# **SUMMER 2020**

# **COMMUNITY CONNECTION**



Congratulations to Seward High School's Class of 2020! You rose above the challenge and we are proud of you!









## Grantee Highlight: Grad Celebration Banners

Seward High School received a \$750 discretionary grant for supplies to create congratulatory banners for the Seward High School graduation parade. Each banner highlighted one Seward High graduate, and the City of Seward hung the banners from light posts throughout town.

The Seward High School Class of 2020 endured many hardships for what should have been their most exciting year yet. The COVID-19 pandemic caused schools across



SHS Graduate, Jayden Van Dyke PC: Kristin Rouse

the country to close their doors and move to online learning. In addition to being socially distanced from friends, classmates, and teachers, the class of 2020 also missed out on sports and special senior moments, such as prom and a typical graduation.

On May 19th, an overwhelming amount of love was shown as community members of all ages safely lined the streets of Seward to cheer on the class of 2020. Students drove the parade route in family vehicles adorned with festive paint, balloons, and banners. Class of 2020 graduate, Lindy Guernsey said, "It was incredible to see the whole community come out and support the class of 2020 at our graduation parade. The parade transformed graduation, a feeling



I didn't think I'd g e t t o experience, into a memorable event

full of honking horns, screams of support, waving hands, and an opportunity to come together one last time. Seward made our day special." Congratulations, SHS Grads! We are proud of you! Funding for this grant came from the Seward Community Foundation Fund.

# ~ 2020 Major Grant Awards ~

Connecting donors to causes they care about.

Seward Area Hospice, Inc.	\$12,500
Volunteer Coordinator	
Seaview Community Services	\$10,000
Supporting Safe Access for Behavioral	
Health Patients	
Seward Music Association	\$5,000
Music Opportunities at Seward Elementary	
School with the Loss of their Music Program	
Alaska SeaLife Center	\$4,500
Ocean Sciences Club 2020-2021	
Resurrection Bay Conservation Alliance	\$4,000
Living with Bears Program 2020	
Seward Arts Association	\$3,500
To Hire Local Artists to Instruct Students	
AOF Robotics	\$2,580
Moose Pass Robotics Program	
Independent Living Center	\$2,500
TRAILS Support FY21	
Seward Moose Pass Imagination Library	\$2,500
Monthly Book Delivery	
Seward Pride Alliance	\$1,650
Seward Pride 2020	
Marathon Wrestling Club	\$1,000
2021 Wrestling Season Travel	



To see a complete list of grant recipients, visit our Grants page at www.sewardcf.org.

#### GRANTEE HIGHLIGHT: SEWARD AREA HOSPICE

Seward Area Hospice received a \$12,500 major grant to help hire a volunteer coordinator. The volunteer coordinator will recruit, train, and support volunteers, as well as assist the Director with increasing donor support and organizing community fundraising events.

The Seward Area Hospice's mission of, "providing compassionate end-of-life care" began in March 2017 and has since—seen a growing demand for their services. The organization went from serving eight clients in 2018 to 20 clients in 2019. By hiring a volunteer coordinator, Seward Area Hospice hopes to increase the number of volunteers and the quality of support they can lend to a growing client base.

Tonya Foote, Program Director for the Seward Area Hospice, said, "The new role and hiring of our part-time Volunteer Coordinator has been a valuable addition to our organization. It has been wonderful to grow and expand, but with this came more duties and responsibilities. Having our Volunteer Coordinator to take the lead with our volunteers,



and also assist me with projects and other various tasks has been priceless. Thank you to the Seward Community Foundation for helping us to make this added position possible for our organization to function to its full potential."

Funding for this grant came from the Frank Dieckgraeff Memorial Fund for Seward Seniors and the Seward Community Foundation Fund.

#### GRANTEE HIGHLIGHT: IRON MOUNTAIN FFA



Last November, the Iron Mountain Future Farmers of America received a \$1,000 minigrant to help

cover costs for the team's travel to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. Four Seniors and two Juniors, all from Seward and Moose Pass, were able to attend the convention and compete on the national stage after winning the State FFA competition within one year of being a new chapter. What an accomplishment! The team spent two days competing and won silver, placing 15th out 46 teams from across the United States. Along with the team medal, there were individual gold, silver, and bronze achievements by the students. All returning team members are dedicated to helping pass on their knowledge and success to the next team and keep the momentum going.

#### MINI-GRANTS AWARDED (THROUGH JUNE)

- \$720 to Seward Sports Association for website fees.
- \$1,000 Qutekcak Native Tribe to update computer equipment.
- \$1,000 Boys and Girls Club Seward Clubhouse for clubhouse snacks.
- \$1,000 Discretionary grant to the University of Fairbanks for Tsunami Bowl.
- \$930 Port City Players for The Actor's Nightmare production.
- \$700 Kenai Public Radio for an upgrade to equipment.
- \$1,000 Boys and Girls Club Seward Clubhouse for providing meals during COVID-19 crisis.
- \$790 Seward High School for graduation banners and other support.

Mini-grant applications are available year-round and are evaluated on the third Wednesday of the month. Please visit our website for more information.

#### AN IMPACT NOW, A LEGACY FOR SEWARD, FOREVER

Confirm your intent to give to Seward Community Foundation's Endowment Fund by sending in a completed Declaration of Intent Form found at www.sewardcf.org. Rasmuson Foundation will match 5% of the assessed value of the bequest, up to \$5,000 per gift. This ensures your SCF legacy gift to benefit our community will make an impact now! Save the date for a Legacy Giving event on October 8th.





#### SEWARD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RESPONDS TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

Our major grant cycle this year was interrupted by a viral pandemic sweeping across the globe. Due to this disruption, SCF set aside half of our available grant dollars to respond to basic needs locally, such as food insecurity and health services, brought on by the pandemic. We allocated \$50,000 for grants to help nonprofits meet emergent needs in our community.

In addition to SCF's \$50,000, the Rasmuson Foundation and Norwegian Cruise Lines donated \$10,000 to support basic needs in Seward and Moose Pass. Through these donations, the SCF Advisory Board made additional grants to support local nonprofits. We

"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much."

- Helen Keller

are so thankful for all our donors who make this charitable giving possible during this time of crisis and uncertainty.

We also want to thank those nonprofits who received these grants for their tireless efforts to keep our community safe, protected, and cared for. Through your efforts, Seward and Moose Pass will continue to prosper and take care of one another!

### COVID-19 RESPONSE GRANTS AWARDED (THROUGH JUNE)

Funding for these grants came from the Seward Community Foundation's Unrestricted Fund

- \$625 to the Alaska SeaLife Center to replace medical supplies donated to Providence Seward Hospital.
- \$1,200 to the Seward Senior Center for the purchase of insulated food delivery bags.
- \$9,150 Boys & Girls Club to support their youth food program and to purchase PPE for staff.
- \$3,600 He Will Provide Foodbank for the purchase of food.
- \$6,000 Seward Senior Center to hire a temporary kitchen staff member.
- \$4,500 to the Seward Senior Center for the continued increase for food Services.

#### Funding for these grants came from a generous gift from Rasmuson Foundation

- \$4,900 Seward Senior Center for the continued increase for food Services
- **\$4,500** to the Seward Senior Center for the American Legion Post 5: utilities, heating fuel and propane
- \$600 Seward Prevention Coalition to help purchase materials to sew PPE gowns for local EMS providers



Seward Community
Foundation is currently
accepting requests for
grants that support basic
needs in Seward and
Moose Pass.
Inquire at:

seward@alaskacf.org

SCF can connect you to



causes you care about!

#### WILL YOU MEET THE MATCH?

We are currently in the final year of a 1:1 match challenge by Rasmuson Foundation. Don't miss this opportunity to have your donations doubled. If we can meet the 2020 challenge, we will receive \$25,000 and qualify for an additional \$25,000 bonus match. The total match dollars available will add \$75,000 to our endowed funds!

With your help, we will reach our 2020 goals. We invite you to "Pay It Forward." All donations made to SCF through July 15 will be eligible for our "Pay It Forward" award. One donor will be drawn and we will match their donation and award it to the local non-



profit of the winner's choice. Donations to the SCF Fund or the SCF Operating Endowment can be made online at www.sewardcf.org/donate, or by mail to: P.O. Box 933 Seward, AK 99664.

#### Nonprofits Share Impacts of Covid-19 Crisis

On May 13, local nonprofits gathered via Zoom teleconference to discuss the impacts on their organizations and the work they are doing to support our residents. Frontline organizations have seen a substantial increase in the number of people they are serving.



#### ~A Few of our Community Heroes~

Seward Senior Center – The Center has been closed and its lunch program is now by daily delivery. In the previous two months, the SSC delivered over 6,000 meals to seniors in Seward and Moose Pass. Typically, SSC served 30 meals a day; they now provide upwards of 80 meals daily. They are currently serving 103 clients and have had 40 volunteers that are making this possible. In addition to delivering freshly prepared meals, delivery volunteers give a quick moment of friendship and a smiling face. These moments can significantly lift spirits when you are sheltering in place, perhaps alone, and have lost your social outlet.

Boys & Girls Club — With schools having closed their doors to in-person instruction, the need for student access to meals has increased drastically. B&GC says they have been serving 90-100 meals in addition to sending home weekend meals on Fridays; they served over 3000 meals between March 17 and June 8. In collaboration with the Seward Community Library, they are also giving out free books to students during meal pick up.

He Will Provide Food Pantry — The Food Bank has seen a 49% increase in clients since mid-March. They have received \$48,000 in cash donations from generous donors, and their focus is to continue providing food security to local families and individuals in need.

Seward Community Foundation – SCF redirected funds to help meet the immediate needs of the community. So far, we have awarded over \$36,000 to nonprofits to support their increased needs and workloads. Due to distancing rules, we were not able to hold our Grants Awards and Donor Appreciation Event. The announcement of our major grant awards will be through an awards video, which you can find on our Facebook page. Be sure to look for it and like our page while you're there! Thank you for supporting SCF!

Overwhelmingly, nonprofits expressed their gratitude to the community, and the organizations who are providing donations and volunteers to help all of us get through these unprecedented times.

Can we get three cheers for our volunteers, frontline workers, and essential workers? Hip, hip, hooray!











Would you like to learn more about Seward Community Foundation? Please visit us online at: www.sewardcf.org or email us at: seward@alaskacf.org!

# JULY 2019 TO JUNE 2020 DONORS

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Your generous gift was matched 1:1 by Rasmuson Foundation!

# In Memory

- Linnea Hribernick, by Sherry Furlong
- Ryan Lewis, by Skip and Kim Reierson
- ♥ Jason Moore, by Michael and Joanne Meyers
- Kevin Whelan, by John and Eileen Eavis
- Of Our Ancestors, by Paul and Sharon Rupple
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- ♥ Marlene Neve', by Judith R. Holmes
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- ♥ Willard Dunham, by Bruce and Carole Jaffa
- ♥ Mel Sather, by Dorothy and Lawrence Urbach
- Ralph Hatch, by Arne Hatch and Melody Spangler-Hatch
- ♥ Mel Sather, by Margaret Anderson

For more information on how you can recognize friends, relatives, or community members that have made an impact in your life, please visit www.sewardcf.org.

#### **ADVISORY BOARD**

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Amy Hankins



#### IGNITING PHILANTHROPY



Your gifts to Seward Community Foundation's RASMUSON endowment funds will be FOUNDATION matched dollar-for-dollar

through 2020 by the Rasmuson Foundation!

Rasmuson's support is designed to ignite philanthropy across Alaska by supporting the Alaska Community Foundation Affiliate program, a statewide effort to create, support, locally-driven a n d sustain philanthropy.

Gifts to SCF will be matched up to \$185,000. The SCF Advisory Board has set a 2020 goal of raising \$30,000 towards our unrestricted endowment and \$15,000 towards our operating endowment. Achieving this goal will dedicate significantly to the advancement of important causes in Seward and Moose Pass.



Seward Community Foundation wishes to express our

sincere thanks for this year's Pick, Click, Give. donations! We are in this together, and together we are making a difference!



Find us on Facebook. Look for "Seward Community Foundation" and "Like" our

page to get the latest news about local nonprofits and funding opportunities!

# **Seward Community Foundation**

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