

28 years of **CREATIVE** grantmaking



"When the Entire School Wants to Visit Your Classroom"
photo of Glenda Escanellas, Teacher at Margaret Collins Elementary, recipient of Special Education Resource Grant

2018 Report



philanthropic
ventures
foundation

A Year in Review



(photo credit: Christopher Michel)

Be Good to Your Neighbor

In so many ways, it feels like there is just too much centrifugal force at work in the world and the center is not holding.

Our own government is separating children from their parents at the border, withholding honestly earned paychecks from its employees, and taking away the dreams of our Dreamers. Fake news and disinformation hacking is creating wider and more calcified partisan and tribal chasms.

The technologies of Silicon Valley continue to add fuel to the inequality gap. Companies are co-opting our own data from our grasp and eroding our privacy.

The increasing stresses around us are decreasing our sense of mental well-being and health.

Despite all of that, at PVF, when the world goes low, we go high. We are convinced that local grassroots activism is more crucial than ever. We have conviction that together with you, we can find and propel new ideas and approaches to our biggest problems. We know there are great leaders waiting to be discovered. We believe in risk-taking. We remain audaciously optimistic that we can shape the change we want to see around us. If we focus on our communities and the people around us, and if we focus on radically new ways of collaborating, we can make that dent.

When all is said and done, it's simple. Be good to your neighbor.

James Higa, Executive Director



Right Place at the Right Time

Housing is possibly one of the most vexing and important issues we face in the Bay Area. Is this a role for us, the “little guy” funder? We say, “Yes.” Because of our specialty in critical intervention funding.

A few hundred people have a place to sleep because we were there when these housing and bedding programs started, with beginning funding. When programs start up to help the homeless gain some dignity and stabilize their lives, we are there as first funder for mobile showers and as the sponsor of podiatry programs.

PVF saw that the Community Legal Services program in East Palo Alto had clients who could be evicted but for a small portion of rent they couldn't afford. PVF created the Housing Rescue Fund wherein an attorney at Community Legal Services could disburse critical needs grants and keep the person from being evicted. This program is now supported by a PVF funder and has helped several hundred families remain in their homes.

We just helped buy a reentry house for persons out of prison. We also helped buy a house for day laborers which offers stability to people in precarious positions.

Critical intervention funding is being at the right place at the right time. It is at these times when smaller funds can have impact. If there is trust in the relationship, marvelous things can transpire. No matter how big the program, there is always room for being there when it counts.

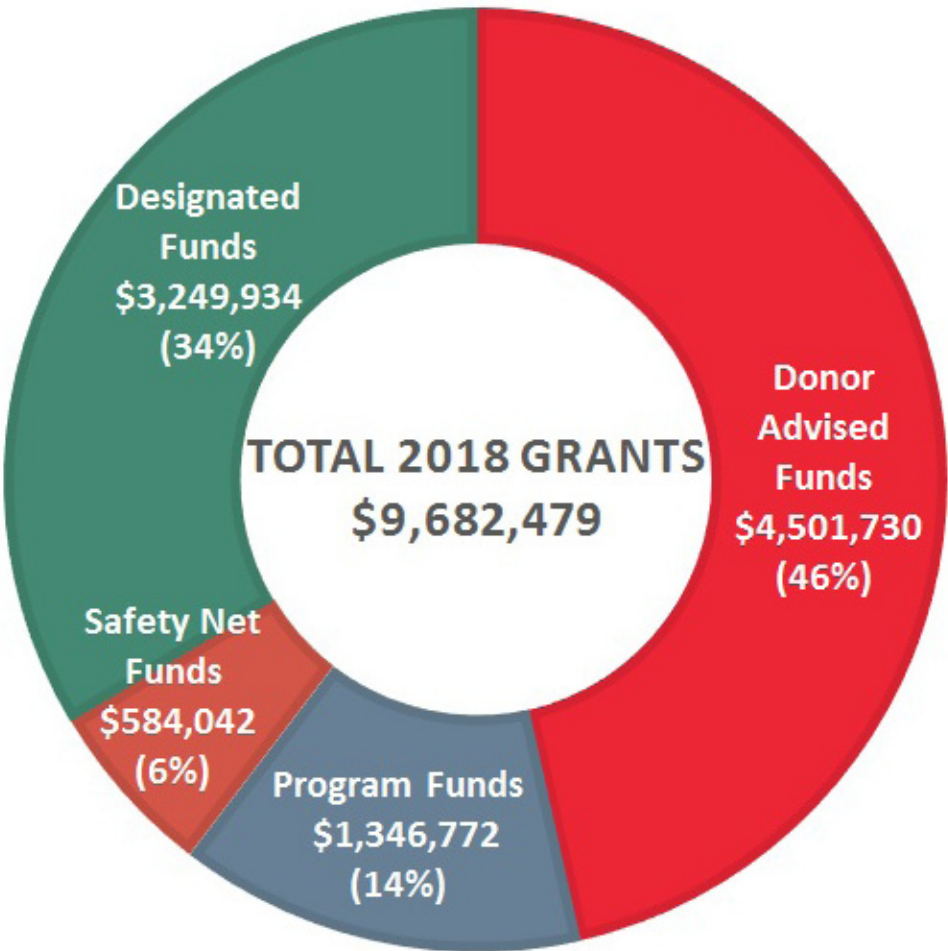
Bill Somerville, Founder



2018 Grants

1991-2018 Total Grants:
\$148,137,466

2018	\$ 9,682,479
2017	\$ 9,542,360
2016	\$ 9,728,767
2015	\$ 12,930,666
2014	\$ 8,101,645
2013	\$ 11,074,198
2012	\$ 10,790,794
2011	\$ 8,153,167
2010	\$ 5,631,548
2009	\$ 4,351,187
2008	\$ 4,339,116
2007	\$ 4,537,652
2006	\$ 5,073,979
2005	\$ 4,609,819
2004	\$ 5,219,721
2003	\$ 5,267,973
2002	\$ 4,047,374
2001	\$ 3,798,773
2000	\$ 4,562,190
1999	\$ 2,470,228
1998	\$ 2,665,877
1997	\$ 1,862,006
1996	\$ 1,081,189
1995	\$ 1,775,415
1994	\$ 3,832,494
1993	\$ 2,116,342
1992	\$ 666,113
1991	\$ 224,394



“New idea, first funder, valuable program. This is what we do.”

-Bill Somerville, Founder, PVF



Programs

We aspire to transform philanthropy and make it more responsive and collaborative to meet the needs of our community. We identify needs that can be met with philanthropic support, and then we devise program ideas to help tackle the issues head on. From this drive to address unmet needs came the idea of immediate-response grants, in which we provide funds within a 48-hour turnaround. We have established a variety of immediate-response grant programs, benefiting teachers as well as social workers and juvenile court judges who work with youth in foster care.

Foundations, individual donors, and businesses partner with PVF to establish unique immediate-response grant programs because of our grassroots giving expertise. We have created and administered programs for the following donors:

The Barkley Fund

Brit + Co.

The California Endowment

David L. Klein Jr. Foundation

David & Lucile Packard Foundation

Eucalyptus Foundation

Facebook

Flora Family Foundation

GIRLBOSS Foundation

Heising-Simons Foundation

Hellman Foundation

Herbst Foundation

Hutto-Patterson Charitable Foundation

Joseph & Vera Long Foundation

Lampert Byrd Foundation

Peery Foundation

Robert Half International Inc.

Sand Hill Foundation

San Francisco Foundation

Thomas J. Long Foundation

United Way Bay Area

van Loben Sels/RembeRock Foundation

The Westly Foundation

Y&H Soda Foundation

We are open to new ideas and are ready to tackle pressing issues.

Are you interested in setting up a customized giving program?

Please contact:

Dawn Hawk, Chief Operating Officer
dhawk@venturesfoundation.org
(510) 645-1890

"PVF has already invested thousands of dollars in our youth to explore their passions. Hundreds of our young people have participated in activities that they might not otherwise have access to, living out their dreams and thriving. We are grateful for PVF's investment in our most vulnerable young people."

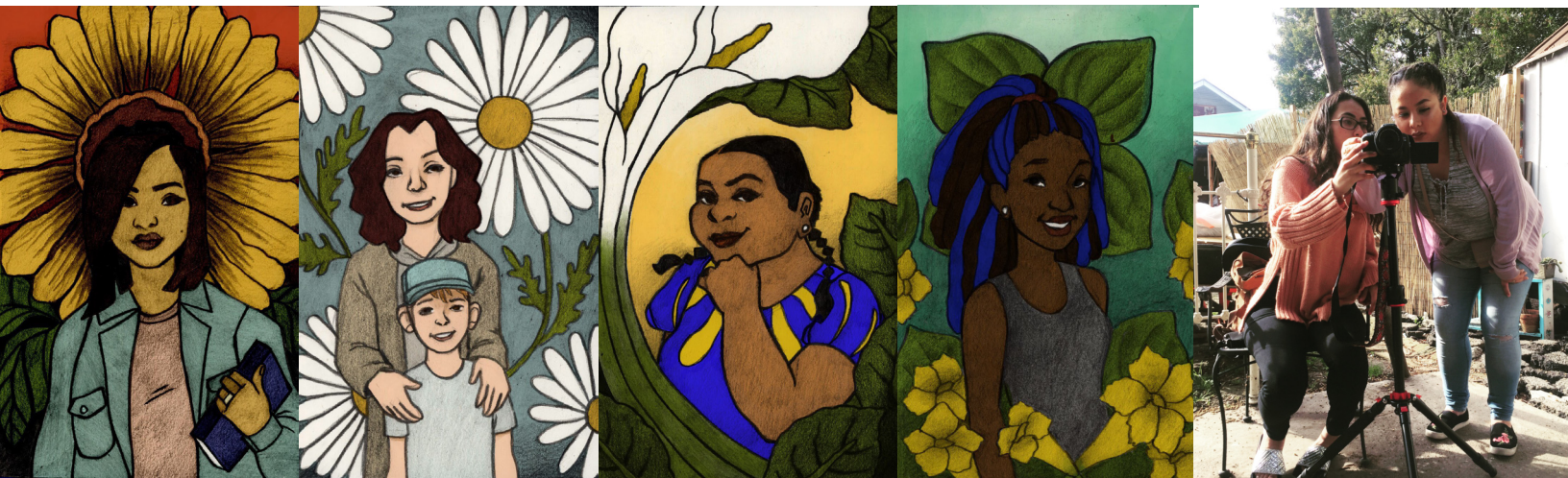
-Kristine Schneller, Business Development Specialist, iFoster



Program Grants

In 2018, we administered the following programs in partnership with our donors:

Program	Location	Description	Amount
Arts Resource Grants	Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties, CA	Grants for public school teachers to enhance K-8th grade art programs. Supported by the Westly Foundation.	\$46,000
Bay Area Inspire Awards	Alameda, San Francisco, & San Mateo Counties, CA	Awards for 18-30 year olds to launch innovative projects to create positive changes within their communities.	\$37,500
Environmental Science Resource Grants	Alameda County, CA	Grants for public school teachers to enhance K-12th grade environmental science curriculum. Supported by the Lampert Byrd Foundation.	\$65,000
Excursion Grants	Alameda & San Mateo Counties, CA	Grants for public school teachers to take K-5th grade students on field trips. Supported by the Geballe Family.	\$225,000
Facebook Local Community Fund	Belle Haven & East Palo Alto, CA	Grants to support non-profit programs providing services to the local community. Supported by Facebook.	\$99,800
Grace Scholarships	United States	Undergraduate scholarships to international students to attend American colleges.	\$78,400
Heising-Simons Responsive Fund for Grantee Communications	United States	Grants for Heising-Simons Foundation grantees to pilot new communications ideas or expand/enhance existing communications projects.	\$227,288



At the start of 2018, PVF awarded grants to six young Bay Area residents with fresh ideas for building better communities. These awards were made possible through the Bay Area Inspire Awards, which provides \$5,000 grants to 18-30 year olds living in San Francisco, Alameda, and San Mateo Counties. One of the awardees, Claudia Luz Suarez, collaborated with and trained migrant youth to create a documentary series focusing on the acts of representation, remembering, and archiving the undocumented experiences of migrants who are often ignored by media due to age, nationality, or status. “The goal of this documentary is to promote inclusive representation for immigrants and challenge the notion that stereotypical content around migration is ‘what the people want,’” Claudia said.

(Art by Quetzalli Jimenez of documentary participants Kenzi Hilario, Natalia Avvakumova, Claudia Y. Suarez, and Yota OmoSowho)



Program Grants

2018 program funds continued:

Program	Location	Description	Amount
Juvenile Court Judges Grants	Bay Area, CA	Grants to support the critical needs of youth in Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency as requested by Juvenile Court judges.	\$5,567
Mathematics Grants	Santa Clara & San Mateo Counties, CA	Grants for public school teachers to enhance their math lessons for K-3rd grade students. Supported by the Heising-Simons Foundation.	\$50,000
Multi-Donor Teacher Resource Grants	Bay Area, CA	Grants for public school teachers to enhance instruction.	\$19,387
Sand Hill & Tom Ford Fellowships	Stanford, CA	Fellowships for Stanford University students to intern at foundations. Supported by the Sand Hill Foundation.	\$135,000
Science Resource Grants	Alameda, San Francisco, San Mateo, & Santa Clara Counties, CA	Grants to K-12th grade public school teachers to enhance science instruction in the classroom.	\$13,500
Social Worker/CASA Grants	Bay Area, CA	Grants to support the critical needs of foster youth as requested by social workers and Court Appointed Special Advocates.	\$46,500
Special Education Grants	Alameda & Contra Costa Counties, CA	Grants for public school teachers and therapists serving students with moderate to severe disabilities. Supported by the Thomas J. Long Foundation.	\$112,500
Visiting Artist in the Classroom Grants	Alameda & San Mateo Counties, CA	Grants for public school teachers, grades 1-12, to have a visual or material artist visit their classrooms. Supported by the Geballe Family.	\$45,000
Youth Opportunity Scholarships	Bay Area, CA	Grants for youth to participate in extracurricular activities. Supported by the Lampert Byrd Foundation.	\$140,000
Various other program funds	Bay Area, CA	----	\$329

2018 Program Grants: \$1,346,772

We are continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of donors like you who answer the call to give again and again. You have made a difference in the lives of the kids we serve.”

–Angie, Social Worker, San Francisco County



Donor Advised Funds

We think of our donors as investors, people who see philanthropy as investments in positive change.

When people want to do exciting giving, they turn to PVF. PVF offers a variety of services to individuals, families, businesses, and foundations through Donor Advised Funds. We make grants to charitable projects that donors recommend, consult and strategize with donors on their giving plan, and help them navigate through the world of nonprofit programs. Donors benefit from our philanthropic expertise, extensive knowledge of the nonprofit community, and experience in turning ideas into action.

In 2018, we administered the following donor advised funds:

Anonymous I Fund	Barbara Jean & Allen L. Grimm Fund	Petersmeyer Fund
Anonymous III Fund	Hellman-Breslau Fund	Relfe Fund
Anonymous IV Fund	Horizons Unlimited Fund	Roxy Fund
Anonymous V Fund	Joanna Katz Fund	Mike Scott Fund
Benediction Fund	Katchadourian Family Fund	Somerton Foundation Fund
Bergstrom Foundation Fund	Leenson Fund	Spieker Fund
Carlson-Lynch Fund	Lockard-Marduel Fund	Strock Family Fund
Peter & Jane Carpenter Fund	Maloney Family Fund	Task Rabbit for Good
John & Susan Carver Family Fund	Margaret Lamping Fund	Villagrancia Fund
Josh Childress Foundation	Medvin Fund	Vision Advocate Fund
Doberstyn Fund	Millar/Montrose Fund	Waverley Fund
Esperanza Fund	Monticello Venture Fund	Wienholz Fund
Facebook Fund	Orr Family Fund	Cole Wilbur Fund
Farmhill Scholarship Fund	Pasturel Family Fund	Xela Fund
Gerber-Doyle Fund	Peery Family Fund	Yochum-Otani Fund
	Jason & Lisa Peery Fund	

**Are you interested in setting up a
Donor Advised Fund?**

Please contact:

Dawn Hawk, Chief Operating Officer
dhawk@venturesfoundation.org
(510) 645-1890

2018 Donor Advised Grants: \$4,501,730

"We admire Bill Somerville's pragmatic, empathetic, contagious approach to grantmaking. So when we decided to create a Donor Advised Fund, PVF naturally came to mind. We are still sold on PVF's commitment to fighting poverty in our midst."

- Marc and Ragni Pasturel, PVF donors



Safety Net Grants

PVF places high trust in outstanding individuals and programs, demonstrates flexibility and creativity in grant-making, and takes the initiative in providing funding when it is needed. These grants, made without applications and based on trust, are unique in the grantmaking sector.

Our ability to respond to community needs on a discretionary and immediate basis is made possible by bequests and gifts to PVF's endowment and by undesignated gifts from donors. PVF is proud to have their confidence.

Would you like to learn how you can support PVF's endowment?

Please contact:

James Higa, Executive Director
jhiga@venturesfoundation.org
(510) 645-1890

2018 Safety Net Grants: \$584,042



A PVF donor to the Catholic Worker House program made Re:Store Justice's new re-entry house possible, where men released from San Quentin will get support to obtain a driver's license, open a bank account, find a job, and develop a plan for the next chapter in their lives. Re:Store Justice has been a mover and shaker in prison sentencing reform. It also provides legal clinics, advocacy, restorative justice symposiums and community building, in addition to supporting the FirstWatch media lab at San Quentin. Through FirstWatch, prisoners tell their own stories in short films, shining a light on the lives of men in San Quentin, their rehabilitation, joy, and sorrow.

(photo by Eddie Herena/Courtesy of Ear Hustle)



Designated Funds

In the spirit of expanding philanthropy and promoting outstanding charitable work, PVF serves as the depository for projects that do not yet have their tax exempt status but do charitable work.

PVF's Designated Funds allow multiple donors to receive a tax deduction for contributing to a charitable program. A Designated Fund provides donors with flexibility, enabling them to target support for innovative ideas. PVF manages the funds and prepares financial reports for the program leaders.

Are you interested in setting up a Designated Fund?

Please contact:

Dawn Hawk, Chief Operating Officer
dhawk@venturesfoundation.org
(510) 645-1890



TaskRabbit is an example of an activist company in our midst doing good. They created TaskRabbit for Good (TR4G) to make it easier for neighbors to give back locally and make a difference on issues that matter to them. They have partnered with Goodwill in San Francisco so that you can include an in-kind donation of your unwanted clothes, shoes, or small household appliances for drop-off to Goodwill as part of the task, making it easier to avoid adding to our landfills. Taskers and TaskRabbit HQ employees have contributed to relief efforts in Houston after Hurricane Harvey. TaskRabbit challenged 10 Taskers to build #ATinyHouse in 3 days to benefit the nonprofit organization Community Solutions. There's much more ahead as TR4G endeavors to create more economic opportunity, catalyzes community engagement, and helps us all be planet positive. And we at PVF are honored to support TR4G on their journey of impact as our newest 'Foundation within a Foundation' partner.

(photo from TaskRabbit)



Designated Fund Grants

In 2018, we administered the following designated funds:

Fund	Location	Mission	Amount
Aide Au Zanskar - USA	India	Project to support the development and functioning of the Lamdon Model High School in the Zanskar region of Kashmir, India.	\$13,540
All in Alameda County	Alameda County, CA	Aims to reduce poverty and eliminate food insecurity in Alameda County.	\$102,058
Bay Area Border Relief, Estamos Contigo	Bay Area, CA & McAllen, TX	Aims to assist immigrating families and the nonprofit agencies that support them with immediate urgent needs.	\$12,428
BetterBrave	San Francisco, CA	Aims to empower individuals and organizations to create a positive and inclusive workplace.	\$40,050
Catholic Worker Program	Redwood City, Half Moon Bay, & San Bruno, CA	Assistance to the poor through housing, food, and education programs.	\$940,282
Cocokind Impact Foundation	United States	Aims to provide financial grants to female entrepreneurs in health, wellness, and sustainability industries who are focused on creating social impact through business.	\$13,000
Compassionate Chefs Cafe	San Francisco, CA & New Delhi, India	Aims to uplift the lives of less fortunate children in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco and in New Delhi, India.	\$10,000
El Pueblo Unido	Puerto Rico	Aims to create sustainable, enriching exchange programs between public school students and educators on the mainland and in Puerto Rico.	\$7,815
Friends of Project Bao-bab	Palo Alto, CA	Aims to educate and empower Kenyan youth to become successful entrepreneurs.	\$5,822
Generosity in Action	International	Supports educational and health projects in communities identified by travelers to developing countries.	\$529,548
GIRLBOSS Foundation	United States	Aims to empower the next generation of female entrepreneurs within the creative community.	\$30,000
Innovations in Mental Health	Alameda County, CA	Funds new ideas that improve the quality of life for those at risk of or living with serious mental illness, their support networks, and families.	\$632,513
Innovations in Realignment	Alameda County, CA	Designed to spur innovative ideas that address the needs of the adult reentry population and reduce recidivism.	\$10,009

"We couldn't be more excited by the growth of our 'Foundation within a Foundation' movement, and it's no surprise that this is being led by women founders and CEOs."

-James Higa, Executive Director, PVF



Designated Fund Grants

2018 designated funds continued:

Fund	Location	Mission	Amount
Ireland's Poet Patriots Fund	United States	Aims to educate through musical concerts about Ireland's struggle for independence.	\$57,804
Leading 2 Play	Bay Area, CA	Helps kids develop their full potential by putting them in charge of creating fun and meaningful sports and fitness experiences that are open and inviting to all.	\$15,500
LemonTree Foods	New York	Aims to provide and promote access to reasonably priced nutritional food to vulnerable communities.	\$66,781
Modern Alliance	United States	Aims to educate and empower to eradicate harrassment.	\$115,087
Purple Foundation	United States	Aims to end workplace sexual harrassment.	\$15,744
Q Cares	Bay Area, CA	Charitable initiative formed by a group of volunteers to help KQED audience members respond to featured stories that highlight a hardship.	\$9,065
San Jose Catholic Worker	San Jose, CA	Assistance to the poor through housing, food, and education programs.	\$19,016
SheEO	United States	Aims to democratize venture capital and create a new economic model of radically generous women creating change through local communities and impact through global scale.	\$464,710
TIDE Belize	Belize	Supports the work of TIDE, an NGO that works to conserve biodiversity and promote sustainable development in Southern Belize.	\$69,853
TLC for Kids Sports	Bay Area, CA	Rasies funds to renovate sports fields.	\$40,296
TheTownKitchen.org	Bay Area, CA	Aims to educate, employ and empower young people in Oakland's vibrant food scene.	\$14,740
United Way Bay Area Philanthropy Fellowship on Fighting Poverty	Bay Area, CA	Supports the placement of university students as Fellows at organizations to learn about philanthropy and to contribute to work on projects in poverty, public health, and public policy.	\$7,500
Various other designated funds with low activity	United States	----	\$6,772

2018 Designated Fund Grants: \$3,249,934

"I am so grateful to be connected to PVF and Bay Area Border Relief. The visibility of their work has already shaped support for ongoing work and advocacy that is critical at this time. It is such a blessing to be connected to heroes that are on the front lines of being a light in a time of darkness in our country."

- Belinda Hernandez-Arriaga, Founder & Director, Ayudando Latinos A Soñar (ALAS)



Our Team

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Dawn Hawk

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