

# COMMUNITY *focus*

A Newsletter of the Dallas Community Foundation

SUMMER 2015

## Dallas Community Foundation Celebrates 20 Years!

It all started with an idea – a charitable fund that would specifically benefit the present and future needs of the Dallas community. In 1995, a group of community members turned that idea into reality by establishing the Dallas Community Foundation. Founding

members Stephen Bowles, Mike Buhler, Howard Classen, Chris Edwardson, Dave Pederson, Wes Scroggin, Lane Shetterly, Mike Timmerman and LaVonne Wilson, went out into the community, raised money and set up an investment fund. Today, through

the contributions of generous donors and stewarded investment, the fund is valued at over \$2,000,000. At the direction of the Foundation's board of directors, nearly \$500,000 has been given back to the Dallas community in scholarships and grants.

## Dallas Students Awarded Scholarships

This spring, the DCF scholarship selection committee began reviewing applications from 31 highly qualified students. The committee considered the needs and merits of students who had given so generously of their time volunteering to the community, participating in school and extracurricular activities, all while maintaining rigorous academic schedules. In the interview process, students described their leadership and citizenship, what inspires and motivates them, and their career plans.

"Every applicant was deserving of a scholarship. I was amazed at the grade point and personal qualities of all the applicants," said Dave Pederson, DCF board member. Of the 14 students interviewed, the combined grade point average was 3.99. In the end, 8 students were selected to receive DCF and Arvidson scholarship funds.

The DCF also administers other scholarship funds which were awarded this year:

**American Legion:** Hannah Johnson. **Beatrice Gallaspy:** Reagan Davis, Hannah Nelson, MaKenzie Davis. **Carl E. Morrison/Rotary:** Reagan Davis, Hannah Johnson, Mosier Locke. **Chester B. and Jeanne R. Healy Memorial Scholarship:** Isabella Nelson, Asheley Crabtree. **Edward Caillier Memorial:** Mitchell Bollman. **Hank & Wanona Kliever Memorial:** Conner MacLean. **Ilene C. Aamodt Memorial:** Natalia Gutierrez, Maribel Castaneda. **Jeremy Buller Memorial:** Eva Ronco. **Department of Forestry:** Mosier Locke, Michaiah Annear. **Paul Olliff Memorial:** Jacob Shryer, Nolan Miller.

### Congratulations to the 2015 DCF/Arvidson scholarship recipients:



*Rachel Tilgner – Rachel will study communications at Corban University. She wants to work as a technical writer or in the public relations field.*

*Hannah Johnson – Hannah plans to attend BYU and study food sciences to become a health teacher.*



*Jacob Shryer – Jacob plans to study mechanical engineering at Oregon State University.*



*Mosier Locke – Mosier will study land surveying and civil engineering at Oregon Institute of Technology.*



*Reagan Davis – Reagan will attend Corban University and study psychology. She plans to become a counselor.*

*Shea Sommerfeldt – Shea intends to major in speech pathology through the Communications and Sciences Disorders Program at the University of Oregon.*



*Aleece Yager – Aleece plans to study nursing at Grand Canyon University and eventually become a nurse practitioner.*



*MaKenzie Davis – MaKenzie will attend Linfield, study exercise science and continue on to medical school.*



## Local Organizations Receive DCF Grants

In March, DCF gave back \$37,500 to the Dallas community, awarding grants to 26 local organizations.

### **Bambinos, Oregon**

\$1,000 to assist with office rent.

### **City of Dallas**

\$2,000 on behalf of the Ford Leadership Cohort for the design, construction and installation of signage for the Rickreall Creek Trail.

### **Community Mediation Services for Polk County (formerly VORP)**

\$1,500 to assist with telephone service and office equipment.

### **Cross and Crown Ministries**

\$1000 to offset costs for grief recovery educational seminars.

### **Dallas Area Seniors**

\$1,900 for matching funds for the DAS Center Parking Lot Development Phase I.

### **Dallas Education Foundation**

\$2,500 for matching funds for Dallas Schools small grants program.

### **Dallas Emergency Food Corporation**

\$3,000 to purchase protein foods that are not available from the Marion-Polk Food Share warehouse.

### **Dallas Retirement Foundation**

\$2,000 for matching funds for a memory care therapy kitchen.

### **Dallas United Methodist Church**

\$1,000 in support of the 2015 Dallas Creation Vacation program for low-income families in the West Valley Housing Authority Family Self-Sufficiency Program.

### **Dallas United Soccer Club**

\$500 to provide scholarships for youth.

### **Family Building Blocks**

\$1,000 to support home visitation services for at-risk families.

### **Friends of Polk County CASA**

\$600 to support a volunteer outreach and recruitment program.

### **Friends of the Dallas Public Library**

\$1,000 to purchase large-print books and books on audio cd for seniors and the visually impaired.

### **Garten Services, Inc.**

\$2,000 for equipment upgrades at their commercial laundry facility.

### **Kids, Inc. of Dallas**

\$500 to provide scholarships for youth.

### **Law Enforcement for Youth**

\$1,000 to assist with the purchase of car seats, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors for low-income families.

### **Mid-Willamette Valley**

### **Community Action Agency**

\$2,000 to provide urgent needs assistance.

### **Morrison Campus Alternative School**

\$600 to assist high school students purchase necessary occupational materials and supplies.

### **Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation**

\$1,000 to support vision and hearing screenings conducted by the Dallas Lions Club.

### **Partnerships in Community Living, Inc.**

\$1,000 to purchase new woodworking equipment.

### **Polk Community Development Corporation**

\$1,000 to provide staffing and supplies for the Woodbridge Children's Program.

### **Polk County 4H Leaders Association**

\$1,000 to support 2 youth interns for the Dallas Youth Garden.

### **Sable House**

\$2,000 to provide trauma support and educational services for children residing in the domestic violence shelter facility.

### **Salem Free Clinics**

\$2,000 to support Polk Community Free Clinic's core operating costs, including medications, supplies, equipment and the clinic coordinator.

### **Salvation Army**

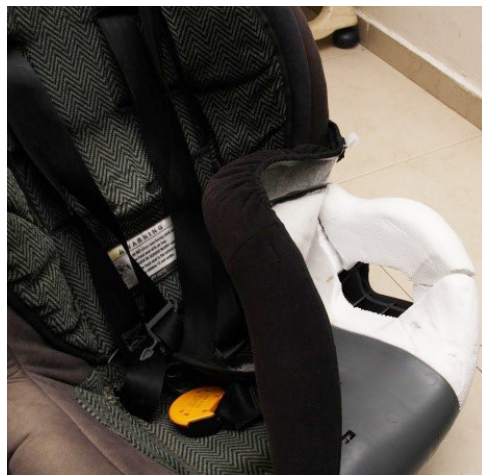
\$2,000 to provide assistance for victims of domestic violence transition to a stable living environment.

### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

\$2,400 on behalf of Boy Scout Troop 7288 to purchase a cargo trailer for community service and troop use.

## Program Protects Dallas Kids

Ever see a child not buckled in a car seat? It almost seems unthinkable. But for some parents, it comes down to a decision of feeding their child, or buying a car seat. Sadly, of the 650 children nationwide that died in car accidents in 2011, one-third were not buckled up. With a DCF grant,



Law Enforcement for Youth (LEY) is working to make sure every child in the Dallas community has a safe car seat.

Founded in Salem in 2003, LEY serves Marion and Polk Counties. In 2007, the organization increased their involvement in Dallas. In addition to child safety seats, they also provide free smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and bicycle and skateboard helmets to those that are at-risk, low-income or medically challenged.

There is a lot of need in the Dallas community, based on the volume of requests LEY receives. When money is tight, people often look for deals at garage sales or use second-hand seats that are expired, or even broken. In some cases, they simply improvise,



# Improving Quality of Life for Memory Care Residents

Ahh, the smell of freshly baked cookies.



There's nothing like freshly baked cookies to stimulate the senses. A reminder of home; a comfort food; memories of childhood; a feeling of calm and happiness.

With the construction of a therapy kitchen in the memory care unit at Dallas Retirement Village, residents with dementia are benefitting in a variety of ways. The kitchen offers opportunities for physical and mental activity, sensory stimulation, and makes the common space area feel a little more like home.

The very first batch of cookies was a huge hit. The smells and tastes triggered memories and engaged residents in conversation. Ladies talked about grandma's recipes and their children's favorites. Men recalled the taste of homemade cookies, and the smells of mom's kitchen. Everyone was an eager taste tester.

The kitchen will be utilized for both planned and spontaneous activities for residents with varying levels of ability. Some will be able to read recipes, prep and measure ingredients, others will benefit from the simple tactile activity of kneading dough. These tasks will help with physical dexterity and mental activity, and perhaps offer a connection for residents who had for years, been in a routine of making dinner every night.

Research has shown that a therapy kitchen may help lessen sundowning behaviors which are linked to dementia and alzheimer's. These behaviors, such as confusion, anxiety, aggression or ignoring directions, wandering and pacing the hallways, tends to begin in the later afternoon and continue on into the night.

The project came together with funds from Dallas Retirement Village, Dallas Retirement Foundation and Dallas Community Foundation.

Karri Key, Administrator of Assisted Living is excited to see the kitchen put to use. "This is a great project," she said. "We are so grateful for the grant funds to make this possible."



*The therapy kitchen includes a moveable island (shown on the right) that can be moved out to accommodate more residents during activity times.*

turning a cardboard box upside down and setting a pillow on top. One booster seat LEY replaced had been cracked, but was repaired with duct tape. Stored in attics or garages where there are temperature extremes, the plastic becomes brittle and breaks easily, compromising the structural integrity. These car seats will not sufficiently protect a child in a crash. Most people do not know that child safety seats do have an expiration date.

LEY gets referrals for assistance from a variety of organizations and public agencies in Dallas. For child seats, each request is unique and based on the age and weight of the child. LEY delivers the car seat to the agency that made

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the referral as quickly as possible. The agency case worker makes sure that the seat is properly installed, educates the parent on how to correctly buckle in their child and helps the parent fill out the warranty form so that they will be notified in case of a product safety recall. They also take the old seat with them for proper disposal.

Recently, LEY assisted a mother and her children who were moving out of a safe house. They had nothing but the clothes on their backs. A relative was coming to pick them up, but had no car seats. LEY was able to provide them with the appropriate car seats for the three young children.

Unfortunately, when funds run short, LEY isn't always able to help. "That's when it's really hard," says Bonnie Beck, LEY board member. "We had to decline more than 20 requests over a four month period." That's potentially 20 kids riding in cars without proper car seat restraints.

Thanks to the DCF grant and other local support, that won't happen this year.

"Kids are appreciative and thankful, but parents – they get emotional," explains Beck. "It's so hard to see some of the needs out there. You want to be able to do more for them."

But LEY is doing what it can, and that just might save a child's life.

# Why I Serve - Lane Shetterly

I love this community. That's the short answer to anyone who asks me why I serve on the Dallas Community Foundation Board.



I was born and raised in Dallas. I raised my own family here. I attended the Dallas schools. So did my two kids, Joel and Lauren. I

participated in Kids Inc. youth sports. So did my kids. I could go on. The point is that I have gotten so much out of this community, both for myself and my family. In that way, I have benefitted from the generosity and

the community-minded spirit of those who came before me.

Now it's my turn to help make sure that same sense of community continues for those who are coming after me. It's a debt of gratitude that needs to be paid.

Times have changed. The world has gotten smaller and more interconnected. Now, when we speak of "community," we're often as not referring to some global abstraction; joined by social media or other technology. That can be a good thing. But we can't let ourselves lose ties to our traditional sense of community as well.

Dallas is a place; a place where we raise and educate our children. Where we provide food assistance for those who are hungry. Where we tend to the needs of our seniors. Where we live and work and play.

That is the community I want to give back to, so others can have the same opportunities I had and that my children had. So I give of my time and energy and, to the extent that I am able, of my resources as well. It's one way we can leave the world just a little better place than we found it.

I hope you will join me in serving Dallas through the work of the Dallas Community Foundation.



Dallas Community Foundation

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*Our mission is to enhance the quality  
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