



Seward Community Foundation

An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation

July 2023

COMMUNITY CONNECTION



A Message from SCF's Chair



As the Chair of the Seward Community Foundation (SCF), I want to celebrate our outgoing chair Dave Paperman, for his leadership and dedication. His guidance and commitment have laid a solid path for our foundation, and we are grateful for his contribution to our foundation and local nonprofit organizations.

Reflecting on the past year, it fills me with immense pride to witness the incredible work accomplished by our local nonprofit organizations (NPOs). From providing vital services to fostering community growth, their impact is awe-inspiring. Each day, they bring positive change to the lives of individuals and families in the Seward and Moose Pass area, and we are honored to support their efforts.

None of this would be possible without the support of our generous donors. Your contributions make this all possible for our community. Your belief in our mission has enabled us to provide crucial funding, empowering our NPOs to carry out their important work and uplift our community. Fundraising is one of the cornerstones of what we do, and I am thrilled to share that we have seen our community, thru business and individual contributions, answer the call to support our local NPOs. Together, we are closing in on our targets, allowing us to expand our impact and support even more initiatives that make a difference. The support from our community demonstrates the power of coming together for a common cause.

Lastly, I look forward to partnering with you and our local NPOs as Chair of the Seward Community Foundation. Together we can achieve positive change and grow our impact. Our community's collective effort, spirit, and resilience make Seward and Moose Pass special. I am grateful to partner with you all on this journey. Thank you for your continued support and for making all of this possible.

Robbie Huett, SCF Chair

Calling all Nature Lovers

A \$1,000 mini-grant was awarded to Seward Arts Council to support a wonderful series of nature journaling classes hosted by Seward Nature Journaling.

Nature Journaling is a practice of creativity and curiosity that draws from our own experiences in the natural world. Join Homer artist Kim McNett to learn beginner-friendly field sketching and recording techniques that will strengthen your observation skills. If you can hold a pencil and observe, you have everything it takes to keep a nature journal!

This grant was funded by the Seward Community Foundation Fund.

~Class Schedule~

July 15th
Nature Journaling
with Kim McNett:
Drawing to Learn

July 16th
Nature Journaling with Kim McNett: Coastal
Habitat and Landscapes

July 18th, 19th, and 20th
Nature Journaling for Kids with Kim McNett

Register @ [SewardNatureJournaling.com](https://sewardnaturejournaling.com)



*"Non-profits really are the breath of a community.
We're just happy to be able to support their efforts."*

~Marc and Letty Swanson



Seward Community Band Spring Concert

Seward Community Band

By Marc Swanson, SCF Advisor

The Seward Arts Council recently received a \$1,000 mini-grant to support the Seward Community Band in bringing quality music to the community. The grant aimed to provide a stipend for the band's conductor and fund new musical selections and folders for the members. Under the leadership of CJ Levine, who stepped in as the conductor due to the band's significant growth, the community band has doubled in size to 28 enthusiastic members. Although the \$400 per concert stipend is modest compared to other orchestras, it serves as compensation for Levine's time.

With the grant, the band was able to purchase new folders and select exciting pieces for future concerts. Winning selections include scores from Mary Poppins, Wellerman (featuring Aussie folk songs), and a unique musical score highlighting each planet in the solar system. Kim Kawalski-Rogers, representing the band, is confident that audiences will appreciate these engaging and enjoyable musical pieces. The community band consists of individuals who genuinely enjoy coming together to create music, with about half of its members affiliated with the SeaLife Center. The band's talent is evident in their high-quality performances at recent concerts. Those eager for more can catch a portion of the Seward Community Band playing at their Fall concert, to be scheduled soon. Past concerts can be enjoyed on YouTube by searching for "Seward Community Band." Prepare to be impressed if this is your first time hearing them.

The Seward Community Foundation takes pride in supporting the Seward Community Band's efforts to provide live music to the town. If you are interested in joining the band or supporting their endeavors, please contact Kim at kimkr_ak@yahoo.com. This grant was funded by the Seward Community Foundation Fund.

"Of all the things we have a monthly payment for, it's nice to have one that is purely for philanthropy. I like that it helps my community and helps me know that at least one of those monthly deductions is going to a cause more than myself."

-Ryan Fisher



3rd Annual Hike For Hospice

By Marc Swanson, SCF Advisor

Seward Hospice will be hosting their Hike for Hospice - their annual fundraising event, which takes place at Grayling Lake Trail. The event provides the opportunity for people to hike in memory of a loved one who has died or honor someone seriously ill.

Though this is a fundraising event, the point is for the heart of hospice to shine through and focus efforts on making it a meaningful event for all who participate. There are places along the trail to pause and reflect on dying and grief, whatever stage you might be at on your journey. Sharing in people's stories and hearing about their loved

ones is always such a privilege. All funds raised directly support the work of Seward Area Hospice to continue meeting the needs of those navigating terminal illness, dying, death, and grief.

Register at sewardareahospice.org.

Find us on 

Our thanks go out to director Tonya Foote and all the good people at Seward Area Hospice for their invaluable contribution to our community.

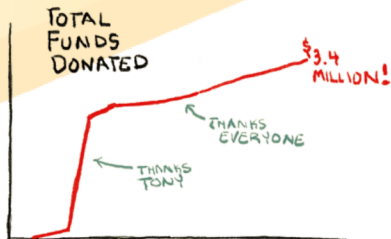
A Dollar's Journey

By Marc Swanson



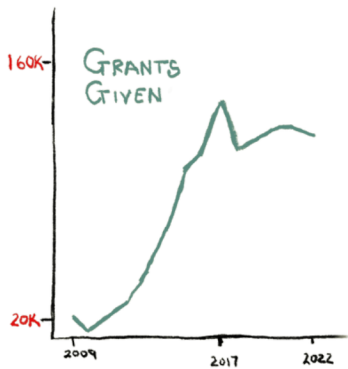
Hello, I'm that dollar you just donated to Seward Community Foundation. Firsties, thank you very much. I've got to say! I much prefer this to being exchanged for a latte. Perhaps you'd like to see what happens to me now that I am part of SCF...well, here's my journey.

My first stop is in the unrestricted grant-making fund, or one of the many funds that generous donors have set up to support causes close to their hearts. In any case, that is where I will call home forever. That's when the good folk of The Alaska Community Foundation puts me into a range of investments. This way, I can grow and make more dollars just like me.



Take a look at what has happened since the beginning of the Seward Community Foundation. This graph shows the growth from donations. See the big jump? That was the generous legacy gift from Tony Rollo. Two things he truly loved, ice cream and Seward! These donations are invested, and this investment growth is used to fund local programs and projects.

To determine how much money is available for grants, a spending policy considers a 5-year average in investment return and a 5-year average fund balance. This method protects the fund balance ensuring donations are never spent, only the interest. The interest dollars go to charitable organizations in Seward and Moose Pass that support music, education, sports, the unhoused, cultural awareness, social services, emergency services, beautification projects, preservation of historical archives, community health, library needs, and a ton of other good works.



Take a look, this is how through the years, based on growth and donations, SCF has been able to provide grants to local organizations. A total of nearly one and a half million dollars has been granted. But, the best part? I'm still here, right where I started. And that's where I'll remain nestled in the fund that you chose. And I will continue to grow and provide services to people far into the future. So, for those folks yet to be born, thank you for your dollar, which will help so many. (Besides, I bet you still have enough for that latte).

Art by Marc Swanson



Mini-grants!



Although the major grant cycle has concluded for 2023, remember that mini-grant opportunities are available year-round.

Mini-grants of up to \$1,000 are a flexible funding opportunity that may support a broad range of community needs throughout the year. Mini-grant applications are evaluated monthly.

Grants must be submitted by 5:00 pm on the 5th of each month to be considered during that month's advisory board meeting. Decisions are announced during the 3rd week of the month. Strong applications are those that demonstrate other sources of support and have measurable outcomes. For more information, visit sewardcf.org/grants.

If you have questions regarding the mini-grant program, don't hesitate to get in touch with an advisory board member or Amy Hankins, Program Manager, at seward@alaskacf.org.



Add or adjust your pledge online through August 31.

Katie Shepard, Advisor Spotlight

By Ryan Fisher, SCF Advisor

The SCF is thankful to have a talented and creative new board advisor in Katie Shepard. Katie, her husband Morgan, and their 3-year-old son Neely moved to Seward in September of 2021. After having her second son Turner, Katie decided to stay home to be with the two boys, "instead of working (I) wanted to dedicate some time to really plugging in and improving our community."

After seeing the SCF's FB post for board members and getting more information from a friend on the board, Katie knew this "would be a great way for (her) to serve this community." We are lucky to have her service, the impact of which was immediately felt when she organized a very successful and seamless major awards event this past April. Katie is on SCF's Development committee, where her talents in planning and organizing are being put to good use. Katie mentioned she was surprised at how many nonprofits were operating in Seward, and their large impact on our daily lives. However, she said she now knows, "I live somewhere where my family is supported and (I) want to raise my kids learning to support others as well." While she is still learning about SCF and nonprofits serving our community, she summed up her volunteerism with, "It fills my cup to be active in my community."

"I support SCF because I support all the nonprofits in Seward. Monthly contributions spread all over the community. It covers them all. I like that. It ties the community together."

~Mark Luttrell



Katie Shepard, SCF Advisor

Recurring Donations Have BIG Impact

By Ryan Fisher, SCF Advisor



Becoming a recurring donor to the Seward Community Foundation is a great way to have lasting impacts on our local nonprofits. Making a recurring donation can empower you as a donor to know you're a sustainable source of income for the SCF that we can depend upon.

As the SCF grows and the more projects we support, the more you know your monthly donations made a lasting impact. Recurring donations are also easier on your personal budget than making large single-time donations. Spreading out payments over the year lessens the financial burden of the donor yet provides the same benefit to the SCF.

It's also nice to not feel the pressure to make a one-time donation near the end of the year, knowing your monthly or quarterly gift was there all year. Your recurring contributions can be easily increased or decreased based on individual or family needs. We appreciate all the ways our donors give to the health and sustainability of the Seward and Moose Pass communities. Maybe making recurring donations is the right choice for you and your family to show your everyday support to our amazing nonprofits and their great work! Contact Amy Hankins, Program Manager for information on how to set up a recurring donation.

"My first donation to SCF was at its inaugural event in 2008. I'm proud of the fact that my donation is still in the endowment and its earnings give yearly. I continue to give on a monthly basis because I believe in the work that our local nonprofits are doing."

~Kim Reiersen



Join us in making a lasting impact through your donation.
Every dollar counts.

Donate today!



Monthly Impact

2023 Mini-grant Awards

Seward Nature Journaling
\$988

Seward Senior Center
\$900

Moose Pass School
\$500

Res Bay
Conservation Alliance
\$306

Seward Nordic Ski Club
\$500

Seward Elementary School
\$500

Chugachmiut
\$500

Seward Senior Center
\$500

Seward Nordic Ski Club
\$500

Moose Pass Volunteer Fire Dept.
\$870

Bear Creek Volunteer Fire Dept.
\$600

Seward Middle School Foods Class
\$1,000



Our Donors are the Heart of SCF

Your generosity unleashes the power to build stronger communities!
You are simply wonderful!

*All gifts made between
December 8th, 2022 through June 27th, 2023*

Aaron Kusano
Adventure 60 North
Amanda Renee Strickland
American Legion Auxiliary Unit #5
Anonymous
Anthony Kaaumoana Baclaan
Apollo Restaurant LLC*
Arne & Melody Hatch
Beverly Dunham
Bob and MaryLynn Barnwell*
Bruce and Carole Jaffa
Bruce Knofel
Carmen Joy Davis Fund
Catherine R. Malcolm Byars
Charles and Margie McEldowney
Chellie Skoog
Clay Sterling Adam
Colleen Kelly & Mark Kansteiner
Curtis Keith and Jacqueline Campbell
Darcie Larson
Darryl J. and Karla F. Schaefermeyer
David Berr Paperman*
David W. Duffy Fund
Dolly Dieter
Dot E. Bardarson

Dr. Michael P. and Maya Moriarty*
Eraina Albino
Erik Slater and Hillary Bean
Exit Glacier Guides
Forests Tides & Treasures
Fred Moore and Phyllis Shoemaker
Freeport-Mcmoran Foundation
Harper Swanson
Heather and John Shank
Jennifer DesErnia
Jewel Williams
Jim and Susan Pfeifferberger*
Jolund and Monica Luther
Jonathan W. and Linda E. Sewall
Josie Hlckel
Kat Sorensen
Kimberly Strehlow and Kris Lillemo
Konstantinos Kanaras*
Kristy L and Robert J Wood
Marc and Letty Swanson*
Marjorie McEldowney
Mark Luttrell and Ann Ghicadus*
Mary Ann Benoit
Nancy and Brandon Anderson

Nancy and Monty Fisher
Nathan Smith
Nick and Christy Jordan
Paul and Sharon Ruppel
Peter Frank
Philip Kaluza
Rachel Freeman
Richard Smeriglio and Ellen O'Brien
Richard L. Brown*
Rita Selden
Rodger and Carmen Davis
Ryan Fisher*
Seward Chamber of Commerce
Seward Properties LLC
Skip and Kim Reiersen*
Steve Kulin Family
Sue McClure
Sunny Cove Kayaking
Teal & Marques Hall
The Hetrick Family*
Chip and Teri Arnold*
The Paperman Family
Thomas C. and Mary E. Tougas
Tyrell and Tekla Seavey

* denotes monthly donor

Bold denotes SCF fund holder

Italic denotes Business Partner Program member



SCF endowments are growing!

Current Balance: \$3,667,212

Total Contributions: \$3,472,753

Total Grants Awarded: \$1,339,679

Tribute Gifts

Honoring Lives, Inspiring Change

The next time you make a donation to SCF, consider making a donation in memory or honor of a friend or loved one, as a meaningful way to pay tribute to their legacy and support the causes they cared about.

In Honor

Margaret Anderson by Eraina Albino
Margaret Anderson by Kimberly Strehlow and Kris Lillemo
Margaret Anderson by Steve Kulin Family
Margaret Anderson by Skip and Kim Reiersen

In Memory

Arthur Osborn by Jewel Williams
Hjalmar and Ramona by Anonymous
Joan Fox by Anonymous
Ken Carr by Colleen Kelly & Mark Kansteiner
Ken Carr by Skip and Kim Reiersen
Mr. Carr by Teal Hall
Rose Morissey by Bruce and Carole Jaffa
Shirley Seavey by Jonathan W. and Linda E. Sewall
Wilard E. Dunham by Beverly Dunham

Play Ball!

By Marc Swanson, SCF Advisor

A \$4,250 grant was awarded to Seward Little League to help purchase uniforms, bats, and a new practice mound to support their thriving league. Since its founding, Seward has had a strong affinity for baseball both in the adult and youth leagues. SCF is proud to highlight the good works of the many volunteers of the Seward Little League and their continued contribution to Seward youth.



SCF recently talked with Chris Thompson, President of the Seward Little League. Currently, the league comprises boys and girls aged four to thirteen years old. In recent years, the program has seen increased interest and growth that Chris credits to former president Drew Barlow. Last year, the league involved a record 113 players. Thompson says, "One of the great things about this sport is that it is inclusive with boys and girls participating." Critical to the program's success are the volunteers that make up the program's backbone. In addition to coaching the teams, volunteers fill in as referees, field maintenance, base coaches, concession operators, scorekeepers, and many other critical roles; without volunteers there wouldn't be a little league.

Last summer, twelve players in the Intermediate League (11-13 year olds) surprised everyone by fighting their way through the ranks during the State All-Stars competition. The team found themselves in the championship game but lost it in a nail-biter to an Anchorage team. There are hopes to expand youth baseball opportunities by adding a Seniors League for players up to sixteen years old. To learn more about Seward Little League or to check out volunteer opportunities, call Chris Thompson at (907) 202-3239 or email sewardlittleleague@gmail.com.

This grant was funded by the Seward Community Foundation Fund.

Celebrating Seward Youth

By Marc Swanson, SCF Advisor



Earlier this year, Fischer Strickland, a 16-year-old local high schooler passionate about operating remote control model boats, approached SCF with the help of his mother, Maria Strickland. He wanted to set up a club to share this passion with others. Fischer felt that the project was important since there needed to

be more things for local kids to do, and he thought bringing people together for boat races would be fun. But alas, he needed funding to purchase more boats and batteries. Unfortunately, since Fischer is not a qualified organization eligible for grant funding, SCF could not be able to steer him towards a local 501(c)3 to act as his fiscal sponsor. Before he could work with an organization, individuals who heard of Fischer's idea provided the necessary money to fully fund his project. With that, his project is up and running. "It feels pretty cool bringing something new to Seward and knowing that there are going to be all sorts of people coming out [to enjoy RC Model Boating.] I like to help out any way I can. It helps the community be a better place and brings people together.", says Fischer.

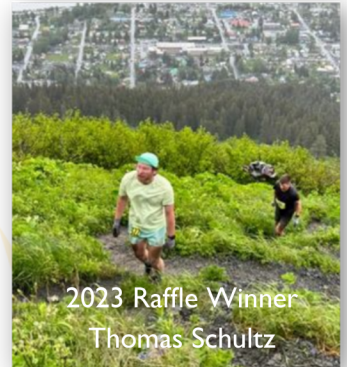
After graduation, Fischer plans to get his 100-ton license through AVTEC. Well done, Fischer!



Mt. Marathon Raffle Record

By Amy Hankins, SCF Program Manager

Every year, a wave of hopeful racers gathers inside the Seward High gym, all vying for the opportunity to secure a highly sought-after race spot. These determined individuals are typically those who missed out on their chance through the lottery system.



Some dedicated enthusiasts have even gone to the extent of spending nearly \$4,000 for a bib, while others have managed to secure a spot with a lesser dent in their bank accounts. To add an extra touch of excitement, a raffle takes place before the auction, granting one fortunate individual the chance to win a race spot. Each participant has the option to purchase multiple entries at a cost of \$10 per ticket. Since 2017, the responsibility of running the raffle has been entrusted to SCF, and all the proceeds from the raffle are generously donated to support SCF's mission. The cumulative sales from the raffle have amounted to an impressive \$8,740. Thanks to a generous 1:1 match from the Rasmuson Foundation and The Alaska Community Foundation, the grand total to SCF is an outstanding \$17,480! We offer gratitude to the Seward Chamber of Commerce for their dedication to improving the quality of life for Seward and Moose Pass residents.

And, a BIG congratulations to this year's raffle winner, Thomas Schultz from Anchorage, on completing his 6th finish!

2023 Major Grant Awards

We're thrilled to stand behind organizations making a difference in the Seward and Moose Pass areas! Huge thanks to our incredible nonprofits for their work in supporting our community. And a special shoutout to our amazing donors – your generosity is truly making a difference! We couldn't be prouder to be part of this remarkable team effort.

Alaska SeaLife Center and Chugachmiut

Incorporate Native language into the ASLC exhibits.
\$10,000

Seward Sports Association, Inc

Purchase a 4-Wheeler to groom ball fields.
\$5,245

KMTA National Heritage Area

Purchase a van to provide educational opportunities in the KMTA corridor.
\$8,000

Seward Community Health Center

For continuing staff education.
\$1,390

Marathon Wrestling Club

Assist with the high cost of travel to attend USA Wrestling meets.
\$5,702

SeaView Community Services

Support mental health access for Seward area residents.
\$10,000

Cooper Landing Emergency Services, Inc.

Purchase swift water rescue equipment.
\$4,500

Sprouts Preschool

Support teacher salaries.
\$5,500

Seward Arts Council

For Seward artists in the schools.
\$4,550

Rotary of Seward

For whale art to be installed at Rotary Park.
\$2,000

Independent Living Center (ILC)

Assist individuals with and without disabilities participating in TRAILS.
\$4,500

Wellness for All

Support Seward's mindfulness movement.
\$6,065

Seward Nordic Ski Club

Purchase a Ginzugroomer.
\$7,325

Seward PTA

Kids 2 Slopes, a Seward Middle School downhill ski and snowboard program.
\$5,000

Seward Little League

Support SLL Intermediate and Senior teams.
\$4,250

Seahawks Athletic Boosters Club and Seward PTA

Purchase a travel van for sports trips and other school sponsored events.
\$10,000

Seward's Safe Harbor DVSA Program

Provide safe and secure housing during times of crisis and danger.
\$10,000



Everybody has the right to feel safe.
If you are in crisis call our 24/7 DVSA Crisis Line at 907-362-1843.

Important Dates and Reminders

2023 SCF Calendar

July 26th - Let's Get Social, Gateway Hotel, 6 PM to 7 PM
September - Community Picnic - Stay tuned!
September 22nd - Nonprofit Training

2024 SCF Calendar

January 4th - Annual Nonprofit Luncheon
January 8th - Major Grant Cycle Opens
February 2nd - Major Grant Cycle Closes
April 12th - Grant Awards Event (tentative)

Seward Community Foundation

PO Box 933
Seward, Alaska 99664
sewardcf.org | seward@alaskacf.org

Name
Address
City, State, Zip

Board and Staff

Robbie Huett, Chair
Mark Kansteiner, Vice-chair
Secretary - Open
Tekla Seavey, Treasurer
Dave Paperman
Ryan Fisher
Marc Swanson
Ginger Allen
Katie Shepard
Jen Boyle
Sarah Spanos
Amy Hankins, Program Manager
Connecting People Who
Care With Causes That
Matter

New Business Partners

SCF adds two business partners;
Seward Community Foundation proudly extends
a warm welcome to Forest Tides & Treasures
and Windsong Lodge of the Pursuit Collection as
the newest members of our Business Partner
Program (BPP)! Through this program, we have
successfully expanded our grantmaking and
operating endowments using tourism dollars.
Engaging in tourism philanthropy offers a
powerful opportunity to make a lasting impact on
the communities that visitors cherish.
We have much gratitude to Exit Glacier Guides,
Sunny Cove Kayaking, Adventure 60 North,
Forest Tides & Treasures, and Windsong Lodge
for their unwavering support in bolstering our
nonprofit community and enhancing the quality of
life for individuals within it.

ADVENTURE S | XTY NORTH



FORESTS, TIDES
& TREASURES
OUTDOOR • GALLERY • GIFTS

