to foster our own vibrant community.
BE THE SPARK

The Community Foundation was founded 30 years ago by a small group of people who shared passion and a vision. As we approached our 30th year, the Community Foundation also had a bold vision: to do something that would unite and inspire the entire community, create an unforgettable moment of hope and optimism, and spark individuals toward action.

With that vision, Be the Spark was born.

Be the Spark asks each of us—in our own families, neighborhoods, schools, and communities—what we can personally do to help create a better place to live. Together, we have the power to spark change, to care, to build a better community—for everyone.

Together, our individual actions add up to a world of difference.

Sparking the Community

Sparking a movement may seem out of reach—but large or small, every effort adds up to a changed community. We invited Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and world-renowned activist, to join us in this effort. He agreed to take the stage at the Tacoma Dome for his last West Coast public appearance.

Over the course of the year, thousands of individuals, schools, businesses and organizations were inspired to join Be the Spark:

- Pierce County Library System created Be the Spark reading lists featured in 19 libraries.
- More than 300 youth in three high schools took part in a day-long dialogue led by 104 trained PLU and UPS student facilitators on youth leadership and nonviolence. (See opposite page).
- 150 teachers attended teacher training sessions on South Africa and Desmond Tutu, and brought the curriculum back to their classrooms.
- Members of the community hosted film forums, book clubs and small-group discussions on themes related to Be the Spark.
- 3,000 copies of a publication featuring reflections from community leaders of faith on how to experience and cultivate a life of peace were created and distributed.
- 1,000 Pierce County residents came out to Stadium Bowl on a cold November afternoon for our Pierce County Sings video shoot.
- Generous sponsors provided more than 4,000 scholarship tickets to students from seven school districts and 40 youth-serving organizations, bringing thousands more students to hear Archbishop Tutu’s message of hope and inspiration.
- May 13, 2011 was declared Be the Spark Day by Governor Chris Gregoire.

High School Dialogues

In conjunction with Be the Spark and as part of our continuing efforts against youth violence, the Community Foundation partnered with Pacific Lutheran University and University of Puget Sound to facilitate dialogues in three Pierce County high schools over the 2010-2011 school year. These day-long dialogues in Foss, Washington and Lincoln High Schools were led by more than 100 trained student facilitators from PLU, University of Puget Sound and the Community Foundation’s Youth Philanthropy Board. The day focused on issues of leadership, nonviolence and mutual respect and encouraged high school students to talk about their lives, their personal and academic goals, and how they can create positive change in their schools and communities.

As part of this effort, the Community Foundation surveyed the students to assess their perceptions of safety, concerns around violence, and feelings of empowerment. The surveys were analyzed by Teresa Ciabattari, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sociology at Pacific Lutheran University.

Themes that emerged from the analyses were that students at all three high schools care about their communities. The majority actively participate in and feel safe in their schools and communities, feel respected by classmates and adults, and are able to make positive choices in their lives. Yet 40-45% of students are concerned about violence, and only half feel empowered to do something about it.

These dialogues were designed to empower students to spark positive changes in their lives. According to the students, the dialogues helped them recognize and break down stereotypes and move toward feeling empowered and connected. The youth are just one piece of this. By sharing, listening, and learning together, all community members can take positive steps to build intergenerational relationships and move toward building a safer Pierce County community.

“Collectively, we have all it takes to create a just and peaceful world, but we must work together and share our talents. We all need one another to find happiness within ourselves and within the world.” – Craig Kielburger
MAY 13, 2011 | BE THE SPARK DAY

Be the Spark Dinner

Presiding the community-wide Be the Spark event, the Community Foundation hosted a sold-out 650-person dinner at the Tacoma Dome Exhibition Hall to welcome Archbishop Tutu. The evening began with Community Foundation CEO Rose Lincoln Hamilton welcoming the group of distinguished leaders, alongside President Loren Anderson of Pacific Lutheran University and President Ronald Thomas of University of Puget Sound.

William Gates Sr., notable author, philanthropist and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, spoke next. He shared personal anecdotes from his life and reflected on the value of community above self. Pete Carroll, Seattle Seahawks Coach and founder of the nonprofit “A Better LA,” which works to reduce gang violence in South Los Angeles, followed Mr. Gates. Carroll inspired and challenged the crowd to think about the privilege and opportunity that they hold as leaders in the community. World-renowned leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Tutu then took the stage. Archbishop Tutu shared his warmth, his wit and his infectious laugh as he recounted stories and encouraged the crowd to “do good.”

Closing out the dinner event were two members of the Youth Philanthropy Board, McKenzie Lowery and Chris Jordan. They shared insight into their work over the past year and invited the room to partner with them in building a stronger Pierce County community—a place of hope and possibility where youth can thrive.

Woven in between the speakers were performances by talented Pierce County youth whose artistic expressions also reflected themes of hope and optimism, of leadership and responsibility, and commitment to building a better future.

“Be the Spark is about inspiring ourselves, inspiring others, inspiring the community to be better. What’s remarkable about Desmond Tutu is that he has inspired the world. Join with me in Being the Spark.” - Pete Carroll, Seattle Seahawks Head Football Coach

The evening opened with the premiere of the Community Foundation’s inspirational music video, “Pierce County Sings,” which showcased local musical talent in iconic places throughout the region. Governor Gregoire followed, officially declaring May 13, 2011 Be the Spark Day. Canadian activist and youth advocate for change Craig Kielburger then gave a dynamic speech, calling the evening a “minga,” which in the South American Quechua language means coming together for the common good. He challenged the audience to help make Tacoma a city known for people working together for the benefit of the community.

Keynote speaker Tutu echoed Kielburger’s message of community and innate goodness. “People have a unique responsibility to make the world a better place,” he said. Tutu himself is a model of how one person can be the spark that ignites change, and he has motivated people worldwide toward action by illustrating how change comes through the sum of people’s individual efforts. As he puts it, “Do your little bit of good where you are. It’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

In between the powerful speakers were dynamic performances by 10 talented youth artistic groups, ranging from rap, to a cappella singing, to step, as well as a performance by Quest Crew, winner of America’s Best Dance Crew.

One of the youth speakers of the evening, PLU student Mycal Ford, declared: “Do your little bit of good where you are. It’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”

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One of the youth speakers of the evening, PLU student Mycal Ford, declared: “After hearing this and experiencing the entire event, I can say that I truly believe I can affect change.” That feeling was echoed throughout the Dome.

“You’ve plenty of good in you. It’s that little bit of good that puts together that overwhelms the world.”

“Thank you so much for allowing me to be part of the Be the Spark event! There was so much genuine joy and kindness and passion!” - Margaret Larson, KING 5’s New Day Northwest and Be the Spark’s Emcee
At the Community Foundation, we make it easy for people to make a difference—now and for generations to come. Our varied giving strategies, coupled with our in-depth community knowledge and resources, help people achieve their long-term philanthropic goals and support the causes that matter most to them. Every individual, family, organization or business that partners with the Community Foundation has a unique vision or goal. Our broad selection of funds provides each donor with flexibility to meet those unique goals. Establishing a fund is a quick, easy and effective way to invest in the future of the community. Our fund types include:

**Unrestricted Fund**

An unrestricted fund is one of the most flexible ways to give. This type of fund, which includes our Vibrant Community Grantmaking Program, allows the Community Foundation to identify high priority areas and support the changing needs of Pierce County.

**Donor advised Fund**

An attractive alternative to a private foundation, donor advised funds provide donors with the opportunity to actively participate in the grantmaking process. A donor advisor recommends specific nonprofit organizations to receive grants from the fund.

**Designated Fund**

Establishing a designated fund allows a donor to support one or more specific nonprofit agencies. If a nonprofit changes its mission or goes out of business, the Community Foundation directs grants to similar organizations, ensuring that the donor intent is upheld over time.

**Field of interest Fund**

This type of fund allows donors to give to a cause (or causes) they care about most without taking an active role in selecting specific organizations. For example, a donor may choose to support children’s services or underserved women, and the Community Foundation’s professional staff will distribute funds accordingly.

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**Agency Endowment Fund**

Nonprofit organizations can establish endowment funds to benefit their organization in perpetuity. The Community Foundation manages the fund investment, allowing the nonprofit to focus on the organization’s mission.

**Scholarship Fund**

Creating a scholarship fund is a great way for donors to help others pursue their educational dreams, based on their scholarship criteria.

**Supporting Organizations**

An effective alternative to a private foundation that reduces administrative and regulatory burdens and provides greater tax benefits to the donor.

Whether you want to be actively involved in grantmaking or prefer to utilize the expertise of the Community Foundation, our professional staff can help you achieve your charitable goals.

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**Be the Spark Highlights**

**Be the Spark** inspired and challenged each of us to see our community—and our role in it—differently. It was a call to action and a reminder that we can all make a personal commitment to take part, in ways large and small, in building a community that allows each of us the ability to lead safe, healthy and productive lives.

One of the features of Be the Spark is the Youth Spark Spotlight, which highlights a young person from the community who has pledged to make a difference. Each profile highlights the student’s pledge as well as details of their lives and how they’ve already been working to make the world a better place. These stories are included on the Community Foundation’s website: [www.gotf.org](http://www.gotf.org).

Since the event, we’ve been humbled and inspired by all of those who have made Be the Spark their own and are working to create change. From Carole Wolfe, who started a Be the Spark Facebook group that grew to more than 400 members in one month, to Franciscan Health System, which has integrated the values and messaging of Be the Spark into their corporate culture and patient outreach materials, to a PLU mom who created a Be the Spark scholarship in her hometown of Blaine, WA, to 16-year-old Nicole Moore who took up speaker Craig Kielburger’s challenge to use Halloween as an opportunity to give back and, with the help of friends, gathered more than 500 pounds of donations for the Auburn Food Bank.

Each day, more people are finding meaningful ways to take action, whether it be through volunteering, mentoring, paying attention to small ways to help others, or donating money to a cause they care about. With each person contributing their own “little bit of good,” we collectively have all it takes to build an even brighter future for our region.

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* had an amazing night at the Tacoma Dome to listen to Archbishop Desmond Tutu! I feel so inspired by everybody’s words and I want to be the spark and help my community and the world! * - Natalie
LEAVE YOUR MARK
Field Of Interest Fund Spotlight
In 1934, Joseph H. Easterday left his mark on the community. Through his bequest, a trust was established to support unwed mothers who were pregnant for the first time, recently released from a maternity house, and who were residents of Pierce County. Over 50 years, the trust was managed by a local bank until it was gifted to the Community Foundation to establish a field of interest fund that honored Easterday’s intent. Through careful investment management, the Community Foundation has grown the Fund from $76,000 to more than $320,000.

In 1986, Elizabeth B. Kelly established an endowed donor advised fund at the Community Foundation after her family decided to sell the newspaper. The Fund allowed Elizabeth to support organizations and causes she cared about, and direct a portion of the grants to meet the general needs of Tacoma/ Pierce County. Though Elizabeth has passed away, her legacy continues and an advisory board, comprised of her descendents, makes annual grant recommendations from the Fund.

In 2007, the Community Foundation launched a competitive grant process to identify an agency that would be best to partner with to administer the grants directly to unwed mothers. The Community Foundation selected the Nurse-Family Partnership and the First Steps program, run by the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, to grant these funds, with renewal contingent on performance and annual Board approval.

The Nurse-Family Partnership program is committed to helping first-time mothers succeed. They work with low-income, first-time mothers and their children to improve both pregnancy and child health and development outcomes, helping parents provide responsible and competent care. Thirty years of ongoing research has shown their work to be very effective, resulting in improved prenatal health and child safety.

Through the Joseph H. Easterday Fund, the Nurse-Family Partnership provides basic need items, including car seats, cribs, baby clothes, and other small necessities, to support the first-time mom and her new baby.

“We are very thankful to be able to provide this support to the families we serve in our community,” shares Marilyn Rice, Supervisor of the Nurse-Family Partnership. “Often, these types of funds are the hardest to find, so we appreciate the Community Foundation’s support in helping the families we serve.”

Because of the generosity of Joseph H. Easterday and his lasting legacy, young mothers will continue to be served in Pierce County for generations to come.

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY
Donor Advised Fund Spotlight
Elizabeth Baker Kelly had deep roots in the Pierce County community. She moved here in 1912 as a young girl, when her father, Frank Baker, purchased the Tacoma News Tribune. Elizabeth’s family instilled in her the importance of community responsibility, and her devotion to helping the Pierce County community was an integral part of her life.

In 1986, Elizabeth established an endowed donor advised fund at the Community Foundation after her family decided to sell the newspaper. The Fund allowed Elizabeth to support organizations and causes she cared about, and direct a portion of the grants to meet the general needs of Tacoma/ Pierce County. Though Elizabeth has passed away, her legacy continues and an advisory board, comprised of her descendents, makes annual grant recommendations from the Fund.

In 2011, the Elizabeth B. Kelly Fund advisory board selected the Key Peninsula Family Resource Center (KPFRC) as a grantee. Tucked away in the basement of an old school, the KPFRC has a small but dedicated team of seven that work together to meet the needs of more than 3,000 people in Pierce County.

Founded in 1995 under the umbrella of the Children’s Home Society of Washington, KPFRC’s mission is to “develop healthy children, create strong families, build engaged communities and speak and advocate for children.” KPFRC’s programs do that and more as they work to best serve the Key Peninsula.

Program offerings include emergency assistance for utilities and rent, peer mentoring, preschool and school preparedness, parent networking, a clothing bank, and food pantry. For over 20 years, the KPFRC has been dedicated to serving the needs of more than 3,000 people in Pierce County. Though Elizabeth has since passed away, her legacy continues and an advisory board, comprised of her descendents, makes annual grant recommendations from the Fund.

“Whatever they need, we encourage them to stop by and we’ll work with them.”

Support from the Elizabeth B. Kelly Fund allowed KPFRC to provide an array of child and family services to support the needs of the Key Peninsula community.
At the heart of a vibrant community is people having the opportunity to live enriching, productive lives. The Community Foundation is working to make that a reality in Pierce County by building a dynamic, compassionate and engaging community where people and programs collaborate to provide personal, organizational and environmental prosperity.

One important way we accomplish this is through our Vibrant Community Grantmaking Program. The Program provides a framework for identifying key areas of impact in 5 focus areas: Arts & Culture, Basic Needs, Education, Environment, and Neighborhoods & Communities.

In each area, we champion causes that address systemic change and support community-driven solutions. This year, through our Vibrant Community Grantmaking Program, we awarded over $375,000 in general operating and program support grants. Visit www.gtcf.org to learn more.

**VIBRANT COMMUNITY | ENVIRONMENT**

**Grantee Spotlight**

First Creek Neighbors’ (FCN) first community garden was so successful that it has expanded to making a second community garden a near necessity. In collaboration with the Puyallup Tribe, FCN has worked diligently to make that a reality, transforming a vacant lot on Tribal land into a thriving garden, known as the Good Medicine Garden.

“We see this as a community building project,” says Edwina Magrum, volunteer project manager. “The important thing is not just to build a garden but to build community. You do that through collaboration, through working side-by-side. That’s why we’re doing this.”

The site for the Good Medicine Garden is in Eastside, the Lower Portland Avenue area of Tacoma’s Eastside.

Over the summer, more than 30 volunteers from FCN and the Puyallup Tribe—ranging in age from 7 to 70—worked to level the ground, install a watering system and build 72 raised garden boxes. A portion of these will be used to grow traditional medicinal herbs, to preserve and share the Tribe’s heritage; the rest will be offered to families for growing and harvesting nutritious foods.

Throughout it all, the community is offered rich educational opportunities—from learning how to identify native plants to techniques for growing and harvesting nutritious foods. “What’s important for me is that people of all kinds and shapes learn to grow food together and value each other,” says Magrum.

Funds from the Community Foundation helped support the Good Medicine Garden and FCN’s mission to improve and strengthen the Lower Portland Avenue area of Tacoma’s Eastside.

**VIBRANT COMMUNITY | ARTS & CULTURE**

**Grantee Spotlight**

Tacoma Youth Chorus is celebrating 20 years of giving children and youth the opportunity to know the power, joy and camaraderie of music.

Founded by Judy Herrington with the mission to “lift hearts and minds through excellence in choral music,” the Chorus provides an opportunity for youth to learn the value that art and culture can play in their lives, and in the life of their greater community.

Over the years, Tacoma Youth Chorus has grown from serving 30 students annually to more than 200; ages 7-18, with some coming as far away as Key Center to participate in weekly rehearsals. It’s not unusual for students to stay in the program for 10 years or more.

“Working together as a team… each member is important, valued and appreciated for the diversity they bring,” shares Herrington. Kids learn the value of hard work, reliability, and the power of what they can accomplish together. All aspects of the program—from the diverse range of music, to renowned guest conductors, to the local and international performances—are selected to provide the highest-quality educational experience to the singers.

Over the years, the chorus has affected more than a thousand area students, enriched their lives with the love of music, and touched the broader community through their performances.

Funding from the Community Foundation supports need-based scholarships to youth who otherwise would not be able to afford the choir; some of these are continuing students and this funding will allow them to complete their musical experience with the choir.

“Working together as a team… each member is important, valued and appreciated for the diversity they bring,” shared Herrington. Kids learn the value of hard work, reliability, and the power of what they can accomplish together. All aspects of the program—from the diverse range of music, to renowned guest conductors, to the local and international performances—are selected to provide the highest-quality educational experience to the singers.

Committed to the belief that no motivated student is ever turned away because of an inability to pay, the Chorus provides need-based scholarship assistance to nearly a quarter of their students. One such student, Aron, spent four years in the program. As a high school student, he was a valuable mentor and role model for the junior high boys’ choir; this year, he is a freshman singing in one of the top choirs at Pacific Lutheran University. “Aron was one of those students that I didn’t think real-… all that he could do,” Herrington says. “That’s how we help young people realizing what’s possible for them.”

The standard of excellence and strong educational component helped many other choir alumni, like Aron, go on to college and professional music careers, and many more continue singing for personal pleasure in local churches and community groups. Over the past 20 years, the chorus has affected more than a thousand area students, enriched their lives with the love of music, and touched the broader community through their performances.

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A Step Ahead in Pierce County provides critical child development services to families of infants and children with special needs. Utilizing a family-oriented approach, the organization addresses both the emotional and developmental skills of infants and toddlers while fostering stronger relationships both at home and in their community. They are also one of the few organizations state-wide focused on the educational needs of infants and toddlers in foster care.

“We serve over 500 children every year throughout all of our programs,” says founder Candy Watkins. Through their Fostering Care program, “we do home visits and develop a plan with the foster parents to provide support and address their concerns where they have the most need,” Watkins says. Infants and children in foster care face unique stressors and challenging circumstances. In addition to the stress of placement, the children have the most need,” Watkins says.

Support from the Community Foundation allowed A Step Ahead to provide foster care families the early education and support needed to improve their living situation and to mitigate potential emotional and mental challenges faced by foster children.

Watkins explains that if you can offer support and education early, a lot of these issues can be mitigated. “These children can’t articulate anything so we’re working to make sure the children are supported as best we can,” Watkins says. Working free-of-charge, they provide families with communication strategies and techniques that can reduce negative behaviors and, ultimately, help stabilise the child’s emotions and improve their developmental skills.

With more than 50 children under 5 being placed in foster care each month in Pierce County—half of whom research indicates will develop mental health problems—early intervention is key. A Step Ahead offers that intervention can have. Working with A Step Ahead, Duane received in-home support needed to improve their living situation and to mitigate potential emotional and mental problems. “These children can’t articulate anything so we’re working to make sure the children are supported as best we can,” Watkins says.

The family worked hard to make Victoria’s transition into Duane’s home a happy and productive one. Victoria’s behavior is now on par with a typical toddler, and Duane and Victoria continue to attend A Step Ahead’s free weekly childhood program, as well as the free family field trips.

Duane and Victoria are one example of the tremendous benefits that early intervention can have. Working with A Step Ahead, Duane received in-home support and education to address Victoria’s complicated set of behaviors and, ultimately, help stabilise the child’s emotions and improve her developmental skills.

Congratulations to our 2010-2011 Youth Philanthropy Board for their work to change the face of philanthropy and further their vision of building an engaged community that fosters a sense of hope and optimism among our young people!

To learn more or to support their efforts, visit our website at: www.gtf.org.
The Community Foundation employs a diversified growth strategy for its endowment portfolio. The goal is to generate a long-term rate of return sufficient to offset inflation, administrative and management fees, plus regular grantmaking distributions. Grantmaking distributions are currently calculated at 4.3% of the sixteen-quarter rolling average market value for permanently endowed funds. Our investment model is based on modern portfolio theory and employing strategically diversified asset allocation. Our endowed funds are pooled to provide investment management economies of scale and to access investment vehicles that are unavailable to smaller individual funds.


**ANNUALIZED RETURNS** on the Endowment Pool (1 year to date 2010 vs. historical periods)

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<th>Period</th>
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* As of 6/30/11

**INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT**


**GRANTMAKING IMPACT**

GRANTS DISTRIBUTED BY PROGRAM AREA*

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Total: $2,825,323

* Includes grants recommended by the Community Foundation and paid by other organizations.

GRANTS DISTRIBUTED BY FUND TYPE*

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ENDOWMENT POOL ALLOCATION

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<tr>
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Total: $578,000

* Includes grants recommended by the Community Foundation and paid by other organizations.

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Our Audited Financial Statements are available on our website at www.gtcf.org. Our Forms 990 and 990T are available upon request.

Independent Auditor

Dwyer, Pemberton & Coulson, P.C.
A Lifetime of Quiet Generosity

This year the Community Foundation received a transformative $15 million gift from Donald and Mary Williams. The bequest is the largest single gift in the Community Foundation’s history and will support the arts, youth, healthcare, education, homelessness, and other causes that mattered to them.

Don and Mary Williams were longtime Tacoma residents and philanthropists who loved their adopted hometown, donating both their time and financial resources to contribute to the people and places that mattered to them. In the 1990s, Don provided valuable leadership to the Community Foundation as a member of our Board of Directors and Investment Committee. Don and Mary’s decision to leave this bequest to the Community Foundation underscores the trust they placed in our organization to honor and carry out their philanthropic wishes. “Their gift is truly humbling,” shared President Rose Lincoln Hamilton. “The Williams cared deeply for the Tacoma community and their generosity will continue to benefit the Pierce County community.”

Mary was known for her bright, dependable spirit. She was a devoted gardener, enjoyed the outdoors and being active—especially golfing. Though many of their interests contrasted, they complemented each other.

Donald R. and Mary E. Williams Fund

When Don died in 2003, he made his will in mid-February of that year. It was a simple, straightforward document filled with sole beneficiaries: the mainland and his dog. Mary had made clear that no matter what happened to her husband, she intended to honor his wishes. Though dedicated philanthropists, the Williams sought little or no recognition for their generosity. “They were always quiet in their giving,” recalled longtime friend Jim McCormick. “They were very humble and didn’t want recognition. It was very admirable.”

Attorney Kerry Brink worked with the Williamses on managing their estate and probate law. She is also a member of the Tacoma Orthopedic Association, as well as an active member of NESTA Club. YMCA Auxiliary and Pacific Crest Women’s Club. After 47 years of marriage, Don passed away in 2013. He was followed by his wife, Mary, in September of 2010. The couple had no children.

Attorney Kerry Brink has an attorney for more than 23 years. She is a principal at The Law Offices of Vandernoot Johnson & Gandara, LLP and focuses on estate planning and probate law. She is also a member of the Community Foundation’s Professional Advisor Committee and volunteered for the Be the Spark event.

What inspires you about your work?

I love the clients. I love talking to people about how they want their future (and their family’s future) to look and what’s important to them. It’s a unique practice because I get to know people over a period of time, and see the evolution of their ideas about how clients want to have their money work for them, their children and their community.

What has been your experience working with the Community Foundation?

I feel that the Community Foundation is a wonderful asset to our community. The ability to serve a need on a larger scale through funds from donors to respond to that need is unique to the Community Foundation. I believe it allows for creativity in responding to community problems—quicker than if individual organizations needed to be organized and funded to respond to a specific problem.

As a volunteer of the Be the Spark, I must say that it made me realize what an incredible presence the Foundation has in this community and how unique it is. I can’t think of any other group that can bridge so many different issues, work with so many different charitable organizations, and bring in someone like Desmond Tutu to be part of this overall project. It was and remains an amazing and very ambitious effort.

Why did you choose to financially support the work of the Community Foundation?

It was important that 100% of our Board donated our money and our time. For me, donating back to the cause was a no-brainer. I’m really passionate about it. Any little amount will help and will reach more kids in need. Having witnessed youth violence firsthand, I know it needs to be stopped and each person can help.

How would you describe your experience working with the Community Foundation?

It’s really been empowering to be a part of this foundation. Anyone that can get involved should!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: ESLIE PENEUelas

Esli is a sophomoric studying business and communications at Pacific Lutheran University. She grew up in Northeast Tacoma, where she participated in Running Start. She currently volunteers as a tutor for America Reads, is a member of the Youth Philanthropy Board and a donor of the Community Foundation. She will graduate in 2014.

Tell me about philanthropy and what it means to you.

Being a part of the Youth Philanthropy Board has really inspired me to get involved and be a part of the solution. It’s really been empowering. Before, I didn’t know what philanthropy was. Now, I think of it as helping others with your time, your money, your volunteer work.

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DONOR SPOTLIGHT: KERRY BRINK

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PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT: KERRY BRINK

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For more information about the Fund for Women & Girls and how you the FFW&G provides a rewarding way to do that. It's important for people to know that we can all give back. When I was involved and seeing the community of people who care about women's issues—it's really amazing. You also have a great opportunity to learn all about the different issues and get involved. It's not just providing needed services to women and girls, as a mother, this has reinforced how lucky we are to have to fight for basic necessities and the im- portant role that empowerment plays in raising strong girls.

What has inspired you about your involvement with the Fund for Women & Girls?

For me, it's twofold. It's meeting the incredible group of women who are involved and seeing the count- ry of people who care about women's issues. It's really amazing. You also have a great opportunity to learn all about the different issues and get involved. It's not just providing needed services to women and girls as a mother, this has reinforced how lucky we are to have to fight for basic necessities and the important role that empowerment plays in raising strong girls.

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The Community Foundation is your philanthropic resource, committed to connecting people who care with causes that matter.

Contact Us:
You care about the community and want to make a difference. We offer a variety of giving strategies and in-depth community knowledge that can help connect you to causes and organizations that are important to you. Call us at: 253.383.5622 or send an email to: info@gtcf.org to set up a time to talk about your charitable goals.

Social Media:
This is a great place to find information and updates, photos, videos and learn more about the Pierce County community.

Follow @greatertacoma on Twitter allows easy access to new blog posts, relevant topics, #BetheSpark inspiration and upcoming event information.

Visit our Website: www.gtcf.org
Sign up for our E-Newsletter
Search the Nonprofit Directory
View the Community Calendar
Apply for Grants and Scholarships
Read our Blog
Learn about Different Funds
Donate Online
Connect with our Staff