

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Chilkat Valley Community Foundation, an Affiliate of ACF



Connecting People Who Care With Causes That Matter

www.chilkatvalleycf.org 907-766-6868

December 2024

PO Box 1117, Haines, AK 99827

Highlights of Your 2024 Gifts in Action



Your generosity supported Girl Scouts of Alaska Summer Day Camp in Haines.



Your donation contributed to snow removal at Haines Senior Village.



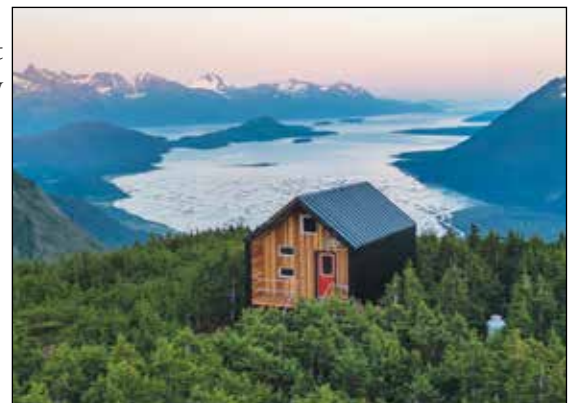
You helped fund Takshanuk Watershed Council's Local Foods Challenge.

Grantee Highlight

Haines Huts and Trails

About ten years ago a group of local outdoor enthusiasts brainstormed about how to increase outdoor hiking, skiing, and camping options in the Chilkat Valley, starting with the building of a public-use cabin. A location on Takshanuk Ridge, on State of Alaska land, was chosen for the first wilderness hut. After nine years of planning and permitting, of lining up grants - including one from CVCF in 2022 - as well as promises of supply and labor donations, construction of the Tukga Hut began in the summer of 2023. The hut was built with the work of about 100 volunteers, ages 5 to 85, totaling around 300 days of labor. This beautiful wilderness hut - containing bunks to sleep twelve, a cook stove, propane heater, outhouse, and a gorgeous view - was finished in mid-September of 2024. The Tukga Hut has started accepting online reservations, and is already booked for every weekend, as well as many weekdays, from January through April 2025!

During this same time, the original group of volunteers has added to their numbers, formed a 501(c)(3), contributed to the grooming of winter trails, and begun planning for future projects. In 2023 Haines Huts and Trails received a \$3,500 grant from CVCF for operating support, and recently received a 2024 CVCF grant to help purchase tools and protective equipment to be used for year-round volunteer trail maintenance. They are currently working with the Haines Borough to gain long-term leases from the state owners of certain parcels that intersect with the Mount Riley and Mount Ripinski trail networks so that maintenance can begin there. As their staff person Nate Arrants says, "Haines Huts and Trails is proud to contribute to the year-round outdoor recreation options of the Chilkat Valley, which we see as a positive economic driver for tourism in Haines, and crucial for the health and well-being of our community."



The newly completed Tukga Hut



Chilkat Valley Community Foundation

An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation

A special thanks to The Alaska Community Foundation and Rasmuson Foundation for all their assistance and support!

Thanks to our donors, the Chilkat Valley Community Foundation's endowment funds total more than **\$3.3 million!** And these funds will continue to grow since the principal is never spent. Because of your ongoing support, more than **\$76,000 was awarded this year** to twenty-three organizations and six individuals.

2024 Endowment Grants & Scholarships

Organization/Individual	Project Title	Amount
Alaska Avalanche Information Center, Inc.	Operating Support for Haines Avalanche Center	\$4,000
American Bald Eagle Foundation	Museum Signage in Tlingit	\$3,275
Catholic Community Service	Operating Support for Haines Senior Center - Meals	\$3,500
Eldred Rock Lighthouse Preservation Assoc.	Lantern Room Railing Project	\$3,200
Four Winds Resource Center	Display Panels	\$3,051
Friends of the Haines Borough Public Library	Little Free Library Book-Sharing Program	\$2,000
Haines Animal Rescue Kennel	Chilkat Valley Dog and Cat Population Control	\$3,000
Haines Assisted Living	New Dishwashers	\$2,250
Haines Dolphins Swim Team	Operating Support – Scholarship Program	\$3,500
Haines Dolphins Swim Team	People's Choice Award at Haines High Basketball Game	\$250
Haines Friends of Recycling	Operating Support	\$5,000
Haines Hot Shots	Operating Support	\$2,500
Haines Huts and Trails	Trail Maintenance Tools	\$3,500
Haines Huts and Trails	People's Choice Award at May's First Friday Event	\$250
Haines Senior Citizens Center (Senior Village)	Rapid Trak Snowblower	\$3,099
Hospice of Haines	Taking Care, a winter series	\$2,000
KHNS FM (Lynn Canal Broadcasting)	Operating Support	\$3,500
Klukwan School (Chatham School District)	People's Choice Award at Haines 4th of July Event	\$250
Lynn Canal Conservation	Chilkat Chef Event	\$1,000
Lynn Canal Conservation	People's Choice Award at the Southeast Alaska State Fair	\$250
RurAL CAP - Parents as Teachers	Home Safety Supplies and Trainings	\$2,567
Sheldon Museum & Cultural Center	Collection Preservation: UV Window Inserts	\$2,755
Southeast Alaska Independent Living	Operating Support	\$3,000
Takshanuk Watershed Council	Chilkat Valley Avian Monitoring Program	\$3,500
Garden Conference Group - TWC Sponsor	2025 Gardening Conference	\$3,100
The Salvation Army - Haines Corps	Operating Support for Holiday Food Boxes	\$3,500
Art Jess Scholarship Recipients	Six Students	\$8,500

Total Awarded \$76,297

These funds came from:

*Art Jess Scholarship Fund \$8,500,
Call Family Fund \$334,
Environmental Fund \$2,512,
Fitness & Wellness Fund \$2,624,
Memorial Fund \$2,548, and
CVCF General Endowment
Fund \$59,779.*



2024 CVCF grant recipient representatives

Summits for Success - You Did It!

A huge **THANK YOU** to our amazing donors who helped summit the final peak in our “Summits for Success” operating endowment campaign in record time! Your investments help ensure CVCF’s long-term sustainability, as a portion of the returns on the Operating Endowment (OE) Fund will provide income for CVCF’s operating expenses today and in the future. While we now happily turn our attention back to growing the scholarship fund and various endowed funds that support grants to local nonprofits, a generous anonymous donor recently provided a **new \$30,000 match** to help us continue to build the OE Fund. You can choose **ANY** endowed fund you want to support, and the matching funds will be invested in the OE Fund. It is a wonderful opportunity to build CVCF grantmaking capacity AND sustainability!



All-Volunteer Board of Directors are a Hardworking Group!

In 2024, with the help of our part-time Program Manager Amanda Hamell, we accomplished a lot! We organized a speaker to give a free presentation on Wills and Power of Attorney forms, hosted four People’s Choice Award events, earned a generous donation by volunteering at the finish line of the Kluane to Chilkat International Bike Relay, held a two-day Strategic Planning Workshop to clarify CVCF’s long-term goals, reviewed scholarship and grant applications, held a Donor Appreciation Event as well as a Grant Awards Event, and hosted a two-day visit by two staff members from Rasmuson Foundation. This was all in addition to our day-to-day operations!



CVCF board members at a strategic planning session

♥ We wish to gratefully acknowledge this year’s four outgoing board members: Carolyn Ganner, Chuck Mitman, Betsy Lyons and Jessica Edwards. We also wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to our three new board members: DeLise Keim, Greg Podsiki and Travina Stuart. ♥



CVCF’s Art Jess Scholarship cycle opens on January 15 for eligible Alaska Natives, with preference given to Chilkat Valley residents and local tribal members. Visit <http://alaskacf.org/scholarships/> for more information.

Thanks to our Business Partnership Program Members!

- Peterson’s Pretzels
- Haines Real Estate
- Reservations by Randa
- Lutak Lumber
- Haines Rafting Company

Memorial Fund

Started in 2011, the founding donors gave in memory of

Walter Feit • Ted & Leola Myren • Bud & Shirley Barber • Phil Lende • Sally Vuillet • Roderick William Ross • Hugh Malone • Russell Bolick • Martha K. Jones • Wilma Henderson • Lyn Dunbar • Ellen Borders • Madeleine Shields • Stanley G. Laing • Rip Streater • Norm Smith, Sr. • Charles & Mary Jo Meizner • Jim & Rachel McDonough • Louis & Hazel Nelson • Dorothy & Clifford Fossman

Memorial Fund gifts were made this year in memory of:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Virginia Allen | Karen Crane | Joe Hotch | Pam Randles |
| Babe & Evelyn Badgley | Karen Evenden | Art Jess | Ransom Russell |
| Norman Blank | Vinca Gilman | Daniel Lakeman & | Rip & Louise Streater |
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| Joan Terry Comerford | Bob & Wilma Henderson | Ray & Vivian Menaker | Sam Wright |
| | Jack & Edrys Heywood | Dr. Jim Nelson | |

Emergency Response Fund Final Report



Lutak weather station

THANK YOU again to all of the generous donors who contributed to the Emergency Response Fund that was created in response to our 2020 Chilkat Valley disaster. Two final projects were accomplished with the last of the ERF funds.

Haines Avalanche Center was awarded \$13,750 to install a critical new weather station above Lutak Inlet to provide long-term data on the weather and unique micro-climate at Lutak in order to help in monitoring flood watches/warnings, landslide/debris flow studies, and forecasting avalanches.

Southeast Alaska Independent Living (SAIL) was awarded \$13,815 to purchase supplies for and assemble 100 disaster preparedness kits for seniors and persons with disabilities in the Chilkat Valley. These kits, each organized in a 12-gallon tote, contain vital emergency supplies and a list of suggested personal items to add to each kit. Distribution of the totes is ongoing.

The fund is now closed, but may be opened again if needed in the future.

Grantee Highlight

Chilkoot Indian Association

As part of their mission to integrate Chilkoot culture, values, and beliefs into daily life and to work to improve the quality of life for their members and community, Chilkoot Indian Association - a Native Sovereign Nation - launched its new Cultural Department at the end of 2021 to “spearhead community education and research in language and culture.” CVCF was pleased to support the department’s early efforts with a 2022 grant to purchase textbooks and materials for their intensive 3-year Tlingit language class for families and individuals. This class was a resounding success with 45 participants, and a second class was created last year for those unable to get into the first one.

CIA’s cultural program strives to also build the capacity of Native artists through skill-building workshops, and to improve the ability to understand and create traditional Formline art. CIA was awarded a \$2,900 grant in 2023 to fund an instructor, Ted Hart, and purchase ten sets of tools for a week-long paddle carving class using the Haines Borough School woodshop and cedar planks donated by Sealaska Heritage. The class, which incorporated instruction in Tlingit language, culture, and healthy lifestyles, ended with students testing their new paddles with Canoe Captain Hart using CIA’s 30-foot strip canoe - donated by Wayne Price - before making the 90-mile ocean journey to Juneau for Celebration 2024! The start of any sea journey, as these students learned, traditionally begins with this rite of initiation, the making of one’s own paddle.



CIA-sponsored paddle carving class.

Your generous donations made these grants possible – thank you!

The Living Treasures Program

gives donors an opportunity, when they give to any fund, to publicly honor and thank individuals they value who have made a difference in their lives. This year, donors honored the following individuals as Living Treasures:

Janine Allen	CVCF Board	Frank & Ramona	Tim McDonough &
Pru Amann	Natalie Dawson	Holmes	Ann Myren
Melissa Aronson	Stacie Evans	Kip & Patty	John Minoia
Sandy Barclay	June Haas	Kermoian	Tom Morphet
Richard & Brigitte Buck	Lea Harris	Krystal Lloyd	Élie Roux
Kim Clune	Lee Heinmiller	Tony Malone	Tracy Wirak-Cassidy

CVCF Donors November 16, 2023 - November 15, 2024

Community Champion – \$5,000 and up

Dr. Neil Allen & Janine Allen* **Matthew Craig* & Terry Mulligan** Luke Hedrick Rasmuson Foundation The Alaska Community Foundation Anonymous (2) Anonymous* (1)

Community Leader – \$1,000 - \$4,999

Melissa Aronson Susan Elliott **Chip* & Heather* Lende** Alexis Perrotta
 Sean Asquith & Julia Heinz Tom Henderson Lutak Lumber & Supply Inc. Peterson's Pretzels LLC
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 Tom & Mila Cosgrove Bike Relay **Tim McDonough & Ann Myren*** Leslie Evenden*
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Community Advocate – \$250 - \$999

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Community Partner – Up to \$249

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*Note: *Red star: Current and Past Board Members; Bold: Legacy Donors*

Your Gifts Support Local Nonprofits



*RurAl CAP's
Haines Head
Start*



*Haines Friends of
Recycling*



Lynn Canal Broadcasting / KHNS



*Eldred Rock
Lighthouse
Preservation
Association*



Catholic Community Service's Haines Senior Center



Chilkat Valley Community Foundation
P.O. Box 1117
Haines, AK 99827

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Amanda Hamell

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*CVCF Vision: An inspired community of givers
investing in the future of a happy and healthy Chilkat Valley.*

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