

## **Holiday Giving to Support Emergency Needs**

Many donors are interested in providing extra assistance to those in need over the holidays. At PVF, we specialize in grassroots giving, finding professionals and agencies that do outstanding work in the greater San Francisco Bay Area, and funding them. We seek out high-impact programs and individuals, who provide direct services to the poor.

At holiday time there are always extra needs. Through donor generosity, PVF provides funding to meet these needs through discretionary grants for the agencies to use as they see fit. These tireless, committed agencies are given a sum of money, which they can call upon to meet the emergency needs of the poor. The money is spent in small dollar amounts for such things as a blanket, turkey dinner, toiletries, groceries, heating bill, or gasoline to enable a person to spend the holidays with family.

By example, The Family Support Center of the Mid-Peninsula was given \$5,000 to meet the emergency needs of its clients. This \$5,000 reached over 30 families in need. Families avoided homelessness with assistance with rent payments, a father of five was able to keep his job through a payment to help get his truck repaired, grocery money put food on the table, and several individuals whose insurance is insufficient received funding to cover medical prescriptions. We

have found that small money at the right place and the right time can have considerable impact.

Thank you to the donors who make this critical funding possible. If you are interested in providing discretionary funding to help families through emergencies, now is the time, contact us.

## **Packard Foundation Renews Funding for PVF's Consulting for 9<sup>th</sup> Straight Year**

Since 1993, PVF has provided on-site consulting to over 245 community foundations throughout the United States. Committed to supporting the development of community foundations across America, PVF provides unique consulting to foundations on operations, new and creative approaches to grant making, development and strategic planning.

Recently, PVF received the news that The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has renewed its funding of the Program for the 9th straight year. This funding enables PVF to provide consulting to foundations that would otherwise not be able to afford such services. The Packard Foundation, committed to expanding philanthropy throughout the United States, covers the consulting fee; while participating foundations pay for travel and lodging.

PVF's consulting is customized to address the needs of each foundation it works with,

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whether they be small in size and just starting out, medium in size in need of a growth plan, or large in size looking for assistance in innovative approaches to grant making and streamlined internal procedures.

The Program offers a wide variety of services including foundation evaluations and audits, program officer training and facilitation of board retreats. PVF also publishes *Building Community Foundations*, a newsletter focused on creative grant making, operations and growth.

PVF President Bill Somerville recently returned from a three-day consulting session in Indiana for several small foundations in the area. The Parke County Community Foundation Grants Committee Chair wrote in her evaluation: “Every foundation staff and board member could benefit from this interactive learning. It revitalized my approach to grant making and got me to think outside of the box.”

PVF is delighted to continue to offer its consulting services to community foundations throughout the United States. For additional information, contact PVF.

### **PVF Web-Site**

PVF’s web site has recently been revamped. If you haven’t visited it lately, you may want to take a moment and go to [www.venturesfoundation.org](http://www.venturesfoundation.org) for up to date information on PVF services, programs PVF has initiated, PVF publications and grant making opportunities.