

Bethel Community Services Foundation

2019 Annual Report



BETHEL COMMUNITY SERVICES FOUNDATION INC.



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*dedicated to the development, growth, continuance,
and enhancement of community-based programs
and services in partnership with other local
institutions, foundations, and donors*

Bethel Community Services Foundation is proud to reflect on 2019 as another year of milestones for many of our funds. Our local #GivingTuesday #BethelGives campaign raised a record-breaking \$45,000 in November and December, the Future Delta Nurses Fund held events like Perfect Pie and online fundraisers to reach their 3-year fundraising goal in 18 months, the Community Health Aide Emergency Fund hit the ground running with 25 awards, and the Sisters for K-9 Care Fund made its first grant, just to name a few successes.

When put to good use, funds translate into resources and capacity. Here at the Foundation, we strive to provide not just monetary outlets for everyday philanthropists (that's you!), but also creative ways to practice giving. At its core, philanthropy is a creative practice. You recognize a cause that is meaningful to you and your loved ones, and find ways to support that cause in whatever way is accessible, whether it be with time, talent, or treasure. The Foundation's suite of funds and partner organizations benefit from all forms of giving. For example, many of our giving campaigns rely on volunteers in some way. Volunteers stand at Watson's Corner, bake treats, table at the Saturday Market, lend their equipment, and share their artistic abilities.

Many of us have benefitted from the good work of our local nonprofits in one way or another, and these experiences inform and nurture our philanthropic instincts and engagement. We challenge you, our donors and everyday champions, to think about the ways that you can practice giving and encourage others to make it a part of their lives as well.

Quyana,



Michelle DeWitt,
Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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2019 Highlights

| Philanthropy

YOUTH REDISTRIBUTE GIVE+GET AWARD

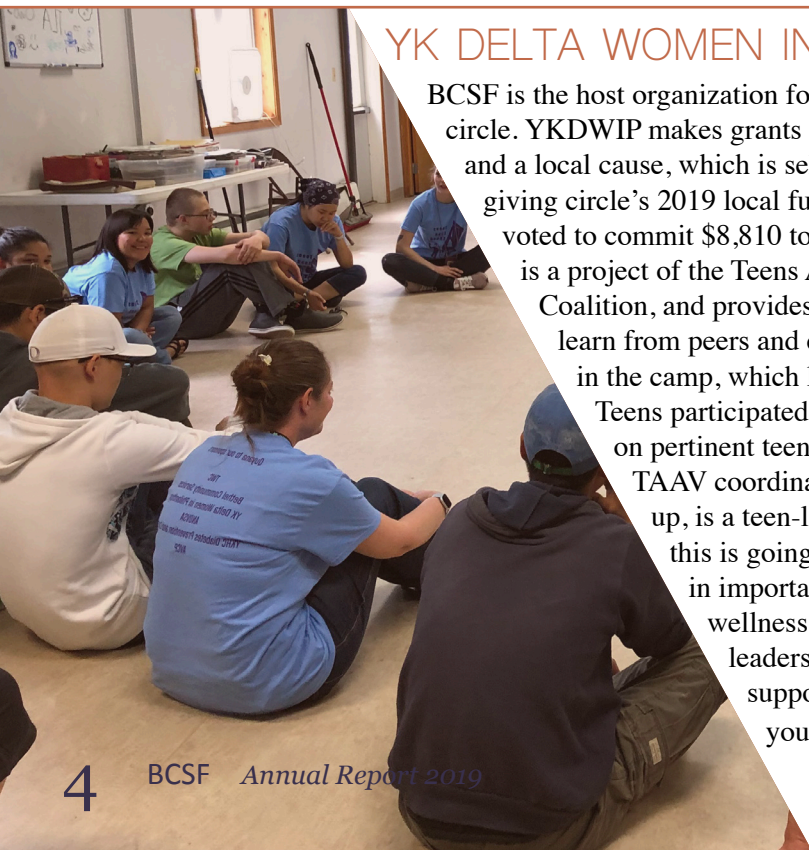
The winners of the 2019 Pick.Click.Give. Give+Get drawing are not yet old enough to get a driver's license or apply for a credit card, but age poses no obstacle for the practice of giving. First-place winner Rory Peters, age 14, and second-place winner Ava Allain, age 8, both donated a portion of their awards to local nonprofits. The Give+Get drawing is a BCSF-sponsored effort to recognize YK Delta residents who donate a portion of their Permanent Fund Dividend to local nonprofit organizations through the Pick.Click.Give. campaign. The grand prize winner takes home \$1,000 and a second place winner, \$500. In addition, BCSF matches the prize money and the two winners get to choose how to distribute the matching funds among local nonprofits participating in the campaign. Peters and Allain made donations to Bethel Winter House, Bethel Friends of Canines, and Bethel Search and Rescue. This example of young people engaging in philanthropy harkens back to the 2018 Give+Get drawing, when the children of winners Shane and Carolyn Iverson chose to donate a portion of their family's winnings to local groups. Family engagement in charitable giving sets an example for children and encourages a culture of philanthropy. You can make giving a part of your holiday tradition by donating a portion of your Permanent Fund Dividend in future Pick.Click.Give. campaigns. Contributions to YK Delta-based nonprofits will earn you entries into the Foundation's annual Give+Get Drawing! Additionally, you can donate to causes you love through Bethel Community Services Foundation by visiting besfoundation.org and clicking on Donate in the menu. While you're there, you can learn about the various funds hosted by the Foundation and the important work that is being funded in our community.

Top Photo: Rory Peters presents his donation to Nancy Elliott of Bethel Friends of Canines. Bottom Photo: Ava Allain (left) and her sister, Kira.



YK DELTA WOMEN IN PHILANTHROPY

BCSF is the host organization for the YK Delta Women in Philanthropy (YKDWIP) giving circle. YKDWIP makes grants yearly to a global cause—South Sudan Medical Relief—and a local cause, which is selected by the members through an application process. The giving circle's 2019 local funding priority area was youth services and the members voted to commit \$8,810 to the Teens Lead Ahead youth leadership camp. The camp is a project of the Teens Acting Against Violence group housed at Tundra Women's Coalition, and provides a setting for YK Delta teens to interact with, teach and learn from peers and elders. Twenty youth, from 7th to 12th grade, participated in the camp, which lasted four days with one full day at the BCSF fish camp. Teens participated in cultural and violence prevention activities, discussions on pertinent teen issues, and leadership development activities. Former TAAV coordinator, River Posey, says of the camp, "TLA, from the ground up, is a teen-led project. I'm proud of the teens and I'm proud of where this is going. It's necessary to engage youth throughout the YK Delta in important conversations such as accepting differences and mental wellness, to help guide them into becoming well-informed, strong leaders in their communities." The giving circle was proud to support a project that promotes youth mentorship, and empowers youth through culturally relevant activities.



HEALING RHYTHMS



Harmonica virtuoso, performer, recording artist and motivational speaker Mike Stevens visited ME Preschool, Ayaprun School, ME K-2, Gladys Jung Elementary, Bethel Regional High School, Kuskokwim Learning Academy and Teens Acting Against Violence during his Spring 2019 tour. While on his 2019 trip to Bethel, he also collaborated with Chevak drummer Panuk Agimuk during classroom visits. Stevens regularly tours Alaska, Canada and internationally to perform for students at schools and leads workshops that focus on self-expression through music. In addition to his visit to Bethel, Stevens held workshops in elementary schools, high schools, and even a senior center in northern and interior villages, including Utqiagvik, Arctic Village, Huslia, Venetie, Nenana, Galena, Koyukuk, Nulato (where he collaborated with Minto Elder Luke Titus, drummer), and Tanana. Stevens' travel and workshops are made possible in part by donations to the Healing Through Music and Dance Fund at the Foundation. We hope to catch Stevens performing at the next Camai Dance Festival! *Photo: Michael McIntyre, local guitarist, played with Mike Stevens beside the Kuskokwim River as the breaking ice flowed downriver, resulting in an impromptu concert for passersby (Elin McWilliams).*

RASMUSON AWARDS LOCAL ARTISTS

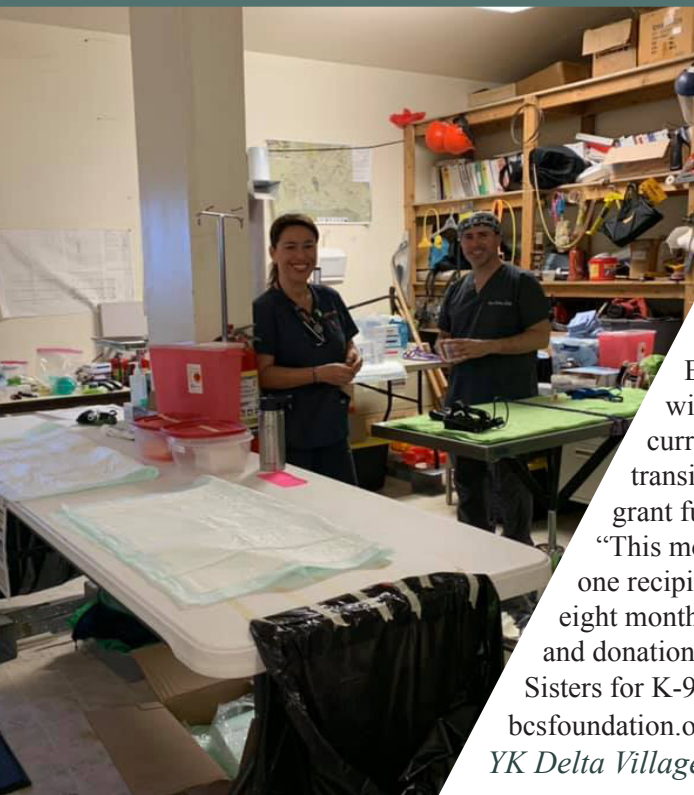
BCSF partnered with the Rasmuson Foundation to assist YK Delta artists in applying for Rasmuson Foundation Individual Artist Award Grants. Our Foundation provided one-on-one technical assistance with the grant application process and offered some ancillary services, such as specialized art photography and application transcription. In 2019, four artists with connections to the YK Delta received Individual Artist Awards. Fellowship Awards of \$18,000 were granted to Stephen Blanchett, originally from Bethel, and Neva Mathias of Chevak. Both awards were made in the Folk and Traditional Arts category—Blanchett to focus on creation of Alaska Native music and dance, storytelling and teaching, and Mathias to prepare seal skin for making traditional Alaskan dolls, travel to acquire supplies, and teach her craft. Project Awards of \$7,500 each were granted to Marie Meade, originally from Nunapitchuk, to produce a music album that features traditional Yup'ik songs accompanied by modern instruments, and Katie Basile of Bethel, to explore the changing climate in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta through photography and interviews with elders. The Foundation will continue to support YK Delta artists interested in applying for the Individual Artist Award in the coming years! *Photo: Marie Meade performs a traditional dance (Rasmuson Foundation).*



ELLANG'UQ "HOME" PROJECT

Jimmy Riordan and Ryan Romer, both artists with ties to the YK Delta region, have been traveling between Anchorage, Bethel and a number of smaller communities while developing a project called Ellang'uq or Home. Their project has loosely focused on the concept of home as it relates to place and memory, and has involved murals, photographs, landscape videos, excerpts from conversations, prints and drawings. They have been working with elders and youth and building relationships with individuals, organizations and institutions from around the region. The Foundation supported Riordan and Romer in this pursuit by housing donations made to the project by foundations and individual donors. The project has been exhibited at the Alaska Pacific University Gallery, as well as smaller galleries in Anchorage. *Photo: Romer engages with youth in Newtok (Instagram).*





FIRST-YEAR FUNDS MAKE GRANTS

The Sisters for K-9 Care Fund and Community Health Aide Emergency Grant Fund were both established in 2018 by long-time Bethel residents. In their first full year of operation, the two funds made grants in the community. The Sisters for K-9 Care Fund was founded by sisters Joan Dewey, formerly of Bethel, and Jean Farley to help subsidize medical and dental care for pets owned by low-income families. The fund granted \$1,500 to Bethel Friends of Canines in 2019. The Community Health Aide Emergency Grant Fund was founded by Chester Mark, who worked with health aides for more than 20 years. The fund is intended to provide current or former health aides with financial assistance for major life transitions or unexpected emergency costs. This fund dispersed \$12,896 in grant funding to 25 current and retired health aides over the course of 2019.

“This money came just in time. It helped when I didn’t know what to do,” says one recipient who was out of work and caring for an ailing relative for nearly eight months. Both funds continue to grow with contributions by the founders and donations from individuals, businesses, and foundations. To contribute to the Sisters for K-9 Care Fund or Community Health Aide Emergency Grant Fund, visit bcsfoundation.org/donate. *Photo: Spay and neuter clinic sponsored by BKF9 in a YK Delta Village (Facebook).*

FUTURE DELTA NURSES FUND REACHES FUNDRAISING GOAL

The Future Delta Nurses Fund was founded to provide a long-lasting funding stream to help YK Delta students pursuing their nursing degree in Bethel. Since the fund was opened in 2018, the founders have been hard at work fundraising through local events, such as Perfect Pie. In 2019, the group reached its initial fundraising goal of \$30,000. Beginning this fall, students in the current nursing cohort will be eligible to receive grants to help them in their last semester, during which they are required to complete clinical rotations in a larger hospital outside the YK Delta—often in Anchorage. The costs associated with housing, food, and local transportation for Bethel-based students during this training can range from \$1,000–\$2,000 or more. This fund will help alleviate the financial burden of out-of-region training requirements and as a result, reduce the barriers local nursing students face in pursuing their educational goals. Funds raised through local efforts continue to grow at the Foundation. When the fund is large enough, it will convert to an endowed fund.

YK & NORTHWEST ARCTIC HEALTH GRANT

In its first year of grantmaking, the YK & Northwest Arctic Health Fund supported three health-related projects, one in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, one in the Northwest Arctic region of Alaska and one at a statewide agency benefiting youth in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. The 2019 grant recipients were the Native Village of Selawik, Teens Acting Against Violence, and the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA). The Native Village of Selawik received \$12,916 for the Selawik Wellness Coalition to provide two Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training opportunities for community members to learn skills and tools to help people experiencing a mental health crisis or developing a mental health problem. Bethel’s Tundra Women’s Coalition (TWC) received \$15,304 to support the Teens Acting Against Violence (TAAV) program, a youth-based violence-prevention program. ANDVSA received \$2,388 to cover travel funds for YK Delta youth to attend a statewide violence prevention and youth leadership conference, Lead On! *Photo: Selawik Wellness Council hosts outdoor youth activities (Facebook).*



2019 Grants & Initiatives

Grants

ArtsCan Circle Fund	\$15,321
Best in the West	
Program Costs	\$6,076
Winner Awards	\$36,000
#BethelGives	
Bethel Council on the Arts	\$4,346
Bethel Family Clinic	\$4,132
Bethel Friends of Canines	\$4,246
Bethel Search and Rescue	\$165
Bethel Winter House	\$4,865
Future Delta Nurses	\$4,557
Kuskokwim Consortium Library	\$4,179
KYUK	\$4,132
Tundra Women's Coalition	\$4,925
YK Delta Lifesavers	\$4,685
Yuut Elitnaurviat	\$4,132
Misc. Campaign Investments	\$4,971
Bethel Council on the Arts Camai Dance Festival, Concert	\$1,505
Bethel Sprint Musher Club / K300	\$10,000
Bethel Winter House Website, Donation Pass-Through	\$1,089
Betty Guy Memorial Nursing Home Fund	\$8,318
Council on Foundations 2019 Membership	\$1,200
Girl Scouts of Alaska YK Delta Camp	\$2,000
Give + Get Drawing	
Winners	\$1,000
Bethel Friends of Canines	\$500
Bethel Search And Rescue	\$1,000
Bethel Winter House	\$500
John Active Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000
John Malone Fund	\$2,000
Kuskokwim Consortium Library Project Homeless Connect	\$1,408
KYUK Radio Tower Repairs	\$5,000
Mary Ciuniq Pete Legacy Scholarship	\$1,000
Miss Camai	\$200
Orutsarmiut Native Corporation Recycling Program	\$160
Philanthropy Northwest	\$605
Sisters for K-9 Care Fund	\$1,500
Teens Acting Against Violence Outward Bound	\$1,112
YK Delta Lifesavers Fund Grants Free Teen Wednesdays,	\$10,376
Subsidized Swim Lessons, BRHS Swim Team	
YK Delta Women in Philanthropy	
Tundra Women's Coalition-TAAV	\$8,810
South Sudan Medical Relief	\$8,810
YK & Northwest Arctic Health Fund Grants	
Tundra Women's Coalition-TAAV	\$15,304
Selawik Wellness Coalition	\$12,916
Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	\$2,388

Initiatives

Arts Support HOME, Jimmy Riordan After-School Program	\$14,215
Community Health Aide Emergency Fund	\$12,896
Community Leadership Opportunities	\$834
Community Lecture Series	
Board Member Training with Foraker	\$387
Science/Research Guest Speaker	\$110
Community Hosting Events	\$160
Friends of the Library Fund Jesuit Volunteer, Author Visit,	\$27,720
Books	
Healing Through Music and Dance	\$81,165
Housing & Homelessness Coalition Housing First Capacity	\$18,217
Project and Data	
Ice Classic	
Aniak Yuraq Dance Group	\$498
Bethel Friends of Canines	\$1,863
Delta Illusion Dance Company	\$3,328
Emmonak Search and Rescue	\$118
Kwigillingok School	\$277
KuC Campus	\$2,101
Napaskiak School	\$415
YK Delta Lifesavers	\$4,782
Teens Acting Against Violence	\$1,143
Pick.Click.Give. Coordinating Local Campaign	\$3,700
Network for Good Donor Software Access	
BCSF	\$3,600
Tundra Women's Coalition	\$3,600
Newtok Partnership KYUK Media Development, Climate Lab	\$3,079
South Sudan Medical Relief Sudan Gala	\$11,892
TWC Design Projects	\$316



In 2019, the Foundation sponsored Laura Ellsworth and Kristin Hall to attend leadership development and fundraising conferences. We support the professional development of leaders working in local organizations.

To learn more about opportunities such as this, email Michelle at michelle@bcsfoundation.org.

Addressing Homelessness in Bethel

Local groups join forces within the Bethel Housing and Homelessness Coalition to study and address the issue of homelessness in Bethel

By Kate McWilliams

Coalition members planning for a 2018 event.

Bethel's second Project Homeless Connect of 2019 took place on a rainy Saturday afternoon in late October. The cold drizzle outside would have made anyone content to stay inside, but what about those without a roof? This is a question that sits heavy with the members of Bethel's Housing and Homelessness Coalition as they work to take on Bethel's issue of housing insecurity and homelessness.

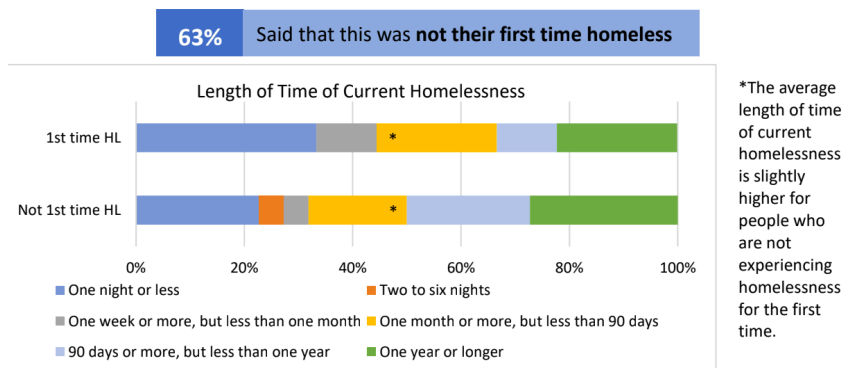
Project Homeless Connect is organized by the Kuskokwim Consortium Library and supported by other members of the Coalition, as well as individual donors and businesses. It is intended to gather information about the conditions and causes of homelessness in Bethel, assess individuals' needs, and offer services to individuals experiencing homelessness. Participants arrived to the October event in pairs and alone, until the line extended out into the hallway of the Cultural Center. Volunteers welcomed each participant at the door, recording their names and asking, "where did you sleep last night?" Those that reported spending the night anywhere that is not their own home were paired with another volunteer who helped them complete a survey about details surrounding their past and present housing circumstances.

More volunteers distributed steaming bowls of soup and plates of waffles to participants waiting to take the survey. Around the room, there were booths for various resources around town such as the

State of Alaska Job Center, Bethel Family Clinic, and the Veterans Association, to name a few. There were stations for flu shots, haircuts, free winter gear, and hygiene products.

Project Homeless Connect is based on a national model that takes place in cities across the United States each year in January. Bethel hosted two Project Homeless Connect events in 2019, rather than one, in order to refine the process and collect as much data as possible.

The October event brought 48 individuals, 35 of whom completed surveys. According to the surveys, 33 people were homeless, meaning they were either in a shelter, staying with family or friends, or on the street. The survey data that was collected revealed very important findings on which future Connect events will continue to build to help the Coalition understand housing insecurity and homelessness in Bethel.



Surveys from the October 2019 Project Homeless Connect indicate that the majority of the homeless individuals who attended the event had been homeless before. The survey also found that individuals who have been homeless more than once often experience longer periods of homelessness (Herman, October 2019 PHC Report).

“One data point we collected for the first time in October measured where people experiencing homelessness in Bethel are from, where they want to live, and what type of assistance they want,” said Eileen Arnold, Tundra Women’s Coalition (TWC) executive director. “I think some people in Bethel have the perception that folks homeless here may be from surrounding communities, find themselves stuck in Bethel and would prefer to return back to their hometown. Based on what people told us, the perception that people would prefer not to be in Bethel is inaccurate.”

Survey findings clearly indicated that people who are unhoused in Bethel want a permanent place to live and a majority would prefer to stay in Bethel. There is an unquestionable need for a local housing solution, and this is where the Housing and Homelessness Coalition comes in. TWC initiated the Housing and Homelessness Coalition and the Foundation was among the six local organizations that immediately joined. The mission of the Coalition is to address homelessness as a community by gaining an understanding of the factors involved and providing the appropriate resources and infrastructure.

In 2017, the Foundation sponsored an informational talk by Nancy Burke, the Housing and Homelessness Services Coordinator for the Municipality of Anchorage. Burke made several suggestions about how Bethel’s organizations can address homelessness, with an emphasis on data collection.

The Kuskokwim Consortium Library organized Bethel’s first Project Homeless Connect in 2018. The initial event did not involve interviews, but provided a good starting point for supportive organizations to meet with individuals experiencing homelessness.



Tracey Wilbanks, owner of Windy Willow Hair and Nail Salon, provides free haircuts at a Project Homeless Connect event at the Cultural Center.

In January 2019, the Coalition organized a Point in Time Homelessness data collection at Bethel Winter House, TWC, and the January Project Homeless Connect. Seventy-four people were identified as possibly or definitely homeless across surveys and observations.

In June of 2019, the Foundation funded a six-month contract for Ariel Herman, a statistician with ties to the YK Delta, to evaluate data on homelessness in Bethel. Herman’s work included training local volunteers to conduct surveys at the Bethel Winter House, TWC, and Project Homeless Connect. Herman also analyzed collective data for Bethel Winter House for the winter of 2018-2019. The 2019 Report on Housing and Homelessness is available on the BCSF website by clicking on Bethel Housing and Homelessness Coalition under the Projects tab. Herman is currently examining the costs associated with providing emergency services to individuals who are unhoused.

As communities across the United States turn to more holistic methods of solving housing insecurity and homelessness, the Housing First model stands out, with a record of great effectiveness. The idea behind Housing First is that providing individuals who are homeless with their own living quarters is a crucial first step to addressing underlying issues of substance misuse, maintaining a job, and seeking treatment for mental illness or other disabling conditions. As part of her contract with BCSF, Herman vetted and evaluated the Housing First model to help inform the Coalition about how the model might benefit Bethel.



Members of Bethel’s Housing & Homelessness Coalition visit Housing First programs around the state in November 2019.

In November 2019, the Foundation funded a learning tour for Coalition members to visit Housing First facilities in Anchorage and Juneau. The group included representatives from the Tundra Women's Coalition, Bethel Winter House, Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation, Bethel Police Department, AVCP Housing Authority, and the Foundation. Jon Cochrane of Bethel Winter House says that speaking to folks involved with Housing First projects around the state opened his eyes to the financial benefits of the model. "I've always believed in Housing First from a humanitarian angle, but we have concrete data that proves that it is vastly more cost effective to house our most vulnerable than to leave them as unhoused habitual users of our law enforcement, EMS and medical systems. The cost savings [of Housing First] is enormous." There are many different roles involved in a successful Housing First program including building owners, service providers, staffing services, and landlords. The Coalition paid special attention to the funding arrangements and infrastructure of each facility, and noted that the inter-agency collaboration that supports Juneau's Housing First seems most feasible to replicate in Bethel.

Looking forward to 2020, the Housing and Homelessness Coalition intends to create a

Momorandum of Agreement to formalize the Coalition, engage in strategic planning, and create a Coalition-specific website and email addresses. The group will also open a fund with Bethel Community Services Foundation to continue work on data-related projects and move towards a Housing First model.

The Coalition's two-year strategic plan outlines the group's goals to ultimately reach sufficient and accessible housing and shelter resources in Bethel by 2025. This includes a supportive Housing First model and year-round 24-hour shelter. These goals can only be reached by leveraging community partnerships and programs going forward. Priorities range from collecting more data and securing funding streams, to enacting a housing program and staff to operate such a program. The Coalition is continuing conversations about their potential involvement in housing-related issues such as food security and reentry programs, considering equity and cultural humility as their guiding values (see definitions below).

Throughout 2020, the Coalition will be determining how COVID-19 will affect the homeless population and what supportive measures can be put into place, while steadily working towards long-term goals. ■

How you can get involved in local housing-security efforts:

- Volunteer at the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count in January and Project Homeless Connect events

Be trained as an interviewer for data collection, donate items for giveaway, such as hygiene supplies or warm gear, or make food- a lunch is provided!

- Donate to the Bethel Housing and Homelessness Coalition Fund

Visit bcsfoundation.org and click the Donate tab in the menu.

- Ask to join the Coalition meetings email list!

Meetings are public- and even if you can't make it, you'll be informed about Coalition activities.

- Spread the word!

Watch for Coalition reports from BCSF and the Winter House and share them with friends & family, with co-workers and on your social media.

What is cultural humility?

Cultural humility is a humble and respectful attitude toward individuals of other cultures that pushes one to challenge their own cultural biases, realize they'll never know everything about other cultures, and approach learning about other cultures as a lifelong goal and process. We acknowledge and celebrate the Yup'ik, Cup'ik and Athabaskan indigenous cultural values in this region.

What is equity?

Equity is the fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all people, while at the same time striving to identify and eliminate barriers that have prevented the full participation of some groups. Improving equity involves increasing justice and fairness within the procedures and processes of institutions or systems, as well as in their distribution of resources.

Introducing our Newest Funds!

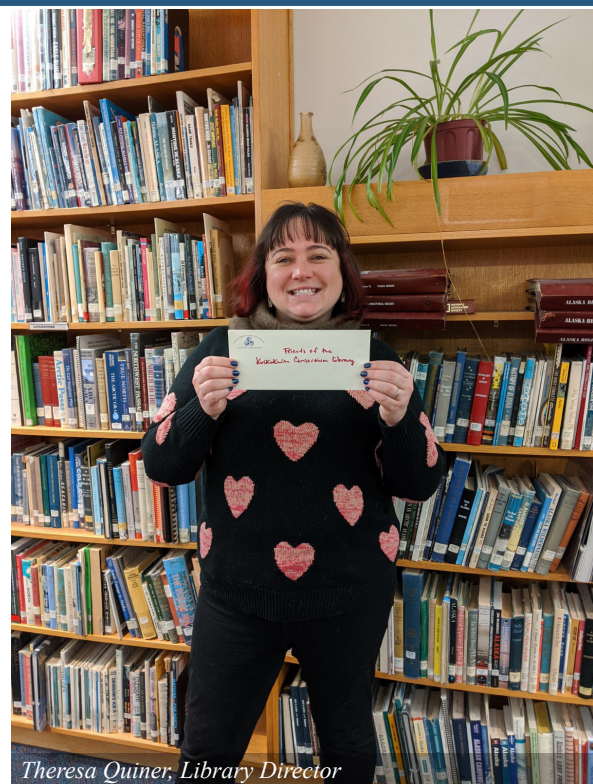
Bethel Community Services Foundation houses a growing number of funds that serve nonprofits and charitable projects in Bethel and the surrounding region. Many of these funds are permanent assets intended to sustainably fund projects that will benefit local people. The funds placed in our care are invested by an investment management firm to allow our capital to grow over time.

You can create a fund at BCSF for a project or purpose you feel passionate about! Most donors approach BCSF with a minimum initial contribution of \$10,000.* You will work with BCSF staff to develop a fund agreement that details the purposes and intention of the fund, and how you wish the funds to be spent. Spending may range from using only the interest from a permanently endowed fund to spending some, part, or all of a non-permanent fund. A fund agreement can be found at bcsfoundation.org under the Resources tab. You can also contact Michelle with any inquiries at michelle@bcsfoundation.org.

** for certain projects this minimum is waived*

Friends of the Kuskokwim Consortium Library Fund

The Friends of the Kuskokwim Consortium Library Fund was proposed to the Foundation by Theresa Quiner, library director. The local library raises money on an ongoing basis to support library activities including funding a Jesuit Volunteer position, hosting book readings and signings, story hour events, and supplementing the collections budget for the library. Theresa Quiner explains, “Most of our funding comes from the University of Alaska Fairbanks for academic purposes to support the UAF Kuskokwim Campus. The vision of this fund is for the library to have non-discretionary funds to support public library activities such as programs and materials of interest to the community of Bethel.” According to Michelle DeWitt, the new library fund is a great match for BCSF. “The library plays a critical role in our community and in the lives of many of our community members. I have been so impressed with the active, vibrant programming that is currently offered at the library—from activities for children to services for homeless adults. If you step into their space, you’ll find large numbers of people accessing the library,” DeWitt said. “We are excited about the library’s current vision and want to support library staff in their effort to deliver creative programs that meet local needs.”



Theresa Quiner, Library Director

Bethel Winter House Fund

The Bethel Winter House is a grassroots, community-led nonprofit homeless shelter. Since 2013, the shelter has operated during the winter months, opening each evening from December until March (some years with expanded dates). Bethel Winter House has participated in the #BethelGives campaign and the Give+Get drawing through the Foundation in the past. New in 2019, the local shelter opened a non-permanent fund with BCSF to process electronic contributions using BCSF’s donor management system. All funds received will be directed to Bethel Winter House for immediate operating needs and will not be held permanently in endowment. Expenses for the Winter House include a paid security specialist position, and employees to supervise the shelter.





Volunteers from participating organizations collect donations at Watson's Corner during the #BethelGives stocking drive.

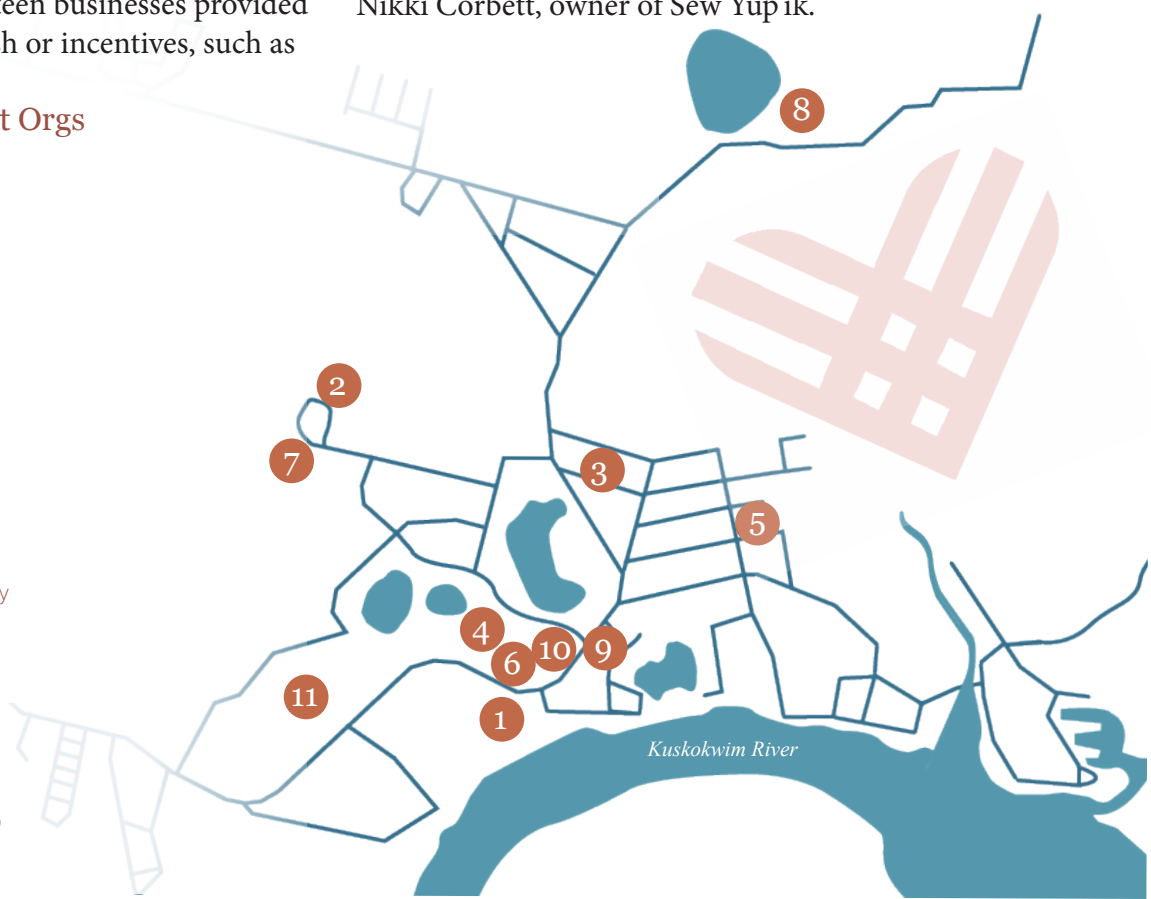
#BethelGives Spreads the Love

#BethelGives, the YK Delta's local spinoff of the global phenomenon #GivingTuesday, has become a widely-loved tradition over the past four years. Hosted by the Foundation, #BethelGives is a collaborative fundraising campaign undertaken by and for the benefit of local nonprofits and groups serving the region. In 2019, 11 nonprofits participated in fundraising at Saturday Markets and collected donations at the Watson's Corner "stocking drive." Nineteen businesses provided sponsorship in the form of cash or incentives, such as

matching customer purchases with a #BethelGives donation. All in all, the campaign raised more than \$45,000—another record for the 4th year in a row! This amount was distributed among the participating nonprofits. Donors at certain contribution levels were provided with #BethelGives thank you gifts, including stickers, tote bags, t-shirts, and coffee gift packs, which contained mug cozies custom-crafted by local artist, Nikki Corbett, owner of Sew Yup'ik.

#BethelGives Nonprofit Orgs

- 1 Bethel Search & Rescue
- 2 Yuut Elitnaurviat
- 3 Tundra Women's Coalition
- 4 KYUK
- 5 Bethel Family Clinic
- 6 Bethel Council on the Arts
- 7 YK Delta Lifesavers
- 8 Bethel Friends of Canines
- 9 Winter House Shelter
- 10 Kuskokwim Consortium Library
- 11 Future Delta Nurses



Scholarships

In 2019, the Foundation distributed the first scholarships from our two scholarship funds. Both funds were established with the help of community partners to honor the legacies of two influential Alaska Native figures and beloved community leaders.

The John Active Memorial Scholarship Fund supports college students with ties to the YK Delta, with preference given to those who study journalism, indigenous language, multimedia and/or communications. The 2019 scholarship for \$1,000 was granted to Corey Joseph of Kwigillingok. Joseph is working towards a double major in Yup'ik Language and Culture and Mathematics at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The first award from the Mary Ciuniq Pete Legacy Scholarship was granted to Janice Wiseman of Tuntutuliak, who is pursuing an associate's degree in accounting at UAF-KuC. This scholarship fund supports KuC students, with preference given to Alaska Native women. The fund has grown enough to offer two \$1,000 scholarships in Fall 2020.

The application period is open in late spring for both scholarships.

Photos: Janice Wiseman, 2019 MCPLS recipient (Top) and Corey Joseph, 2019 JAMS recipient (Bottom).



HOST A FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER!

In 2018 and 2019, Tiffany Zulkosky launched two Facebook fundraisers for the Mary Ciuniq Pete Legacy Scholarship Fund, created in 2018. Zulkosky's effort inspired friends and followers on social media to donate to the Fund in honor of her dear friend, the late Mary C. Pete. The two fundraisers collected a total of \$12,000!

As we continue to grow as a community foundation, we want to make it easy for anyone interested in supporting BCSF to give through their preferred method. Facebook's system can make it easy for anyone already giving to other causes through their fundraising platform to give to BCSF as well. One hundred percent of funds donated through Facebook's platform are passed on to BCSF.

GETTING STARTED:

- ① On the left side of your Facebook page, click on "Fundraisers."
- ② Click on "Raise Money for a Nonprofit."
- ③ Search for "Bethel Community Services Foundation."
- ④ Set your fundraising goal and the fundraiser end date.
- ⑤ Customize your fundraiser! This is where you can specify which fund you are fundraising for and explain why you are raising money for this fund/why it's important to you. Naming your fundraiser will also help us know where to apply the funds when we receive them from Facebook.

Let BCSF know that you are raising money! We can help spread the word about your efforts and share from our pages and social media accounts!



Everyday Philanthropy: a local tale



We sat down with longtime Bethel residents Dianne and Robert “Bob” Graham to learn about what motivates their philanthropic practice and what their contributions to the community mean to them. Dianne and Bob have generously supported many BCSF funds and projects, including the Winter House, YK Delta Lifesavers, Friends of the Kuskokwim Consortium Library, Mary Ciuniq Pete Legacy Scholarship, John Active Memorial Scholarship, and the #BethelGives campaign.

The Grahams arrived in Bethel in 1969 as special education teachers with the State of Alaska. From their first Bethel home just along the banks of the Kuskokwim River, Dianne and Bob were thrilled to see float planes landing on the river, small boats, fish processing boats, and cargo barges in the summer as well as dog teams and ice fishing in the winter. These sights don’t seem like a big deal now, but felt unfamiliar and daring to the young couple at the time. They went on to establish a home and legacy in Bethel, raising seven children in the community and becoming highly involved individuals.

How did charity and/or philanthropic giving become a part of your life?

D: I grew up on a farm in eastern Iowa, near a town smaller than Bethel. I attended school from kindergarten to twelfth grade with the same children. My parents, mother in particular, often donated to support youth activities, especially those that my siblings and I were involved in. From a young age, I saw how their contributions made an impact.

How did you first hear about Bethel Community Services Foundation and what made you decide to give your first gift?

D&B: Many of the funds housed at BCSF have existed in Bethel prior to the Foundation’s incorporation. We have donated to them in various ways throughout our time in Bethel, sometimes contributing to fundraising events or providing a service. I couldn’t pinpoint exactly when or to whom we first donated in Bethel, but we’ve always found joy in giving back to the community.

You’ve donated to several funds here at the Foundation. What attracted you to these causes and what motivates you to stay involved?

D&B: So many impactful projects in Bethel are started and supported by the work of wonderful volunteers. Observing all that energy given by community members who give in so many ways, draws us to also volunteer or give support in some way. We also know it’s important for our family to see us serving and learn from our example. When coaching wrestling, Bob bought a sno-cone machine and a cotton candy machine so the team could sell at basketball games to fundraise.

What do you hope to accomplish through your philanthropy?

D&B: What is most important to us is to help others and support worthy causes. In doing so, we build our Bethel community and connect with others who feel a similar calling. One example is that we contribute to scholarships, such as the Mary Ciunaq Pete Legacy Scholarship and John Active Memorial Scholarship. We believe that others can carry on the legacies of these individuals’ leadership with the right resources.

Do you have an anecdote about any particular cause or giving experience that really moved you?

D: I'm recalling a time when our women's group from church painted and decorated a room at TWC and provided bedding, handmade quilts, and pictures to decorate the room. This particular memory brings me joy because we were able to use our talents to create a space that would bring another person or family comfort. It is uplifting to give and serve, especially among friends.

B: We've helped in Scouting programs, with the yearly special events like the Pinewood Derby, and helping with Eagle Scout projects such as building bus shelters for students and extending and repairing the boardwalk in Pinky's Park to ASHA housing. In the 70s, I started a local chapter of the Special Olympics. I organized for our students to compete in Anchorage and even attended the International Special Olympics with some representatives from Bethel one year. This program continues to provide a lot of positive reinforcement and praise that boost participants' self-esteem.

Does anyone in your life play a role in supporting your involvement? In providing inspiration?

D&B: Again, seeing so much good in this town spurred by the dedication of volunteers, is inspirational and motivates us to join in, in whatever way we can. In our fifty years here, we've seen so many organizations pop up that work for the benefit of the community. The reward is seeing the results of supporting worthy efforts and the relief or help it gives.

Do you have any messages that you'd like to share with potential donors or current donors?

D&B: Look around you, in your family, your social circle, your workplace, and our community. See all the energy that people give in service to others. Observe those who provide leadership and uplift others, work to strengthen culture, serving their fellow community members, and save lives. You may be busy or tight on cash, but you can find ways to support the good work that is happening in our community. ■

How can I make charitable giving a regular practice?

**JOIN A
GIVING
CIRCLE**

**SET UP
RECURRING
DONATIONS**

**PARTICIPATE
IN ANNUAL
GIVING EVENTS**

**USE
AMAZON
SMILE**

**START A
DONOR-ADVISED
FUND**

**DIRECT YOUR
MANDATORY MINIMUM
DISTRIBUTION FOR
YOUR RETIREMENT
ACCOUNT TO BCSF
(OR A NONPROFIT)**

Financials

703

NUMBER OF
DONATIONS

251

TOTAL DONORS
IN 2019

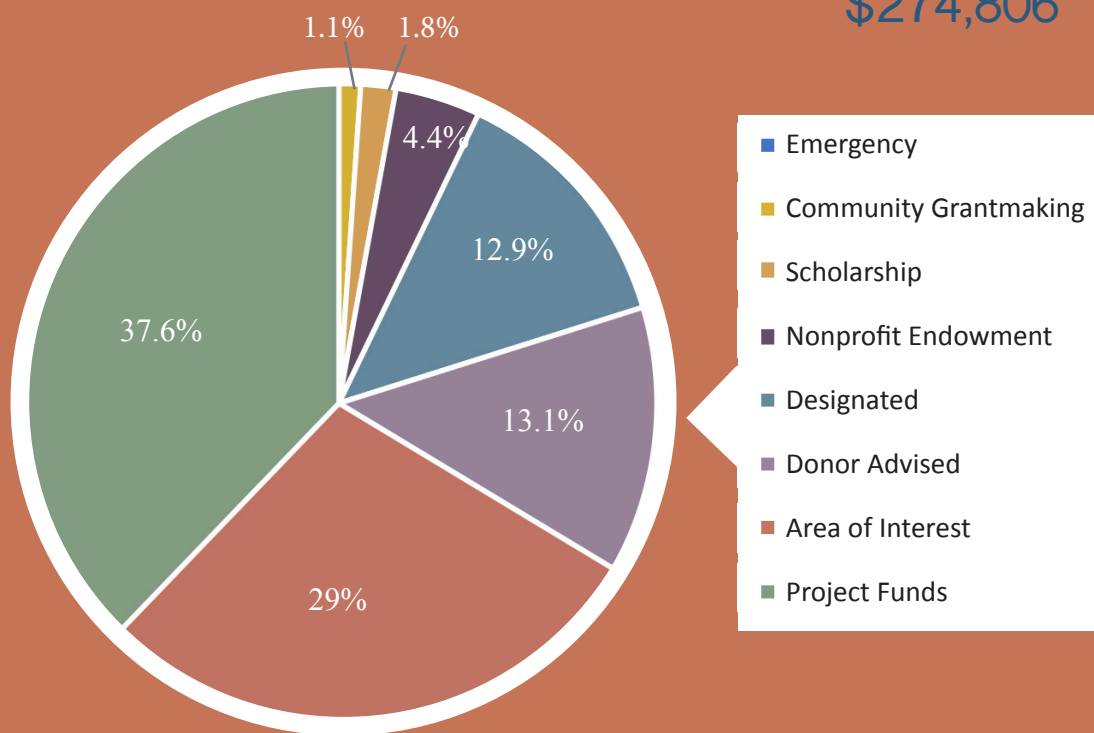
35

TOTAL NUMBER
OF FUNDS

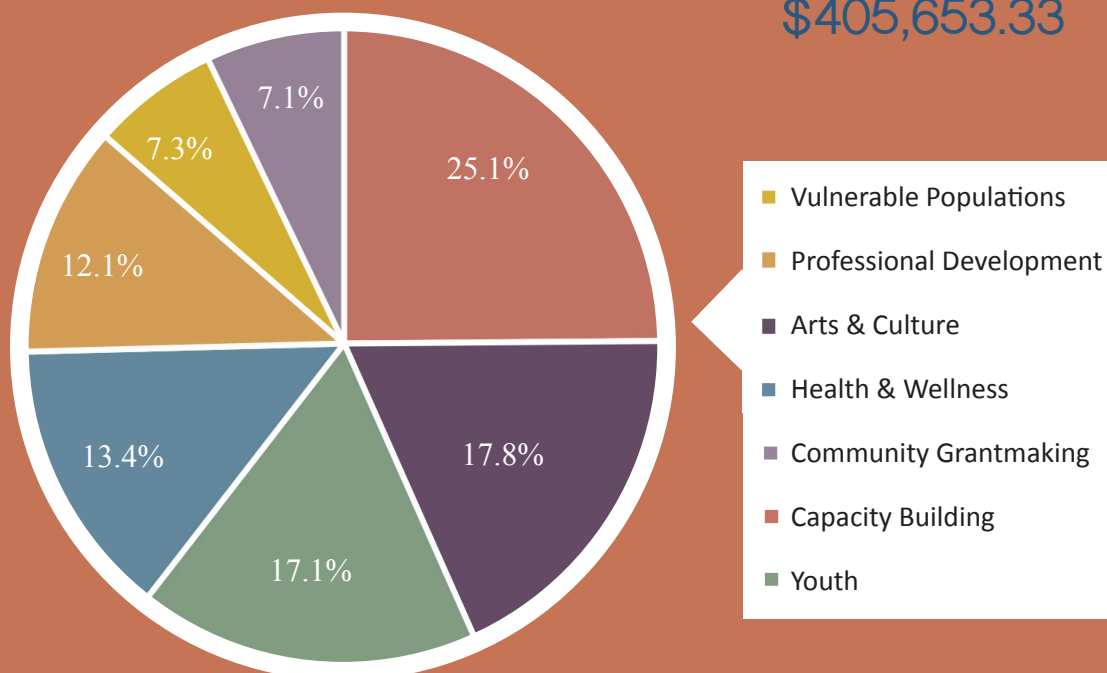
38

DONORS WITH
RECURRING
CONTRIBUTIONS

Donations to BCSF by Fund Type \$274,806



Grant Distributions by Category \$405,653.33



Upcoming in 2020

Locally-Produced Documentary about Newtok Relocation on Tour

The plight of one YK Delta village, Newtok, as it races to relocate, will be viewed on big screens across the nation in 2020. Newtok's story elicits a feeling of urgency, as it highlights the rapid and increasingly visible effects of climate change and the obstacles to acting on adaptation plans. This story is well known in coastal communities, but will soon be known to many more.

"To Keep As One" is a 12-minute documentary about the relocation of the village of Newtok to the new site, Mertarvik, with a focus on one family's move to their new home. The film project was spearheaded by KYUK's multimedia producer, Katie Basile, who has made several trips to Newtok over the years to document the relocation process. Basile and her team at KYUK worked with Good Fight Media, videographer Chris Ho, and the Newtok Village Council to create the documentary. The documentary was financed in large part by grants from the Rasmuson Foundation and the Charlotte Martin Foundation that Bethel Community Services Foundation helped facilitate. The goal of the film is to share the story of the impacts of climate change on Newtok and advocate for federal support for all communities facing imminent threats from flooding, erosion, and permafrost melt.

"To Keep As One" premiered at the 2020 Big Sky Documentary Film Festival in Missoula, Montana, where it was selected as one of 10 finalists in the Best Mini-Doc competition! Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, several screenings at film festivals across the United States were canceled, including a screening by Senator Lisa Murkowski and the Citizens Climate Lobby on Capitol Hill. When it is deemed safe, KYUK plans to host screenings in Newtok and Bethel, attended by representatives of the Newtok Village Council, who will participate in Q&A panel discussions following the film.



Wills Workshop

The Foundation will be offering a Wills Workshop with an attorney in 2020. Bethel residents are making lasting changes in our community by establishing funds in their retirement and with their estate plans. The Foundation encourages those who love our community and its people, organizations, and activities to consider establishing a new fund in their estate plan. You can contribute funds, property, mandatory retirement distributions, and more to the causes you care about to improve the quality of life in our community for generations to come.

Follow us and Stay in Touch!



[Facebook.com/bethelcommunityservicesfoundation/](https://www.facebook.com/bethelcommunityservicesfoundation/)



[@bethel.community.foundation](https://www.instagram.com/bethel.community.foundation)

Join Our Mailing List

1. Visit www.bcsfoundation.org
2. In the bottom menu, click **Join BCSF's Mailing List**

YK Delta COVID-19 Response

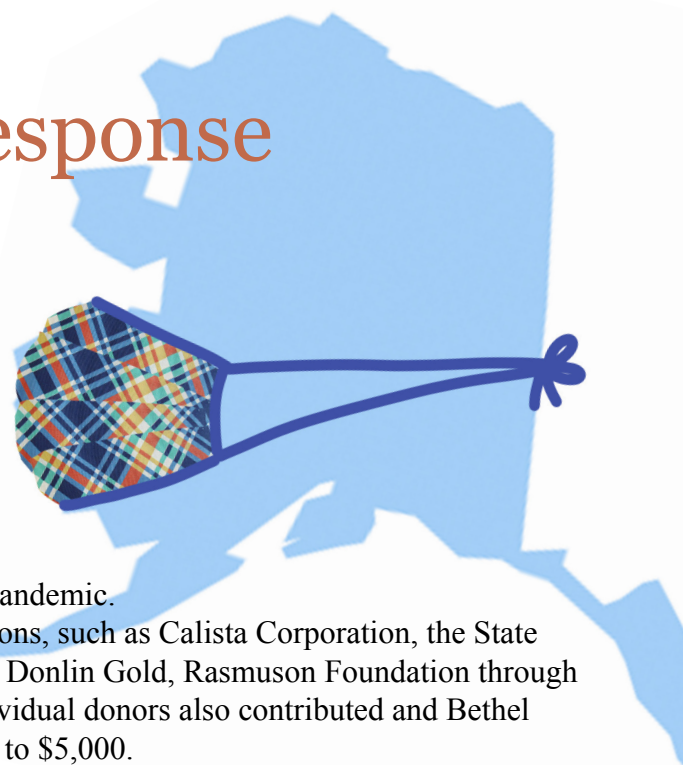
Our world changed significantly in early 2020 with the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to help meet YK Delta needs, BCSF opened the YK Delta COVID-19 Response Fund.

The Fund offers financial assistance to nonprofits and community service providers on the front lines assisting individuals in our region who are facing imminent eviction or utilities shut-offs, homelessness and/or food insecurity, individuals who require emergency shelter, and other areas of immediate need resulting from COVID-19. Additionally, this fund will support the dissemination of critical and timely news and information regarding health and safety concerns during this pandemic.

The Fund received support from several philanthropic organizations, such as Calista Corporation, the State Supervisors Union, the Richard L and Diane M Block Foundation, Donlin Gold, Rasmuson Foundation through the Alaska Community Foundation and Wells Fargo. Multiple individual donors also contributed and Bethel Community Services Foundation matched individual donations up to \$5,000.

The Foundation also coordinated the volunteer effort to create masks for use by the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation. Volunteers created more than 5,000 masks, many of which were distributed to health care providers in villages across the region.

You can learn more or donate to the fund at bcsfoundation.org. Grants from the fund are being made rapidly, and we will have a full 2020 report on the fundraising and grantmaking from the YK Delta COVID-19 Response Fund in the 2020 annual report.



Curious about the grant review and selection process?

Let us know!

Our grants and scholarships are reviewed and recommended for funding by committees of local volunteers. We have awesome volunteer reviewers, but we're always looking for more people who are interested in helping with the process! Contact Michelle at michelle@bcsfoundation.org or 907-543-1812 if you'd like to be added to our grants committee volunteer interest list.



THANK YOU

#BethelGives 2019

Robert Allen
Raina Antalan
Eileen Arnold
Raymond Atchak
Palmer Bailey
Mary Beaver
Fannie Black
Casey Burke
Kerry Cobbledick
Jon Cochrane
Nikki Corbett
Judith Crotty
Barbara Desnoyers
Christine Desnoyers
Michelle DeWitt
Akram Didari
Peek Ehlinger
Barbara Engebret
Cecilia Franko
Darrell Garrison
Ann Glasheen
Jessica Goldberg
Robyn Grad
Robert & Dianne Graham
Marcia Haggerty
Kristin Hall
Haley Hanson
Jeff Harris
Thomas Haviland
Ariel Herman
Ellen Hodges
Robert Hodges
Terri Hodges
Beverly Hoffman
Bob Hoffman
Michael Husa
Diana Japhet
Nicholai Joekey
Lorraine Jones
Alex & Jessie Judy
Betsy Jumper
Laura Karr
Vernon Kinogak
Abby Klager
Anne Komulainen
Brian Lefferts
Teresa Markham
Catt Maupin
Jane McClure
Julie McWilliams
Nick Mikos
Alicia Miner
Abigail Morgan
Susan Murphy
Mary Nauman
Michelle Nichols
Kaia Pearson
Jennifer Peeks
Kathleen Pelkan
Mary Peltola
Theresa Quiner
Madelene Reichard
Addy Roddy
Elizabeth Roll
Allison Samuelson
Matt Scott
Naim Shabani
Carmelita Shah
Markel Stowell
Joann Sundown
Saralyn Tabachnick
Susan Taylor
Julie Thompson
Dena Thompson
Janelle Vanasse
Willie Venes
Judy Wasierski
Lisa Whalen
Marybeth Whalen
Angela Wilbanks
Paul & Tracy Wilbanks
Teddi Worrock
Norma Wyckoff
Rasmuson Foundation
Arctic Chiropractic LLC
Art Guild of the YK Delta
AMW Property Management & Construction
Bethel Native Corporation
Brown Slough Bed & Breakfast
BTP LLC- Swanson's
Calista Corporation
Codman Services
ConocoPhillips Alaska
Ed's Automotive

Kusko Cab
Long House Hotel
Made with Love
Malone Insurance Agency
Rural Service Solutions
VFW Auxiliary 10041
Vitus Terminals
WAKINS- Whitney Home & Energy
Windy Willow Hair and Nail Salon
Wells Fargo
Yupit Picirarait Cultural Center

ArtsCan Circle Fund

April Clark
Edward Doty
Alvin J Huss
Kathrin Koedderitz
Gretchen Petraske
Alex Tepperman
Sullivan Foundation

BCSF Community Grantmaking Fund

Eileen Arnold
Kerry Cobbledick
Jon Cochrane
Joan Dewey
Michelle DeWitt
Kathy Hanson
Thomas Hawkins
Marie Nash
Nate Peters
Mira Rubens
Nanette Rucker
Saralyn Tabachnick
Rasmuson Foundation

BCSF Operating Fund

AmazonSmile Foundation
Rasmuson Foundation
Wells Fargo

Best in the West Fund

Bethel Native Corporation
BP Exploration Alaska Inc.
Calista Corporation
ConocoPhillips Alaska
Crowley Fuels, LLC
Donlin Gold LLC
First National Bank Alaska
LYNDEN
Wells Fargo

Bethel Housing And Homelessness Coalition Fund

Jon Cochrane

Bethel Prematernal Home Fund

Connie Eastwood

Bethel Winter House Fund

Benjamin Albrite
Connie Eastwood
Robert & Dianne Graham
Janice Norman
Kathleen Pelkan

Betty Guy Memorial Nursing Home Fund

Bob Hoffman
Elizabeth Hoffman
Elias Venes

Cama-i Dance Festival Fund

Leah Boltz
Mary Nanuwak
Bethel Council on the Arts

Community Health Aide Emergency Fund

Jean Brinich
Chris Desnoyers
Joan Dewey
Anne Komulainen
Chester Mark
Kaia Pearson

DeWitt/Hodges Donor Advised Fund

James and Ann Beck

Friends of the Kuskokwim Consortium Library Fund

Sigrid Brudie
Robert & Dianne Graham
Alaska Humanities Forum
City of Bethel
Donlin Gold LLC
VFW Auxiliary 10041

Future Delta Nurses Fund

Rahnia Boyer
Laura Ellsworth
Jennifer Lent
Abigail Morgan
Heidi Salisbury
Lisa Whalen
Angela Wilbanks
Bethel Lions Club
Bethel Native Corporation
Bethel Volunteer Emergency Services Association
Calista Corporation
Donlin Gold LLC
LYNDEN
VFW Auxiliary 10041

Healing Through Music & Dance Fund

Sam Brice
Edward Doty
Gretchen Petraske
Henry & Lana Pollack
Chloe Wurr
Arctic Slope Community Foundation
Arctic Village School
Bethel Lions Club
Bilista Holding LLC
City of Bethel
Council of Athabaskan Tribal Governments
Family Centered Services of Alaska
Galena City School District
Lower Kuskokwim School District
Nenana City Public School
North Slope Borough
North Slope Borough School District
Nulato Tribal Council
Tanana Chiefs Conference
Tanana City School District

HOME Project Fund

Alaska State Council on the Arts
Rasmuson Foundation

John Active Memorial Scholarship Fund

Fannie Black
Jim Culp

John Malone Fund

Michelle DeWitt
Frank Neitz
Patricia Smith
Rasmuson Foundation

Mary Ciunig Pete Legacy Scholarship Fund

Cynthia Andrecheck
Amy Angiak
Elizabeth Appel
Eileen Arnold
Spencer Audie
Kathryn Baldwin
Kelly Barbour
Elizabeth Bates
Rahnia Boyer
Taylor Brelsford
Julie Carpenter
Catherine Cedars
Jon Cochrane
Kathy Colombo
Christie Cowee
Jo Ellen Cowee
Michelle DeWitt
Diane DiSanto
Alyse Galvin
Chelsea Gulling
Kristi Helgen
Delores Huffman
Lorriane Jones
Alyssa Leary
Jessica Mancuso

Chester Mark
Sandy McDonald
Diane McEachern
Susan Mein
Robby Mohatt
Diane Morey
Kate Morey
Ronald Morey
Susan Natali
Patrice Parker
Randi Purser
Elizabeth Roll
Geri Simon
Jan Vanasse
Jennifer Wood
Tiffany Zulkosky
KuC Student Government
Rasmuson Foundation
Facebook Campaign Donors

Sisters for K-9 Care Fund

Joan Dewey
Jean Farley

South Sudan Medical Relief - Immediate Use Fund

Gary & Kathryn Baldwin
Jody Drew
Alex & Jessie Judy
Elizabeth Roll
Vicki Turner Malone

Teens Acting Against Violence Fund

Erin Arno
Akram Didari
Connie Eastwood
Carmen Lowrey
Chester Mark
Bridget Power
Rasmuson Foundation

Tundra Women's Coalition Fund

Anonymous
Elizabeth Bates
James & Ann Beck
Thea Bemben
Julianne Cox
Joan Daniels
Connie Eastwood
Kathy Hanson
Elin McWilliams
Chloe Wurr
PEGS: C4 Ministry & Missions
Rasmuson Foundation

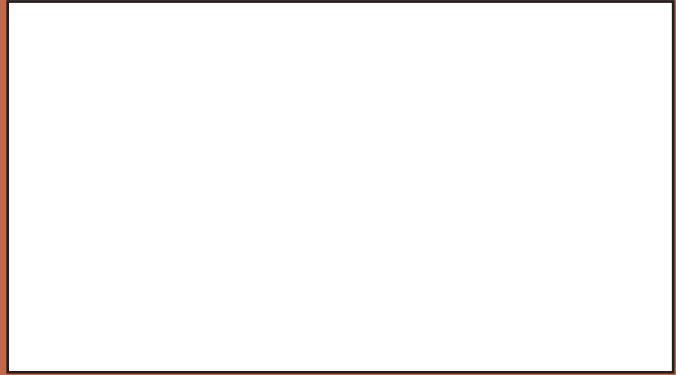
YK Delta Lifesavers Fund

Cynthia Andrecheck
Dorothy Angstman
Myron & Sue Angstman
Kathy Baldwin
Betty Barton
Pavilla Bayayok
Tom Bornstein
Jean Brinich
Stephanie Butte
Alaina Ctibor
Stan Davis
Nate & Rachel DeHaan
Piper DeHaan
Michelle DeWitt
Akram Didari
Cecilia Franko
Melanie Fredericks
Robert & Dianne Graham
Martha Hintz
Amanda Hoffman
Beverly Hoffman
Melody Hoffman
Shane Iverson
Anne Komulainen
Alyssa Leary
Brian Lefferts
Casey McDonald
Colin McDonald
Kody McGrath
Kate McWilliams
Geoffrey Michael
Alicia Miner
Sharon Neth
Janice Norman
Nate Peters
Ned Peters

Rory Peters
Sally Peters
Ava Powers
Tim Redder
Madelene Reichard
Addy Roddy
Elizabeth Roll
Sally Russell
Vicki Turner Malone
James Vait
Jan Vanasse
Lisa Whalen
Chloe Wurr
Norma Wyckoff
Drew's Foundation
Rasmuson Foundation
GCI
VFW Auxiliary 10041

YK Delta Women in Philanthropy

Lucinda Alexie
Sarah Angstman
Sue Angstman
Erin Arno
Eileen Arnold
Reyne Athanas
Kathryn Baldwin
Yvette (Charlie) Barrows
Katie Basile
Elizabeth Bates
Rahnia Boyer
Jean Brinich
Julie Carpenter
Joan Daniels
Lisa Demer
Christine Desnoyers
Joan Dewey
Michelle DeWitt
Akram Didari
Jenni Dobson
Marsha Dunkley
Ann Evans
Debbie Fairbanks
Ann Fienup-Riordan
Kimberly Fisher
Cecilia Franko
Ann Glasheen
Charlotte Gruber
Chelsea Gulling
Marcia Haggerty
Kristin Hall
Haley Hanson
Kathy Hanson
Kristi Helgen
Ariel Herman
Ellen Hodges
Beverly Hoffman
Julie Johnson
Lorraine Jones
Jessie Judy
Anne Komulainen
Jennifer Lent
Teresa Lowe
Carmen Lowry
Dendra Martin
Elin McWilliams
Kate McWilliams
Alicia Miner
Azara Mohammadi
Cynthia Mondesir
Abigail Morgan
Mary Nanuwak
Ashley Olson
Kaia Pearson
Kathleen Pelkan
Mary Peltola
River Posey
Theresa Quiner
Addy Roddy
Elizabeth Roll
Louise Russell
Heidi Salisbury
Stephanie Schindler
Jessica Schroeder
Jeannie Smith
Susan Taylor
Denise Tommy
Becky Trimble
Vicki Turner Malone
Judy Wasierski
Lisa Whalen
Marybeth Whalen
Angela Wilbanks
Tiffany Zulkosky
Rasmuson Foundation



Community foundations around the world play a key role in identifying and addressing needs in communities. They are created by and for people in a local area.

Like all community foundations, BCSF occupies a variety of roles, including grantmaker, fund developer, and capacity builder—working on developing new projects to enrich the region.



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info@bcsfoundation.org
Website: bcsfoundation.org