2009: The Year in Review

It has been a busy and rewarding year for The Chilkat Valley Community Foundation. Established in 2007 as part of the Community Asset Building Initiative (CABI), a program developed by the Rasmunson Foundation and The Alaska Community Foundation, CVCF is locally governed and connects donors with causes they care about and supports local nonprofits through grants and educational opportunities.

During our first two years we raised more than $55,000 for our unrestricted “permanent” fund securing a 2-for-1 match from the Rasmunson Foundation of $100,000 on the first $50,000, assisted a donor in creating the Call Family Fund – a fund that supports our community’s nonprofits, worked to promote the Pick.Click.Give. Program which raised $6,175 for seven local nonprofits from 2009 Alaska Permanent Fund donations, developed organizational policies and procedures, held six educational programs for nonprofits or those interested in charitable giving, formed a Board of Trustees, and established four volunteer committees.

On September 1, 2009 the CVCF was pleased to announce its first grantmaking cycle. Thanks to the generosity of local donors as well as the Rasmunson Foundation, CVCF had $10,000 to grant to eligible entities. Additionally, the Heather and Ashley Call Family Fund, a CVCF fund, had $600 available for grant projects. While every proposal received advocated for a worthy project, the Foundation could not fund them all. In the interest of supporting as many of the projects as possible, only partial funding was possible in some cases. We are pleased to announce that eleven local nonprofits will receive a total of $10,568 to help with activities that will improve the quality of life in our community.

Call Family Fund

In 2008 Suzanne Downing Yack created The Call Family Fund as a way of recognizing her son and daughter-in-law who had recently become Haines residents, and to help make their new home town a better place.

The Haines Dolphins Swim Team will receive $600 to help pay for scholarships for Haines Dolphins Swim Team members, thanks to this generosity.
Eighteen local nonprofits responded to CVCF’s request for applications in October. To publicize the grants and application process, the CVCF Communications Committee posted flyers around Haines and Klukwan, mailed information to all nonprofits registered in the Haines Borough, placed print ads in the Chilkat Valley News, and sponsored public service announcements on KHNS. Informational meetings were held in Haines and Klukwan.

 Eligible organizations that serve the residents of the Chilkat Valley could apply for funds to support their general operating needs, special programs, or new capital projects. Operating support grant amounts can be no more than 10% of the applicant organization’s budget. New program and special project awards are 2:1 challenge grants that require the grantee to raise $2 for every $1 the Foundation awards. Capital grants may be awarded as the local match to another source to help an organization leverage funds.

The Grantmaking Committee, composed of six CVCF Board members and two community members, used an evaluation rubric to carefully assess the grant applications based on the Foundation’s grantmaking goals, policies, and priorities. Each proposal was independently reviewed by at least three committee members and discussed by the Grantmaking Committee and the CVCF Board. We are extremely pleased to announce the following awards:

**Alaska Chilkoot Bear Foundation** – $628 – to purchase bear proof trash containers that will be placed at the Visitor Center and Haines School.

**Big Brothers, Big Sisters** – $1,500 – to help support more matches.

**Chilkat Valley Preschool** – $1,275– to purchase books & equipment.

**Haines Animal Rescue Kennel** – $500 – to purchase new cat kennels for their expanded space for homeless cats.

**Haines Friends of Recycling** – $815 – to assist with recycling fluorescent bulbs.

**Jilkaat Kwaan Heritage Center** – $1,500 – to help foster traditional knowledge, arts, and skills.

**Lynn Canal Counseling Services, Inc.** – $500 – to purchase a mental health book collection for the public library. The Foundation’s grant will be matched with donations from Lynn Canal Counseling, SEARHC CFS, Robin Grace – LCSW, and the Haines Borough Public Library.

**Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center** – $750 – to develop new exhibits.

**Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL)** – $1,000 – to make improvements for client access.

**Takshanuk Watershed Council** – $1,500 – to provide operating expenses for staff training.
Chamber of Commerce Gets Involved

An additional $500 from CVCF was given to local nonprofits during an educational presentation given to the Chamber of Commerce at their November 13 meeting. Each table of chamber members was given $100 to grant to a local nonprofit whose work they want to support. Four organizations received this surprise gift:

♥ American Bald Eagle Foundation – $100
♥ American Legion Post #12 – $100
♥ Big Brothers, Big Sisters – $200
♥ Rainbow Glacier Camp – $100

Permanent Fund Dividend Check-off Program

Electronic giving can be fun for you and a surprise gift to Haines nonprofits including the Chilkat Valley Community Foundation. In its first year, the Pick.Click.Give. project of the Alaska Giving Coalition directed over $545,000 from Alaskan PFD checks to charities and nonprofits. Haines nonprofits netted a total of $6,175 in gifts; the Chilkat Valley Community Foundation received $2,350 from 18 unique donors who picked a nonprofit, clicked the button, and gave a gift to the community.

Did you do it? You’ll get another opportunity to donate to the Chilkat Valley Community Foundation (CVCF) January 1 – March 31 when you go online to apply for your 2010 PFD. You can give whatever amount you want up to $1,305 to as many organizations as you want in 2010. In addition to the CVCF, nine other local nonprofits are listed as eligible to receive funds through Pick.Click.Give.

The Alaska PFD program is helping nonprofits to benefit from the Pick.Click.Give. by making it easier to file electronically. When you sign on to www.pfd.state.ak.us to apply for your 2010 PFD, click your way through to www.pickclickgive.org and enjoy the fun of giving. Visit www.pickclickgive.org to plan your giving!

Donor Development – What’s Next?

To encourage philanthropy that connects donors with community, a donor development committee has been formed. For now, we are calling it “Heather and the Debbies” because donors Deborah Davis, Deborah Marshall, Deborah Vogt, and Heather Lende have agreed to serve. We will encourage donations from individuals, businesses, and corporations who haven’t already made a contribution, as well as cultivating current donors, promoting annual giving, and planned giving. We will also promote the formation of named funds like the Call Family Fund and donor-advised funds, like the new Hospice of Haines endowment.

Hospice of Haines, like many small non-profits, has had a savings CD for some time earning very little interest. They also have received windfall contributions from such sources as the $9,000 Kelly Hostettler and Melina Shields Golden Circle run and generous gifts in memory of several community members, most notably the late Ron Scollon. In November the board voted to put $5,000 in a donor-advised Hospice of Haines Fund to begin an endowment for Hospice services in Haines. The revenues will be reinvested or distributed at the direction of the Hospice Board. (That’s what donor-advised means.) The Board hopes to make Hospice of Haines viable for years to come and provide Hospice supporters another way to give. Other donor-advised funds under the CVCF umbrella include the Friends of the Haines Borough Public Library Legacy Fund and the Lib and Whitey Hakkinen Professional Development Fund of the Sheldon Museum and Cultural Center.
A Heartfelt Thanks to Our Donors

2008 Founding Donors

2009 Donors

It’s Not Too Late to Give a Holiday Gift!
As you plan for holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions, consider a gift that will keep on giving – a donation to the CVCF. We will send the recipient a card announcing your gift in their honor. You can send a check to CVCF, Box 1117 in Haines or give online.

Questions? Please contact us for more information.

Please feel free to speak with members of our Board: JoAnn Ross Cunningham ▼ Heather Lende ▼ Ann Myren ▼ Rob Pollock ▼ Debra Schnabel ▼ Cecily Stern ▼ Kimberley Strong ▼ Robert Venables.

Chilkat Valley Community Foundation ▼ Box 1117 ▼ Haines, AK 99827 ▼ Phone: 907.766.6868
Email: chilkatvalley@chilkatvalleycf.org ▼ Website: http://www.chilkatvalleycf.org for online donations.