

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Chilkat Valley Community Foundation, an Affiliate of ACF



Connecting People Who Care With Causes That Matter

Summer 2024

Business Partnership Program

CVCF has adopted the Business Partnership Program (BPP) developed by the Seward Community Foundation, another of the eleven Affiliates of the Alaska Community Foundation, to promote travel philanthropy in their community. The CVCF Board thought it was a great idea and have launched a modified BPP for our community. Currently three businesses signed up to provide information and opportunities for their clients to support the Chilkat Valley.



Andy Hedden, Sophia Hedden and Jessica Edwards of
Haines Rafting Company

Peterson's Pretzels was our first BPP partner. This summer Chris Peterson is offering a free pretzel with a purchase of \$8.50 and a \$10 donation to CVCF at the time of check-out, and has offered to match the first \$500 donated through his check-out system.

The Travel Connection/Reservations by Randa is also participating in the BPP but with a different twist. Randa Szymanski contacted the owners of the rentals she manages to arrange for them to display a framed poster about CVCF that uses a QR code to encourage guests to support the community they enjoyed visiting by making a donation to CVCF.

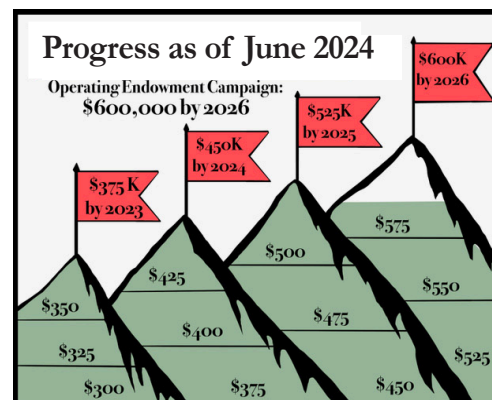
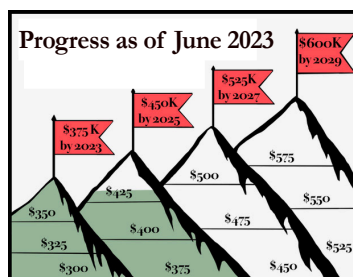
Haines Rafting Company is our newest business donor and BPP partner. HRC is a local, family-owned and -operated guiding service providing meaningful and sustainable river trips with expert guides into some of the wildest places in Alaska and beyond. They will be promoting CVCF on their website and with their clients. According to co-owner Jessica Edwards, "Haines Rafting Company is proud to participate in CVCF's Business Partnership Program! We believe the opportunity to support local nonprofits offers our guests a chance to connect more deeply with the Chilkat Valley."

Summits for Success Update

Because of the generosity of so many individual and business donors who have given to our "Summits for Success" operating endowment campaign, as well as The Alaska Community Foundation and Rasmuson Foundation, **we are very VERY close to reaching our \$600K goal!** We were hoping to reach the fourth summit of these mountains by sometime in 2026, and, incredibly, with your continuing help, we are now on track to reach that lofty goal sometime this year, almost TWO YEARS ahead of schedule!

A portion of the annual returns from this OE fund will help sustain our day-to-day operations into the distant future, helping CVCF to maintain community outreach programs as well as the crucial annual granting program that helps support our local nonprofits.

Thank you to all our generous donors who have supported the Summits campaign since its launch in April 2022. YOU have brought us so very close to preparing for a bright and stable future!



Chilkat Valley Community Foundation
An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation

Final Dispersal of Emergency Response Fund

So many generous donors contributed to the Emergency Response Fund, set up to assist with recovery efforts after the December 2020 Haines landslide event. The funds have been successfully utilized for a variety of recovery and preparedness projects. The final Emergency Response Funds were dispersed this past winter to the following two projects:



\$13,750 was donated to Haines Avalanche Center for materials and installation of a critical weather station above Lutak Road to monitor potential flooding and/or landslide conditions in that isolated area. The remaining **\$13,815 was awarded to Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL)** for approximately 100 emergency preparedness kits to distribute to seniors and individuals with disabilities in the Chilkat Valley.



The Alaska Community Foundation has allowed this fund to close, but a new fund can be quickly activated if needed. We are so grateful for all YOUR generous support to this fund, which helped the Chilkat Valley to heal and move forward since the devastating 2020 disaster, and to feel better prepared for any future catastrophic events.

People's Choice Awards

Two local nonprofits have been winners of this year's People's Choice Award from CVCF. Community members nominate a favorite nonprofit at various community events, and a name is drawn to choose the winner.

First was **Haines Dolphins Swim Team**, one of the largest youth sports organizations in Haines, teaching swimming techniques as well as team-building to all skill levels. The team was chosen at a high school basketball game.



Second was **Haines Huts and Trails**, whose focus is to develop and support access to public lands and trails in the

Chilkat Valley, was drawn at a First Friday event downtown.

The next People's Choice Award winner will be chosen at Haines' annual Fourth of July celebration at Tlingit Park.



Come put in your nomination!

CVCF's 2024 Grant Cycle is opening soon!

The 2024 Grant Application Cycle opens on **Wednesday, July 17** and will close at 5pm on **Wednesday, September 11**. Typical grant awards range from \$500 to \$3,500. If a local organization doesn't have its own federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit designation, it can find a qualified local nonprofit to provide fiscal sponsorship. Thanks to the healthy growth of your generous donations, almost \$65,000 is available to distribute to Chilkat Valley nonprofits this year!

Congratulations to our 2024 Art Jess Scholarship Recipients



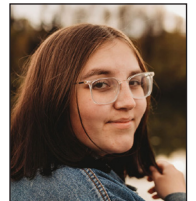
Congratulations to past recipient Ashley Williamson, who was Fort Lewis College's 2024 Cheryl Carson Outstanding Psychology Student, an award given to the department's top student! Ashley, a 4-time Art Jess Scholarship recipient, graduated this May with a Psychology major, Sociology minor, and a Gerontology certificate. We are proud of her success!

Founded in 2018 in honor of Art Jess, this Native scholarship is available to Alaska residents, with preference given to Chilkat Valley residents, local tribal members, post-secondary students, and past recipients. This is CVCF's only fund that may be spent outside of the Chilkat Valley. This year we had 44 applications and awarded a total of \$8,500 to six students.

Aubrey Katzeek (Cook), our only Chilkat Valley applicant this year, received \$2,000 towards her BA in Elementary Education at UAS, and hopes to return home to teach after graduation. From Fairbanks/Galena, Sydney Dieringer received \$1,500; Seward resident Shelby Sieminski received \$1,500; Aniak's Richard Murphy was awarded \$1,500; Juneau/Hoonah's Carlynn Casperson received \$1,000; and King Cove's Carter Uttecht received \$1,000. All students plan to return to Alaska to work in the future.



Ashley Williamson



Aubrey Katzeek (Cook)

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