

Progress

PVF

Philanthropic
Ventures
Foundation

The Newsletter of the Philanthropic Ventures Foundation

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PVF AS NICHE FUNDER

Philanthropic Ventures Foundation (PVF) is known for creating giving programs customized to match the specific interests of donors. As part of this service, PVF can evaluate potential recipients, identify little known high-impact programs, or create brand new programs that match the donor's interests.

PVF is unique in the work that it does and in the services it offers. PVF is a demonstration foundation, trying out new avenues in philanthropy, new approaches in grant making, and measuring success by impact in the community.

PVF is the originator of "immediate response" grants, responding to requests within an hour and issuing funds within a day. The goal is giving without proposals and without deadlines, instead, using letters of understanding. PVF has produced "immediate response" programs that support childcare providers, teachers, librarians and the arts. The "immediate response" option is available to all donors at PVF.

PVF takes the initiative for donors, locating outstanding individuals and programs doing innovative human service work. PVF does not wait for requests for funding; instead PVF is out and about seeking quality people, programs, and ideas. Through PVF, donors

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PUBLICATIONS BY PVF

The following publications are created by PVF and are available upon request:

- ◆ **Building Community Foundations** – A newsletter of the grantmaking consulting program. (Issue No. 37)
- ◆ **Coastside Youth Directory** – Resource guide. (1996)
- ◆ **Dialogue** – A periodic newsletter for development officers. (Issue No. 16)
- ◆ **Funding Sources: Who They Are & How To Use Them.**
- ◆ **Guide to the Arts** – A guide for Peninsula Children, Families, and Schools. (1997)
- ◆ **Non-Profit Effectiveness Assistance Program** – Booklet
- ◆ **Preparing for and Responding to Emergencies & Natural Disasters** – Recommendations for philanthropic foundations. (1993)
- ◆ **Progress** – The newsletter of PVF. (Issue No. 30)
- ◆ **Proposal Writing Kit** – Tips & Techniques.
- ◆ **What is Good Philanthropy?** ◆

PVF does the "Write" Thing

Chronicle Books, publisher of the "Mr. Lunch" children's book series, contacted PVF with an in-kind donation of 70,000 "Mr. Lunch" pencils. Chronicle Books, requested that PVF distribute the pencils to schools, throughout the Bay Area. PVF is busy getting the pencils to local schools and the schools are enthusiastic about receiving these essential supplies. ◆



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Philanthropic Ventures Foundation is a permanent foundation, approaching its 10th year of operation. President Bill Somerville states "PVF is here forever. We have an excellent staff to lead us into the future."

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are exposed to a variety of community programs, get the satisfaction of causing new things to happen, and of making positive change.

A donor, concerned about youth violence, asked how he and his wife could make a difference. PVF convened 32 high school students to discuss violence in schools. Many of the students stated they had seen fellow students with guns, but none were willing to report them. It was decided that the production of a video dealing with guns and violence in schools, featuring the students' daily encounters with violence, would provoke discussion and ultimately a sense of responsibility among the students. Through PVF, the donor helped fund the production of the anti-violence video and its distribution to schools throughout the Bay Area.

At PVF our goal is to expand philanthropy. PVF is not in competition with community or private foundations but instead complementary. PVF works alongside foundations and in the last 6 years has consulted with over 185 community and private foundations in the United States, Canada and abroad on creative grant making. ♦

PVF's 1998 Annual Report is available by calling (510) 645-1890.