

Foundation Grants Support Those in Need

Addressing food insecurity among Dallas students

This spring, Dallas Community Foundation proudly awarded a \$1,500 grant to support the work of the Kindness Club of Dallas.

From humble beginnings in 2016, the Kindness Club has helped Dallas students experiencing food insecurity. For families struggling to put food on the table, children face challenges beyond hunger. It affects their ability to focus and learn, their behavior, as well as their physical, emotional and mental health.

In addition to a food pantry, the Kindness Club supplements the lunches provided by the school district with a supply of food to carry students through the weekends. School counselors refer students who they know are in need. This spring, a dedicated group of volunteers filled nearly 200 backpacks with food and hygiene items weekly.

Then came the pandemic and the school closures. The club quickly recognized this situation would increase the importance of their supplemental food program. With limited information about the students they were serving, they scrambled, working with the school counseling teams who made contact with the students and their families, giving them an option of continuing the program with pick up or delivery. At the same time, the club faced another challenge, losing 80% of their volunteers. Fortunately, others who could, stepped in. Debbie McCleery, club president, says, "Five teachers came in asking what they could do to help. Through it all, we're up and running. We haven't missed a week. We were worried about donations and finances, but people stepped up. It's been amazingly incredible."

Fast forward to July. Every Friday, 3-5 volunteers gather, wearing masks and social distancing, and fill 99 bags. Another 6 volunteers fan out across the district making 'drop and knock' deliveries. While



the contents vary depending on purchases and donations received, each bag contains food items for 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners and a couple of snacks. Once a month, the bags include a hygiene kit.

The Kindness Club is in the process of applying for their own 501c3 tax exempt status. In the meantime, Dallas Christmas Cheer is serving as a fiscal sponsor for the group and accepted DCF grant funds on their behalf. In addition to a DCF grant, the Rochambeau Fund, a donor-advised fund of the DCF, has given an additional grant. These funds are being used to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. McCleery notes, "We feel really good about being able to provide fresh produce." 🌈

A Word from the President

Dear Friends of the Dallas Community:

2020 has been a remarkable year. Political division, social unrest, and a global pandemic to top it all. It is easy during these times to focus inwardly on ourselves and our family. However, we remain a part of a greater community that needs all its citizens to be engaged more than ever. Community engagement comes in many forms; volunteerism and philanthropy are two important types of engagement. Both require effort and sacrifice of our time and resources.

The Dallas Community Foundation has served the Dallas community for more than 20 years returning more than \$1 million back into our community. These dollars have supported safety net services, senior programs, student enrichment and scholarships for young men and women in our community.

With so much unrest in our world, I want to do something that will bring us together, not drive us apart. Please join with me and make our part of the world a better place and make a generous donation to the Dallas Community Foundation.

Sincerely,

Bob Brannigan
President
Dallas Community
Foundation



Foundation Grants Support the Dallas Community

In March, Dallas Community Foundation gave back \$40,000 to the community, awarding grants to 20 non-profit organizations. This year, the Foundation established funding priorities to help guide the decision-making and allocation process. The three priorities included health and wellbeing of vulnerable populations, opportunities for youth and seniors, and community livability.

In addition to these grants, the Rochambeau fund, a donor advised fund of the Foundation gave \$1,000 in support of the Kindness Club of Dallas.

Bambinos, Oregon

\$1,200 for shelving for car seat and baby equipment storage room.

CASA of Polk County, Inc.

\$900 for public awareness and volunteer recruitment efforts.

Community Mediation Services of Polk County

\$1000 for essential office expenses and case management software.

Dallas Christmas Cheer

\$1,500 for food and hygiene items for the Kindness Club of Dallas backpack project.

Dallas Education Foundation

\$2,500 for small grants for teachers.

Dallas Emergency Food Corporation

\$4,000 for protein-enriched foods and personal care products.

Dallas Retirement Foundation

\$2,200 for rent assistance program.

Dallas United Methodist Church

\$800 for a respite program for low-income families.

Dallas Youth Garden

\$1,100 for two high school youth internship positions.

Family Building Blocks

\$3,000 for the Respite Care program.

Friends of the Dallas Aquatic Center

\$1,300 for water safety classes for Dallas public school K-5 students.

Friends of the Dallas Public Library

\$1,300 for large print and audio books.

House of His Presence

\$600 for grief support and counseling.

James 2 Community Kitchen

\$4,000 for the Dallas community dinner program.

Kid's, Inc.

\$900 for youth scholarships.

Liberty House

\$2,500 for trauma-informed care for young victims of sexual and physical abuse.

Polk County Family and Community Outreach

\$5000 for the Dallas Resource Center Emergency Assistance Fund.

Polk County Historical Society

\$500 for water heater replacement at the Rickreall Museum.

Sable House

\$2,200 for support and educational services for young victims of domestic violence.

Salem Free Clinics

\$3,500 for Polk Community Free Clinics' general operating expenses.



The Impact of Your Support

With your gifts to the DCF, you are making a difference in the Dallas community. Thank you! Through your support, DCF gives grants that serve those in need, provide opportunities for youth and seniors, and enhance community livability for all.

Family Building Blocks

With DCF and other local support, 30 children are served each month by the Dallas Respite Care program. This program benefits both children and parents, allowing a necessary respite opportunity for adult appointments, shopping, or simply a little time for parents to focus on their own mental health.

Natasha, a program client, utilizes respite care for her three children, a 1 year-old, with typical development, a 3 year-old who receives support through the Willamette Education Services District, and a 4 year-old with autism.



She has accessed this program since it opened in Dallas. "I think the care that Family Building Blocks is providing is really helping my family a lot. It has given my children time away to build their social skills and get used to being away from me."

Natasha is a stay at home mom and the children's father works full-time. For Natasha, respite care in Dallas means, "I can breathe. I absolutely look forward to it and the kids do too. They love it there." The last respite care on July 13 was the first time that she and her children's father had some alone time together, just the two of them, since their 4 year-old was born.

Being able to access respite care at no cost, with trained staff in a safe and developmentally appropriate environment means families like Natasha's can maintain healthy relationships with one another, stay together and thrive in the Dallas community.



In addition to grant support for Respite Care, DCF is proud to partner with Family Building Blocks as a Prevention Patron. Prevention Patrons sponsor the Relief Nursery Therapeutic Childhood Programs at Family Building Blocks where 99% of children enrolled remain living safely with their families, avoiding foster care and the devastation of child abuse and neglect.



Dallas Youth Garden

Despite the challenges presented by Covid-19, youth are hard at work, planting and harvesting food this summer. DCF grant funds are supporting 2 of these youth as they learn about planting and maintaining a market garden, gain job skills, and provide fresh produce for food assistance programs in Dallas.

James 2 Community Kitchen

DCF grant funds support food purchases for the free weekly community dinners, accessed by families, seniors, homeless, and those who experience food insecurity. Due to Covid, the program had to close for several months. They were able to reopen the meal site at the Dallas Methodist Church in late June, serving the weekly meals exclusively for take-out. Since reopening, the number of weekly meals has risen steadily; at last count, 135 meals were served, providing a healthy source of nutrition for people who might otherwise go without.

Dallas Resource Center

DCF grant funds are currently assisting families experiencing Covid-19 related emergencies through the Dallas Resource Center. Recently, they were able to leverage DCF funding along with other partnering agencies to assist a family with their past due rent of \$1,100. Both parents had been laid off due to Covid-19 and recently

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The Impact of Your Support

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recently welcomed a new baby to their family. By paying this past due rent, the family was able to focus on their new baby without the additional stress of the unexpected financial burden and move forward.

Dallas Food Bank

Among the many people served by the Dallas Food Bank, 60 individuals are homeless. They are either camping, living in their vehicles or are otherwise unhoused. Many do not have the means to refrigerate or cook their food. DCF grant funds enable the Food Bank to provide these people with protein foods they can prepare and store, suitable to their specific living situations.

Scholarships

In addition to grants, DCF scholarship funds have a very tangible and meaningful impact on the youth in our community. In their words:

"I plan to attend Oregon State University this fall to study Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. My current desire is to go into research to work on developing cures and medicines. This scholarship will enable me to focus more on my work and not worry as much about how I am going to fund my education. As a child of a single parent, funds can be quite tight and this has made affording college fairly difficult for me, but this scholarship has helped open those pathways to a better education to allow me to make a bigger impact in our world." – Rhond Wood

"This scholarship is such a blessing to me. Obviously, it helps with the huge amount of money I will need to pay for college. But also, it is a beautiful reminder that I am not alone in this journey. Earning this scholarship opens my eyes even more to the wonderful and generous people who support students like me. I am so thankful for those who have donated to this scholarship. I am inspired to give a scholarship of my own in the future!" – Taylor Williamson

Did you know that you can contribute specifically to any of the DCF managed scholarship funds? It is a simple way you can support the youth in our community. When you give, make a note on the form designating either a specific named scholarship fund or the general scholarship fund. 🌈

A New Strategic Plan through 2024

Charting a path towards the future

Recently, the board of directors approved a strategic plan that will set a course for action through 2024. The plan represents the Foundation's commitment to its donors and to the Dallas community, utilizing assets strategically, balancing responsible investment and addressing local needs. In addition to an ambitious goal for fund growth, achieving \$4 million in assets by 2024, the plan is based on four cornerstones:

- Increase our financial capacity to fulfill the DCF mission
- Make a measurable and meaningful impact in the Dallas community
- Be known as the preeminent avenue for community support
- Be a strong and effective organization poised to address the needs of the Dallas community

To this end, the board will focus on specific, actionable objectives. The Foundation will continue current grant and scholarship, community outreach and involvement, and donor relations programs.

While the DCF mission and values remain the same, the guiding vision for the future is "A community where generosity is valued and practiced by all people."

The Foundation is eager to embark on this path forward. With your continued support, we will achieve our goals and be here for Dallas, for good, for now, forever. 🌈



Congratulations 2020 Scholarship Recipients!

In the midst of closures and social distancing, scholarship committees worked diligently to complete their important work, finding creative ways to complete the selection process. This year, 21 students received scholarship awards from 16 funds managed by the Dallas Community Foundation, totaling \$43,500. These students have worked tirelessly to achieve high academic honors, participate in extra-curricular activities, and serve the community. This fall, they will be going on to pursue their post-secondary education.

Two scholarship funds, Rochambeau and Karen Barnard Nursing, have generously renewed scholarships to further assist students beyond their first year. The Stuart Olson Memorial Culinary Scholarship has been awarded to a past Dallas High School graduate.

Thank you to those who have contributed to these local scholarship funds. You continue to make a significant difference in the lives of these outstanding young men and women.

Congratulations to the following scholarship recipients:

American Legion
Ethan Robinson

Arvidson
Taylor Williamson

Karen Barnard Nursing
Emma Classen, EmmaMae Johnson, Emily May

Jeremy Buller Memorial
Isabelle Brehm

Charlie Bair Memorial
Colson Spencer

Dallas Community Foundation
Alex Lavier, Caleb Jones, Casey Tilgner, Miriam Johnson

Dallas Rotary/Morrison Academic
Megan Johnston, Miriam Johnson, Rhand Wood

Dallas Rotary/Morrison Vocational
Colson Spencer

Department of Forestry
Sarah Baer, Casey Tilgner

Beatrice Gallaspy
Allison Abel, Caleb Jones, Madison Blanchard, Miriam Johnson

Chester B. and Jeanne R. Healy
Allison Abel, Ashley Bush

Hank and Wanona Kliever Memorial
Natchanon Uaiyue

Stuart Olson Memorial Culinary
Jeremiah Mulder

Piering Family
Ashley Bush

Paul Olliff Memorial Wrestling
Ashton Brecht

Paul Olliff Memorial Math
Rhand Wood

Rochambeau
Nahla Hamilton, Natchanon Uaiyue

Helen M. Smith
Sarah Baer, Megan Johnston



Madison Blanchard
University of Wyoming
Undecided



Allison Abel
Oregon State University
Pediatric Psychology



Ashley Bush
Chemeketa Community College (Scholars Program)
Medical Sonography



Megan Johnston
Chemeketa Community College (Scholars Program)
Occupational Therapy



Sarah Baer
Oregon State University
Architectural Engineering



Miriam Johnson
Brigham Young University
Elementary Education



Casey Tilgner
Oregon State University
Biology



Alex Lavier
Oregon Institute of Technology
Business



Caleb Jones
Brigham Young University
Mathematics



Taylor Williamson
Corban University
Education



Natchanon Uaiyue
Western Oregon University
Business and Marketing



Rhand Wood
Oregon State University
Biochemistry and Biophysics



Colson Spencer
Umpqua Community College
Electrician Apprenticeship



Jeremiah Mulder
Linn-Benton Community College
Culinary Arts



Nahla Hamilton
Portland State University
Political Science



Emily May
Oregon Institute of Technology
Nursing



EmmaMae Johnson
Gonzaga University
Nursing



Emma Classen
George Fox University
Nursing



Ashton Brecht
Undecided
Criminal Justice



Isabelle Brehm
University of Oregon
Undecided




Ethan Robinson
University of Oregon
Music

“Thank you so much for this scholarship! I must tell you that when I saw how generous the donation was, I cried. It really touched me that people were willing to help and support my future education so much.”
– Miriam Johnson

Thank you!

Thank you to the generous donors who have given to the Foundation, stepping up in this critical time to help your neighbors in need and support the livability and well-being of the Dallas Community.

Thank you to the non-profit organizations and volunteers for the work you are doing in this time of great need, challenge and uncertainty. We know this is a difficult time, with increased demand for services and loss of income streams.

Dallas is a giving community, and in that spirit, we are here for you! 



Dallas Community Foundation

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YES! I want to make a difference in my community.

Name: _____ \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other \$ _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

- I wish to remain an anonymous donor.
- Please keep me updated with an electronic update. I understand that I can unsubscribe at any time. *DCF will never share or sell your email address!*

Please make checks payable to:
Dallas Community Foundation

Return this form to: Dallas Community Foundation,
P.O. Box 1001, Dallas, OR 97338

Prefer to donate electronically? Go to our website,
www.dallascommunityfoundation.com

A receipt of your contribution will be sent to you. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Your information will be kept confidential, secure, and never shared.

Dallas Community Foundation

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Our mission is to enhance the quality of life in the Dallas community by building a culture of giving.

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