

Philanthropic Ventures Foundation -  
*specializing in customized giving for donors.*

## **Exciting Philanthropy Through PVF's Donor Venture Funds**

PVF works with donors of all kinds - individuals, families, foundations and businesses - providing services tailored to meet donor's needs and wishes, through Donor Venture Funds.

"We want to make donors excited about philanthropy. To see the impact of their giving, and to recognize that their contributions are making a difference." - Moira C. Walsh, PVF Associate Director

PVF staff is available to formulate a giving plan to match a donor's interests; create and run a charitable program on a donor's behalf; negotiate a grant to a nonprofit organization; evaluate a non-profit agency; make grants based on a donor's recommendation; and introduce a donor to an organization or person working in the donor's area of interest.

For example, PVF designed the Music Resource Grants Program for the Flora Family Foundation, to meet their special interest of promoting music programs at low-income schools. Through the Program, Bay Area music teachers, grades 5 - 12, have the opportunity to apply for grants up to \$3,500 to purchase or refurbish musical instruments. The Flora Family Foundation is very satisfied with the Program, has recently renewed funding for a third year, and is seeking to expand the Program by recruiting additional donors.

PVF provides other services as well. Donors benefit from PVF's philanthropic expertise, extensive knowledge of the nonprofit community and experience in turning ideas into action.

"PVF is very forward in its thinking. PVF is philanthropy at its best - responsive and significant."

- Radha Stern, Program Officer,  
Family Charitable Trust

Many donors who are considering creating their own private foundation opt to start a Donor Venture Fund because it allows them to carry out their giving without the costs, excise taxes, IRS requirements, incorporation and the administrative demands of a private foundation. In addition, PVF gives donors access to a program staff who are experts in charitable giving. PVF manages all accounting, administrative and reporting requirements of Donor Venture Funds.

"My wife and I utilize PVF for virtually all of our charitable contributions. The staff is professional and their response to our varied, and sometimes unusual, requests is immediate." - Peter Carpenter, Carpenter Donor Venture Fund at PVF

For more information about establishing a Donor Venture Fund at PVF, contact Moira Walsh, PVF Associate Director, [mwalsh@venturesfoundation.org](mailto:mwalsh@venturesfoundation.org), (510) 645-1890.

## **PVF Supports Foundations Throughout USA**

For the last 12 years, PVF has operated the Grantmaking Consulting Program, providing consulting services to more than 280 community foundations throughout the United States on creative grantmaking and effective operations. Recognizing PVF's expertise and the value of its services, the Consulting Program has been funded by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation since its inception.

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This is the only program of its kind. The consulting services are on-site, customized to fit the needs of each individual foundation, cover all aspects of operations, and are provided by PVF's President Bill Somerville who has been in the non-profit field for over 44 years.

“You have caused us to rethink some very fundamental issues. Your ideas on grants are excellent and I think we will change the direction of our foundation. We have been missing the excitement that should be a fundamental part of giving.” – J. Kane Ditto, Board Member, Community Foundation of Greater Jackson, Jackson, Mississippi

The consulting fits well with PVF's vision of serving as a model for the philanthropic community, demonstrating new concepts in giving and disseminating information about its experiences to colleagues across the country and abroad. PVF tries to “push the envelope” of philanthropy.

“Many, many new ideas. In fact, our foundation will never be the same, we think differently now.” - Lisa John, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Boone County, Zionsville, Indiana

In addition to PVF's consulting to community foundations, PVF consults extensively with family foundations.

For more information on PVF's consulting services, contact Bill Somerville, PVF Executive Director, (510) 645-1890 [bsomerville@venturesfoundation.org](mailto:bsomerville@venturesfoundation.org).