

Donor Venture Funds

PVF's focus is on maximizing the impact of charitable giving. PVF works with individuals, families, foundations and businesses in customizing charitable giving to meet donors' specific interests.

At PVF, donors can establish a Donor Venture Fund, an advised fund through which all of their charitable giving can be done. Donors transfer cash or (appreciated) stock to PVF, which is deposited into their personalized Fund. Donors then make recommendations for grants to charitable causes. Grants can be made to charitable causes anywhere in the world, regardless of non-profit status, at anytime. Donors can make recommendations for grants to the charity of their choice or can get information from PVF on high-impact programs that match their interests. In addition, PVF can evaluate potential grant recipients, conduct site visits, negotiate grants or create a new program to match a donor's interests. PVF prides itself on the speed in which it gets things done. Our standard turnaround time in issuing grants is 48 hours.

PVF takes the investment approach to charitable giving. PVF is constantly looking for outstanding people and opportunities in the community that make a significant impact. When those opportunities are discovered, they are funded. Donors, exposed to a variety of exceptional programs, get the satisfaction of making positive, innovative change.

If you are interested in establishing a Donor Venture Fund at PVF, or already have a Fund at PVF and want to explore new giving ideas, contact Moira Walsh, PVF Associate Director.

Funding Available Throughout Bay Area to Support Abused, Neglected Youth

PVF provides discretionary funding to Juvenile Court Judges in seven San Francisco Bay Area

counties, to address the critical needs of youth who have been abandoned, abused, neglected, or removed from their homes.

A community's most vulnerable children appear before Judges in Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency courts on a daily basis. These Judges are in an ideal position to identify critical needs that, if addressed immediately, can make a profound difference in the life of a child, at minimal cost.

Judge Haight, of Contra Costa County, saw an opportunity to reach John, a young boy who had been removed from his parents' home due to abuse and neglect, and who, through no fault of his own, had been moved four times in the last year. Judge Haight was looking for a way to motivate John and get him to feel like part of his new foster family. She learned that the other children were enrolled in Boy Scout Camp. With \$255 from the Juvenile Judges Program, John was not only able to attend camp, but to do so with pride, wearing a new scout uniform. With funding available when needed, the Judge was able to use her knowledge of John's situation to help him during a tough transition. Camp gave John the opportunity to get to know his new foster brothers and to feel like people cared. One year later, he remains in the same foster family and is doing well.

In each instance, the Judges call upon funding at a critical point in time, to address the child's specific needs. Other examples include:

- \$600 for a young woman, soon to be emancipated from the "system," for tuition and a work uniform to enable her to attend trade school and become self-sufficient through employment.
- \$403 to cover tuition for graphic design courses that allowed a depressed teenager,

who had recently shown great interest in the arts, to explore a career in graphic arts.

- \$350 for school supplies and clothing for a boy starting a new high school who had recently been reunited with his mother, who at her minimum wage job was able to pull together funds for bedding and furniture but had no excess for other necessities.
- \$470 for stuffed animals, puppets and dolls, used by judges in Alameda and San Francisco counties for children to hold and actually talk to in the courtroom while testifying about sexual or physical abuse suffered, and to hand out to children in the courtroom at the happy occasion of their adoption. In both instances, the toy was for the child to keep.
- \$750 for 50 gift certificates awarded to youth who had successfully completed their drug treatment program as a means to encourage positive behavior and acknowledge accomplishments. In each instance, the gift certificate was handed to the graduate by the Juvenile Court Judge presiding at Drug Court, with praise for the youngster's achievements.

In addition to meeting critical needs, this Program provides children with hope. For many, they have never been the recipient of any gift, never been acknowledged, praised or even noticed. This positive attention is often the boost they need to get through a difficult time. In addition, the Program gives judges a valuable resource to increase their impact. Commissioner Bresee of San Mateo County summed it up by saying: "You have given my job a strength of purpose and an ability to address the personal crises that emerge with the children we see."

The Juvenile Court Judges Program is an example of a Program initiated by PVF in response to the needs of the community. If you are interested in more information, contact PVF.