


Palo Alto Community Fund

The Palo Alto Community Fund grows, sustains, and uses its endowment and other donated funds to support the work of new and existing nonprofit organizations serving the greater Palo Alto area.

Fall Newsletter
2011

PACF Honors 2011 Grant Recipients, Awarding \$330,000 to Local Nonprofits

The Palo Alto Community Fund (PACF) hosted their annual grants reception on Thursday, September 22 to officially announce and recognize the Palo Alto-area nonprofit organizations that received grants this year from PACF. PACF provided a total of \$330,000 in grants to 47 local nonprofits in 2011, marking a new high in terms of both the amount of funding and the number of organizations supported.

“This annual event provides a wonderful showcase for local nonprofits to share information about the programs that PACF’s grants are helping to make possible,” said Karen Ross, Board President of PACF. “We were very pleased that we were able to increase our grant-making this year, particularly when the needs in our community continue to be so great.”

The grants reception was attended by over 230 prominent Palo Alto-area philanthropists, community volunteers and nonprofit professionals. In addition to informational easel presentations by many of this year’s recipient organizations, the event featured live music, appetizers, and spoken remarks from three featured nonprofit organizations - CASSY (Counseling & Support Services for Youth), East Palo Alto Phoenix Academy, and Saint Francis of Assisi Youth Club.

Liz Schoeben, Executive Director of CASSY, shared the successes from a summer mental health program for students at Ravenswood City School District that PACF’s grant made possible. “We were able to immediately put the funds from PACF to work in the community, providing 255 hours of counseling sessions, 31 student assessments, 34 therapeutic sessions, 17 parent consultations, and 44 staff consultations,” said Schoeben. “Without the PACF grant, we would not have been able to offer this critical program that touched so many students and their families.”



Guests listen to Mike Berman, East Palo Alto Phoenix Academy, one of the nonprofit speakers at the grants reception on September 22nd.

The evening also featured remarks from PACF’s President and Executive Director, Cammie Vail. “Every year, this event provides an incredible forum to share the impact that these wonderful organizations, people, and programs are having on our community,” said Vail. “While the needs in our area continue to be great, this event provides our donors insight to how much of their support means to these local organizations, and a chance to celebrate their success.”

The PACF board extends a huge, heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this evening possible, including in particular Nancy Mueller for opening up her beautiful home to host the event, Northern Trust for their generous underwriting, event chairs Elizabeth Lucchesi and Carol Friedman for their tireless preparations and Cammie Vail for her dedication to the evening’s success. In addition we are indebted to Cindy Brinkmann, Carol Friedman, Betsy Gifford, Cathy Kroymann, Terry Kurfess, Walt McCullough, Karen Ross, Kathy Schriedwind, and all the board members and their spouses who helped out in countless ways.

Learn more about our 2011 grantees and see additional photos of the reception at paloaltocommfund.org.

PACF Hosts Online Fundraising Tutorial for Nonprofits

More than 50 community nonprofit leaders joined PACF on May 23 to hear national expert Jeff Patrick of Common Knowledge present tips, tools, and examples of online fundraising for nonprofits. The event was the third in PACF's annual series of free events to support the local nonprofit community. From learning how to lay out a fundraising email to budgeting for an online fundraising campaign, Patrick offered concrete examples for grantees to inform their decision-making and put his tips into practice.

This session built on prior grantee support events, which included internationally-acclaimed fundraising advisor Kay Sprinkel Grace, addressing board-staff fundraising partnerships, and last year's popular event on social media for nonprofits, led by Beth Kanter, one of the nation's preeminent thought leaders in the field.

These events have been made possible by the continuing support of PACF donors, and represent PACF's ongoing commitment to partnership with the local nonprofits that strengthen our community.

Continuing education and support for local nonprofits

Grateful for Time with Leonard Ely and Jack Rominger

When Leonard Ely and Jack Rominger passed away this past April, the Palo Alto Community Fund lost two inspirational board members. Both provided invaluable guidance that fueled our growth and success.



Leonard Ely

A legendary figure in local philanthropy, Leonard Ely served as an informal advisor when the Palo Alto Community Fund (then the Palo Alto Endowment Fund) was first established over thirty years ago. In fact, from the beginning he encouraged the board to build an endowment to be Palo Alto's "savings account." Through the years, Leonard served as a board member but most recently continued to proffer advice as advisor emeriti. He was known to say, "We make a living out of what we earn, but a life out of what we give." Leonard lived those words and embodied it in his love of family and community.

Jack Rominger was always full of energy and at the age of 81 he could still be seen racing down the ski slope. He had a passion for life and family, but also a love of community. Jack joined the Palo Alto Community Fund board in 2004 and immediately made an impact. As the fund grew and transitioned, he applied his mantra "upward and onward" to help develop a new brand identity for PACF. Our current logo and designs are a result of Jack's generosity and experienced design contributions.



Jack Rominger

The Palo Alto Community Fund is stronger because of the wisdom, leadership and friendship of these two great men. Both will be greatly missed. But we also are fortunate to have their wives, Shirley Ely and Fran Rominger, continue as caring and influential members in our community.

PALO ALTO COMMUNITY FUND Statement of Activities - FY 2010

Beginning of Year Net Assets	\$ 4,014,577
Revenue	
Total Contributions	350,124
Achilles Fund Distribution	9,041
Net Investment Income	453,122
Bank Interest Earned	652
Total Foundation Grants	260,000
Total Income	\$ 1,072,939
Expenses	
Total Grants & Grant Expenses	318,886
Total Administration Expenses	57,400
Total Fund Development Expenses	6,636
Total Expenses	\$ 382,922
Change in Net Assets	690,017
End of Year Net Assets	\$ 4,704,594

The Palo Alto Community Fund administers the Palo Alto Centennial 1994 Fund and advises the Billie Achilles Palo Alto Fund for the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.



President's Message

The Palo Alto Community Fund has come so far from a day in 1977 when Jeanne Arthur, a Palo Alto attorney, gathered a group in the community to talk about the creation of a fund that could solicit and receive private money for programs that benefited the Palo Alto community.



Karen Ross

Today, we are excited to be in the middle of a three-year campaign, **Funding Our Future**, to raise \$2 million. We are pleased that we are already over half way toward achieving that goal, including both donations to our endowment as well as pass-through grants. During these tough economic times, utilizing both sources enable us to grant more money to nonprofits in the greater Palo Alto area.

On September 22, at this year's grants reception, we awarded \$330,000 to 47 nonprofits in the greater Palo Alto area. What a contrast to our first grants reception in 1991, twenty years ago, when we awarded \$20,000 to thirteen local nonprofits.

I am so proud to be a part of this talented and knowledgeable working board of 21 members, and am particularly appreciative of our advisory board members who often serve on committees. In the work that we do, whether it is to process the grants submitted each year or to work on making **Funding Our Future** a success, we are ably guided by our energetic and strategic thinking Executive Director, Cammie Vail.

Help us spread the word about the Palo Alto Community Fund. Make a contribution, small or large, to the **Funding Our Future** campaign, so that the Palo Alto Community Fund can continue to help our local nonprofits for generations to come.

2011 GRANTEES In 2011 the Fund awarded over \$331,000 to 47 local nonprofits:

Abilities United
AchieveKids
Acterra
Adolescent Counseling Services
American Red Cross-Silicon Valley Chapter
Art In Action
Belle Haven Community School
Blossom Birth Services
Bread of Life East Palo Alto
Breast Cancer Connections
Bring Me A Book
BUILD
Building Futures Now
CASSY
Cleo Eulau Center
College Track
CORA
East Palo Alto Children's Day
Committee

East Palo Alto Greyhounds
East Palo Alto Kids Foundation
East Palo Alto Phoenix Academy
East Palo Alto Youth Court
Environmental Volunteers
Foothill College EOPS/CARE
Get Involved! Palo Alto High School
Hidden Villa
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County
Lytton Gardens
MayView Community Health Center
Music In the Schools
New Creation Home Ministries
Nuestra Casa
One East Palo Alto
Palo Alto Community Child Care
Palo Alto Family YMCA
PARCA
Ravenswood Family Health Center

Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center
RoadRunners Sports Club
Saint Francis of Assisi Youth Club
St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room
St. Vincent de Paul Society
StarVista
Stevenson House
TheatreWorks
Vida Verde
Youth Community Service

For nonprofit websites and grant descriptions see:
www.paloalocommfund.org/pgs/grants2011.html

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