

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Chilkat Valley Community Foundation, an *Affiliate* of ACF  Connecting People Who Care With Causes That Matter.

Summer 2020



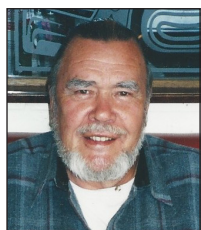
Thank you, Lucy Harrell!

The estate of local philanthropist Lucy Harrell was settled in May 2020, and her final will left **one million dollars** to CVCF. Harrell has long been regarded as a generous local supporter, literally donating millions of dollars to a long list of local nonprofits. She was a founding donor of both Haines Assisted Living and the Soboleff-McRae Veterans Village and Wellness Center, and donated land for both HARK and the Haines Recycling Center. In her local obituary, Harrell is quoted as having said that “you don’t have to be rich to make a difference,” and “if there’s a positive change we can make and improve our quality of life, we should do that.” Harrell’s gift will improve life in the Chilkat Valley in perpetuity!

We welcome Lucy Harrell as the newest member of CVCF’s Legacy Society, a group of generous donors who have shown trust in our local community foundation by including CVCF in their estate plans. We wish that we could thank Harrell in person for her amazing generosity, but instead we will work hard to live up to her belief in generosity and making a difference in the community that you love.

Congratulations to our 2020 Art Jess Scholarship Recipients

CVCF is proud to announce this year’s recipients of the Art Jess Scholarship.



Chilkat Valley resident Ashley Williamson grew up in the Tlingit village of Klukwan and is a previous Art Jess Scholarship recipient. She just finished her first year at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, where she is already recognized as a skilled community-builder. Williamson is pursuing a major in Psychology and Pre-Health, with the ultimate goal of becoming a physical therapist and returning to Alaska to work.



Our second awardee, Christie Nelson, is from Anchorage. She will be entering her senior year at Oak Hills Christian College in Bemidji, Minnesota this coming fall. Nelson will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Addictions Counseling, with the plan to enter the workforce while pursuing a Master’s degree in Co-Occurring Disorders. Her desire is to return to Alaska to “serve people who are suffering from alcoholism, drug addiction, and mental health.”



Williamson and Nelson have each been awarded \$2,000.

The Art Jess Scholarship endowed fund was established in 2017 in honor of longtime Haines resident Art Jess. We are thrilled to announce that an additional large donation increased the value of the fund this year, thereby increasing future earnings which will fund scholarships for years to come.

AK Can Do Fund

Many Chilkat Valley nonprofits are on the frontline working hard to respond to escalating needs in our community. Thanks to support from you, our donors, as well as from Rasmuson Foundation and The Alaska Community Foundation, the AK Can Do Fund helps nonprofits provide critical services to those who are struggling with issues related to the Covid-19 crisis. This fund is also available to nonprofits that are essential to our quality of life, and are financially challenged at this time. To date, our generous donors have given more than \$9,000 for the AK Can Do Fund in the Chilkat Valley. These funds will soon be distributed to some of our local nonprofits.



Chilkat Valley Community Foundation
An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation

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Initial COVID-19 Grants Awarded



Jackie Mazeikas at Becky's Place

Becky's Place Haven of Hope

is our local shelter for anyone experiencing domestic violence. Administered by founder Jackie Mazeikas, this organization helps 30-35 individuals yearly with any needs associated with moving forward with their lives: rent, food, gas, phone cards, clothing, etc. The bulk of their funding comes from their annual spring auction and dinner. This event had to be cancelled this year because of the pandemic. At the recommendation of CVCF, Becky's Place received 2 grants from The Alaska Community Foundation: \$15,000 from a Covid-19 Rapid Response grant program, and \$2,500 from a Basic Needs grant.



*KHNS Program Director
Marley Horner*

Lynn Canal Broadcasting's KHNS

needed to replace the aging digital audio delivery (DAD) system that controls the automated portion of the on-air programming. The DAD required daily repairs by Program Director Marley Horner. KHNS is critical to the community, supplying regular updates of health and safety issues, and has become increasingly important during the pandemic. KHNS was able to secure multiple grants to cover the approximately \$15,000 cost of the replacement DAD, with \$5,000 of those dollars coming from The Alaska Community Foundation and CVCF via the Rapid Response grant distribution.

SAIL: Southeast Alaska Independent Living



SAIL clients Brent & Melody Stevanus

was awarded \$2,500 from The Alaska Community Foundation/CVCF Rapid Response grant distribution for SAIL's Last Resort Fund. This flexible fund allows SAIL to distribute community assistance to people with immediate needs, and helps to leverage funds from other service organizations. With the pandemic

crisis, community members have requested assistance from SAIL for a large range of emergencies, everything from help with food purchases, hotel room costs for quarantine, private pay for a personal care assistant, and moving costs.

The Salvation Army Alaska Haines Corps



Captain Serina Woods

Food Pantry is run by Captains Kevin and Serina Woods. They usually distribute 60-70 food boxes at the end of each month, with an additional 8-10 emergency food boxes per month. Because of the many local job losses caused by Covid-19, monthly food box requests as well as emergency requests have continued to rise since early March. Our local Salvation Army received one of The Alaska Community Foundation Basic Needs Grants for \$2,500; they also received an additional \$2,500 from The Alaska Community Foundation/CVCF Rapid Response grant program.

Celebrating You, Our Donors!

Due to the current need for social distancing, CVCF has had to postpone our Donor Appreciation event that was scheduled for June. As soon as we can, we will reschedule this annual celebration of YOU and all that you have made possible this year through your generous gifts.

Chilkat Valley Support Chain

The Support Chain is a coalition of local organizations that are matching nearly 70 volunteers with elders, those in quarantine, and other individuals who need help with various tasks because of the limitations imposed by Covid-19. Community members are asking for help with a wide scope of needs, everything from mail and grocery pickup, to delivering spring water and stacking firewood, to accessing various social services. There are currently about 40 matches, more than half of which have been ongoing. If you need assistance, or would like to volunteer, the Support Chain request form can be found at www.chilkatvalleycf.org or you can call CVCF Program Manager Sara Chapell at 314-3074.

Chilkat Valley Community Foundation Advisory Board:

Liz Heywood, Anna Jurgeleit, Crystal Badgley, Connie Staska, Ann Myren, Carolyn Ganner, Cynthia Allen, Chuck Mitman, Katie Wendel, Betsy Lyons, Rainy Kasko, Sally Andersen, Thom Ely

CVCF Program Manager: Sara Chapell