

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

### Donor Venture Funds

Through PVF Donor Venture Funds, PVF works with donors to develop and achieve their charitable goals. PVF staff has the expertise and community knowledge to strategize with donors on their giving plan; to conduct evaluations of non-profit projects; to make grants based on donor recommendations; and to connect donor interests to community needs.

PVF can also create a charitable program for donors, based on donors' interests and the needs of the community. Here are a few programs created by PVF and some of the responses we have received from grant recipients as to program quality and significance:

The **Special Education Resource Grants Program** was created by PVF to provide teaching resources, professional development and field trips to meet the needs of Special Education students in public schools. This Program has been funded by The Thomas J. Long Foundation for several years and enables Special Ed teachers and therapists to request up to \$500 to meet the needs of their students. PVF responds to grant requests with a check in 48-hours.

"Thank you so much for the wonderful materials I purchased with the Thomas J. Long Foundation Special Education Grant. My students are 3 to 5 years old with emerging language skills. The books I chose are possibly the best instructional aids I have received in my career and I have been a public school speech pathologist for 34 years! The children are absolutely glued to the interactive books. The books are so motivating; keeping their attention is built into the lesson. It allows me to teach vocabulary, sentence structure, comprehension and early literacy with an attentive audience! Thanks to your generosity these durable materials will provide enriching

language activities to many special needs students for a long time." *Lorraine Arcuri, Speech-Language Pathologist, Federal Terrace Elementary School, Vallejo, CA*

PVF President Bill Somerville is in his 8<sup>th</sup> year of teaching **philanthropy at Stanford University**, and just finished *Community Based Learning as a Pedagogy*, which he co-taught with Karin Cotterman of Stanford's Haas Center for Public Service. The focus of the course was Service-Learning; each student created a service learning or social action project for a teacher after visiting local K-12 public schools. The Sand Hill Foundation has been providing funding for this course since its inception, enabling the Stanford students to actually make grants in conjunction with their course work. The Stanford students determined which service learning projects were most viable and directed that grants be made to those schools so that the projects could be implemented.

*Stanford student Kelsey Twist* had the following to say about her experience in the course: "Thank you for the exceptional opportunity to experience the world of philanthropy through the Service Learning course at the Haas Center. In my 5 years at Stanford, as both an undergraduate and graduate student, I cannot recall another course that excited me intellectually, emotionally, and philosophically the way this class did. I am extremely proud of the work we accomplished as a class and wait with anticipation to see what the future of our progress holds. Please pass along our deepest thanks to the class funder, without whom our project would remain theoretical ideas instead of becoming transformative life experiences."

The **Social Worker Resource Grants Program** is a PVF initiative supported by an anonymous donor for the last 10 years. PVF responds to the requests of social workers and court appointed special advocates within 48-hours to provide critical and often emergency support to youth in the foster care system.

“Thank you for the \$250 grant that was used to help a family establish temporary guardianship of six children by extended family members, rather than place the children in protective custody. By immediately providing beds and bedding to allow this placement, no additional harm was incurred while successfully intervening and mitigating risks to the children. Your foundation is credited with helping this family in very tangible ways that improved their overall quality of life.” *Don Long, Social Worker, Dept of Family and Children Services, Santa Clara County*

“The family that received your grant very much appreciated the assistance. The 7 year old boy had been placed for adoption with a family in Louisiana, which was then deeply affected when Hurricane Katrina struck. In spite of losing their home and belongings and needing to relocate, the family persevered in meeting all of the requirements necessary to adopt this little 7 year-old in a timely fashion. The adoption took place and the family treated the child as the valued addition that he is to their family. The grant helped to make the day absolutely perfect and complete for this child and his new family.” - *Carole Klassen, Adoption Social Worker, Santa Clara County*

“With the payment of her rental deposit, my client was able to move her family into her own place, which is very therapeutic for this mother and her children. Your grant helped this mother to make a fresh start and she is making the most of it. As a social worker, I find that it often takes just a little to make a really big difference in a family’s life. Your grant is helping this mom make significant changes.” - *Wilhelmina Anderson, Social Worker, Santa Clara County*

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***Moira Walsh*** is the Associate Director of PVF, responsible for donor development, program work and managing foundation operations. Moira has a strong business background, coupled with extensive experience in the non-profit arena. Prior to joining PVF, Moira was a partner at Carr, McClellan, Ingersoll, Thompson & Horn, where she practiced law for 12 years. Moira has led and served on the boards of several non-profit organizations and is a native San Franciscan.