



25 YEARS OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

IMPACT REPORT 2024



Dear Community,

As 2024 comes to a close, we reflect on a year full of gratitude and celebration as the Community Foundation celebrated its 25th Anniversary.



This milestone highlights our unwavering commitment to supporting the local nonprofit community since 1999—a commitment that is stronger and more dedicated than ever. **Thanks to your support, we awarded 35 grants totaling \$150,000—the largest in our history.** This remarkable achievement is a testament to the belief that, together, we can affect meaningful change.

A Recap of Our Year

35 Excellence Grants Given— Your donations made a significant impact on 35 local nonprofits. For example, the grant **Camp Kesem Berkeley** received paid for six Lafayette children whose parents are fighting cancer to attend summer camp. **Meals on Wheels Diablo Region** used its grant to deliver meals to dozens of Lafayette seniors ensuring that no senior goes hungry, and a **special \$25,000 Silver Anniversary Grant was awarded to All Ages Recreation Downtown** which is raising money for two new parks near downtown Lafayette.

3rd Annual Lafayette Community Day—More than 200 community members came together to participate in projects throughout town and to celebrate their love and appreciation for Lafayette.

15th Annual Senior Symposium—A record number of attendees enjoyed, free of charge, a dynamic panel of speakers and exhibitors who provided important information to seniors and caregivers.

Introduction of the Community Impact Circle—We launched the CIC to create a more reliable funding stream and ensure the long-term sustainability of the Foundation. To learn more, see the next page.

Creation of the Junior Board— We established a Junior Board of Directors to encourage 16-18 year-olds, who have an interest in serving their community, by providing them with opportunities to participate in hands-on, front-facing service events and programs throughout the year.

The Next 25 Years and Beyond

Our commitment to supporting local nonprofits remains unwavering with a particular focus on smaller organizations that often operate under the radar and face funding challenges. We see our role as a community builder and connector growing in importance, especially through events like Lafayette Community Day and the Senior Symposium. Our Junior Board will continue to be instrumental in strengthening community ties and fostering philanthropy and leadership skills for the next generation. **In the words of our founder, Ann Grodin, “The Community Foundation’s legacy has been to set a vision for what is possible in Lafayette and to identify and support local needs as they arise.”**

We ask you to help us continue this legacy as we continue our commitment of nurturing the nonprofit community and empowering them to tackle challenges and develop sustainable, long-term solutions for the next quarter century and beyond.

Sincerely,

Cheryl A. Noll, President
Community Foundation of Lafayette



2024 Excellence Grants Recipients

EXCELLENCE GRANTS

Because of you

Over the past 25 years, the Community Foundation has given more than 300 Excellence Grants, totaling close to \$1.5 million, to local nonprofits. Please read about those whose lives have been improved and our community that has been enhanced because of your gifts.

HOPE SOLUTIONS

Hope Solutions provides permanent, supportive housing and vital services for over 3,500 of the most vulnerable citizens in Contra Costa County.

Amanda, a single mother facing homelessness, domestic violence and addiction recovery was referred to Hope Solutions. Motivated by her children’s future and supported by her church, she pursued education at Diablo Valley College, where she earned a Substance Abuse Counselor Certification. While juggling full-time studies, a paid internship and eventually a job as a substance abuse counselor, Amanda successfully moved her family into their own apartment and became an advocate in the county’s peer support network. Now, with a full scholarship and family housing, she is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in social welfare at UC Berkeley, all because of the help from Hope Solutions.



COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA)

CASA works with the most vulnerable children in our community, those who have been abused, neglected or abandoned.

As a little girl, Jennaba faced anxiety, insomnia and academic struggles, leaving her feeling overwhelmed and alone. But thanks to the unwavering support of Amy, her Court Appointed Special Advocate, Jennaba found a new sense of hope and resilience. Amy gave Jennaba the confidence to push through tough times, allowing Jennaba to overcome her challenges and thrive in school. Ultimately, Jennaba’s mother overcame her addiction and was reunited with her daughter. This marked the beginning of a journey toward healing and a brighter future together. Amy was truly instrumental in Jennaba’s transformation and the rebuilding of her family.



LAMORINDA ARTS COUNCIL [Art Embraces Words]

Lamorinda Arts Council fosters a vibrant local culture in visual, performing, and literary arts through dedicated volunteers and donors.

Elizabeth credits Art Embraces Words for being a beacon of creative support and celebration for writers and artists. Elizabeth says the organization gave her the opportunity to read some of her own poetry, an experience that was nothing short of life-changing. In her 15 years of living in the Bay Area, that event marked the first time she had been supported in reading her poetry out loud. In fact, Elizabeth says it truly was one of the happiest, proudest, most fulfilling experiences of her entire life.



LAMORINDA VILLAGE

Lamorinda Village enriches seniors’ lives with volunteer-supported services, wellness and social engagement.

Judy Hatz, says that Lamorinda Village has been life-changing for her. As a self-reported introvert, it took Judy six months to attend her first Village event but she has since joined over 200 events and activities. In addition, Judy volunteers for the Village, giving her a sense of purpose and the ability to give back to the community. Her work on the Village committees allows Judy to help shape the direction of the organization and give back to the wider community. Judy says, “I think I speak for my friends when I say thank you, Lamorinda Village, for enriching our lives and giving us things to look forward to.”



JOIN OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT CIRCLE

In celebration of our 25th Anniversary, we invite you to join the Community Impact Circle (CIC)—a powerful initiative designed to create a more reliable funding stream and ensure the long-term sustainability of the Community Foundation.

Making a Direct Impact Over Five Years

The CIC offers donors a direct opportunity to engage more fully with the Foundation’s essential annual Excellence Grants over a committed five-year period, with ongoing impact updates and additional benefits tied to giving levels. As part of this initiative, we are dedicated to keeping you engaged and informed about the difference your support makes. We are grateful to the following CIC donors who understand the effectiveness of a sustainable funding source:

Founding Members:	Kathy and Rick Bowles Carol Federighi Anne and Marshall Grodin Katherine and Mark Lefanowicz	Karen and Tom Mulvaney The Nahas Family Suzy Pak and Mark Gundacker Laura and Eric Rudney	Ambassadors:	The Bush Family Sierra and Tyler Higgins Robin Holt Karen Maggio	Mary and Scott Newman Cheryl Noll The Sheldon Family
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Local Nonprofits Depend on Our Support

By becoming a CIC member by year-end, you will join a group of like-minded donors, helping to secure important funding that allows the Foundation to respond efficiently to our increasing annual grant requests and support meaningful, lasting change in our community. If you would like additional information, please email info@lafayettecf.org.

FROM OUR DONORS AND SPONSORS

“We are honored to support an organization dedicated to creating positive change right here at home. The Community Impact Circle helps empower local initiatives, uplift families, and sustain vital programs while bringing people together in a meaningful way. The end result is a stronger, more vibrant community for everyone.”
Suzy Pak and Mark Gundacker

“As both a business owner and resident of Lafayette, I truly enjoy supporting the Community Foundation. Their work provides invaluable assistance to local nonprofits, making a real difference in our community. By empowering these organizations, they help improve lives, strengthen our local economy, and foster a sense of connection and support that benefits everyone.”
Jesse Wellen, Owner, Lafayette Car Wash

THANK YOU, BUSINESS PARTNERS

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HOW YOU CAN DONATE

- With a major credit card online at www.cflafayette.org/donate
- With a check made payable to the Community Foundation of Lafayette mailed in the attached envelope
- With a donation of appreciated stock through the Community Foundation’s Charles Schwab account. For more information, please email info@lafayettecf.org

EXCELLENCE GRANTS FACTS

To learn more about the Excellence Grants program and to apply for a grant, please visit www.cflafayette.org. The grant application will be available February 1, 2025.

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SCAN ME