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Palo Alto Community Fund

...endowing our future

**Palo Alto Community Fund Announces Over \$180,000  
in Grants to 30 Local Nonprofits**

PALO ALTO, CA, June 2, 2008 – The Palo Alto Community Fund (PACF) this week announced its grant recipients for 2008. Focused exclusively on philanthropic organizations in the greater Palo Alto area, the fund this year provided over \$180,000 in grants to 30 local nonprofits in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park and other area communities. Both the total grant amount and the number of grant recipients were the largest ever for the organization.

“We are very pleased to be able to provide this level of impact to local nonprofits in our community,” said Kathy Schniedwind, Co-President of PACF. “Through the generosity of our donors, we’ve been able to increase the size of our endowment, which has, in turn, allowed us to increase both the depth and breadth of our grant making efforts.”

For almost 30 years, PACF has grown and managed its philanthropic endowment, which exceeded \$4 million this year for the first time. Each year, the proceeds of that endowment directly improve the quality of life in the Palo Alto area through an extensive annual grant making process. This year, nearly 80 local nonprofit organizations applied for grants. The 30 organizations that received grants cover virtually every area of philanthropy, including social services, housing, education, healthcare, environment, youth and family support, community development, seniors and the arts – all focused on the greater Palo Alto service area.

“Every year, we receive so many compelling applications from such a wide range of wonderful organizations” said Amy Renalds, Co-President of PACF. “One of our major priorities is to increase the size of our endowment, so we can afford to fund more of these incredibly worthy organizations and projects.”

One of the organizations that received funding this year is Collective Roots (<http://www.collectiveroots.org>). The organization, founded in 2000 at Belle Haven School in Menlo Park and now located at the East Palo Alto Charter School, has been locally focused since its inception. Like many PACF programs, Collective Roots touches a large number of students with their garden-based educational programs for children grades K-8. The impact of the program is multi-dimensional, not only does it teach children about sustainable agriculture, nature, and nutrition, but it does so in a larger

context of food systems change and environmental impact. Further, students learn valuable life skills through a community based farmers' market.

“The support from PACF could not come at a better time. Our work at Collective Roots is made possible through donations and grants like this one from PACF,” said Wolfram Alderson, Executive Director of Collective Roots. “This support is helping us establish a bridge between garden-based learning and food system change; helping to eliminate health and environmental disparities in East Palo Alto, a community long overdue for such change. PACF is a perfect partner for us in funding these critical programs.”

Family & Children Services, another 2008 grant recipient, provides mental health counseling to at-risk students and their families at the East Palo Alto Charter school. “The children we serve come from families who are trying really hard to succeed, but face an uphill struggle,” said Maryanne McGlothlin, Marketing and Grants Director at FCS. “This grant enables our therapist to provide support to the Charter School to help the children and their families deal with the stress and frustration that than can make it more difficult for these kids to succeed.”

### **About PACF**

Founded in 1979, the Palo Alto Community Fund provides a permanent source of “community capital” for funding nonprofit services in the Palo Alto area. Managing an endowment of over \$4 million, PACF provides grants to local nonprofits. In 2008, PACF provided over \$180,000 in grants to 30 local nonprofit organizations. The mission of PACF is to grow, sustain, and use its endowment to improve the quality of life in our community. The Fund supports the work of new and existing nonprofit organizations serving the Palo Alto area.



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## Summary of 2008 Grant Recipients

**Abilities United (formerly Community Association for Rehabilitation):** Fund a Marriage & Family Counselor in the Infant Development early intervention program to support and guide families with crises dealing with challenges of raising a child with special needs. [www.abilitiesunited.org](http://www.abilitiesunited.org)

**Acterra:** Green@Home project which engages residents in Palo Alto to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. [www.acterra.org](http://www.acterra.org)

**Art in Action:** Art in Action innovative visual arts programs provide opportunities for creative self-expression at St. Elizabeth Seton School, East Palo Alto Stanford Academy and Green Oaks School. [www.artinaction.org](http://www.artinaction.org)

**Art of Yoga:** Provides the teacher's salary for Yoga & Creative Arts programs for girls in the CA juvenile justice system. [www.theartofyoga@opendoor.org](http://www.theartofyoga@opendoor.org)

**Collective Roots Garden Project:** Support program at East Palo Alto Charter School and Willow Oaks Elementary School providing nearly 650 students with garden-based education. [www.collectiveroots.org](http://www.collectiveroots.org)

**Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto:** Assisting tenants at risk of eviction with housing coordinator to pair low-income families & individuals with pro bono attorneys. [www.clsepa.org](http://www.clsepa.org)

**Community School of Music & Arts:** Provide "Art in Action" music, visual arts and digital arts programs to all students at Costano School in East Palo Alto. [www.arts4all.org](http://www.arts4all.org)

**Downtown Streets Team:** General program support to help people re-enter the workforce who have been homeless or out of work by giving them work experience cleaning streets of downtown PA in exchange for food and shelter vouchers. [www.downtownstreetsteam.com](http://www.downtownstreetsteam.com)

**Each One Reach One:** General operating support for programs serving incarcerated San Mateo youth with GED-tutoring and a job re-entry component in partnership with JobTrain. [www.eoro.org](http://www.eoro.org)

**Environmental Volunteers:** Collaborative program with Marine Science Institute to offer bay ecology and marine ecology programs in Palo Alto area elementary classrooms. [www.EVols.org](http://www.EVols.org)

**Family & Children Services:** Mental health counseling services to East Palo Alto Charter school at-risk students and their families to support them in becoming strong, safe, and self-sufficient. [www.fcservices.org](http://www.fcservices.org)

**Family Connections:** New Preschool Program in East Palo Alto enabling critical Kindergarten readiness programs to prepare children to start kindergarten in the fall. [www.familyconnections.org](http://www.familyconnections.org)

**Foundation for a College Education (FCE):** Support Student Leadership program to enhance leadership knowledge and skills for students enrolled in FCE College Bound program. [www.collegefoundation.org](http://www.collegefoundation.org).

**Friends of the Palo Alto Junior Museum:** Support East Palo Alto Science Outreach program to teach science concepts in a hands-on activity program to elementary aged school children. [www.friendsjmz.org](http://www.friendsjmz.org)

**InnVision:** Support academic enrichment and programming for youth during after school hours and weekends at the Opportunity Center through educational field trips. [www.InnVision.org](http://www.InnVision.org)

**JobTrain (formerly OICW):** Support of the Photovoltaic Design and Installation Training program training solar technology installers. [www.jobtrainworks.org](http://www.jobtrainworks.org)

**Kidpower:** Support Bullying Prevention and Positive Peer Interaction skill building program for K-6 high-risk children, their parents and teachers. [www.kidpower.org](http://www.kidpower.org)

**League of Women Voters of Palo Alto and South San Mateo County:** “New Voices” program giving students a voice through broadcast media to encourage civic engagement in taping video documentaries. [www.lwvssmc.org](http://www.lwvssmc.org)  
[www.newvoicesforyouth.org](http://www.newvoicesforyouth.org)

**MayView Community Health Center:** Program providing primary care and education about diabetes for low-income, uninsured individuals minimizing effect of related health complications. [www.mayview.org](http://www.mayview.org)

**My New Red Shoes:** Support Kids-Helping-Kids service educating students about poverty and homelessness as advocates for change in becoming leadership volunteers. [www.mynewredshoes.org](http://www.mynewredshoes.org)

**Palo Alto Community Child Care:** Support summer Subsidy Program for children whose parents work fulltime or attend school. [www.paccc.org](http://www.paccc.org)

**Parca:** Support training independent living skills programs at Page Mill Court, an assisted living apartment complex housing adults living with developmental disabilities. [www.parca.org](http://www.parca.org)

**Peninsula Bridge:** Support academic programming for preparation in Algebra and English gateway classes for middle school students on the college track. [www.peninsulabridge.org](http://www.peninsulabridge.org)

**Peninsula Stroke Association:** Support the “A Day Off from Caregiving” retreat for family caregivers of stroke survivors connecting them to other caregivers in community. [www.psastroke.org](http://www.psastroke.org)

**Project Read-Menlo Park:** Support the English classes for adult learners Basic English literacy program. [www.menloparklibrary.org/pread.html](http://www.menloparklibrary.org/pread.html)

**Resource Area for Teaching (RAFT):** Expands the resources of the “Green Room” serving Santa Clara County teachers working in all schools to create and publish new idea sheets for math and science. [www.raft.net](http://www.raft.net)

**Shelter Network:** Support of Haven Family House for Case Manager staff salary for providing services supporting transitional housing and life management skills. [www.shelternetwork.org](http://www.shelternetwork.org)

**St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP):** Augment the temporary safety net SVdP provides to keep families in their homes and keep their utilities on. *No website*

**Stevenson House:** Assist less mobile, older Stevenson House residents in maintaining their independence and self-esteem by utilizing Stevenson House van for transportation. [www.stevensonhouse.org](http://www.stevensonhouse.org)

**YES Reading:** Support literacy intervention services for elementary readers at the new Reading Center on the campus of East Palo Alto Charter School. [www.yesreading.org](http://www.yesreading.org)