

SAN BRUNO

Community Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**IN THE EIGHTH YEAR OF THE COMMUNITY GRANTS FUND,
SAN BRUNO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS TOTALING
\$300,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS SERVING THE SAN BRUNO
COMMUNITY**

***With \$100,000 in Support from YouTube and Google.org,
SBCF Supports 26 Programs Addressing Important Community Needs***

San Bruno, California, December 12, 2023 – The Board of Directors of the San Bruno Community Foundation recently approved 26 grants totaling \$300,000 to local organizations providing critical services and programs in San Bruno in the eighth year of the Community Grants Fund. Ranging in size from \$25,000 to \$5,000, these grants will support a diverse array of community organizations doing meaningful work to benefit the San Bruno community.

To fund the grants, the Foundation is utilizing \$200,000 in investment proceeds from a portion of the restitution funds received from the City of San Bruno's settlement with Pacific Gas & Electric Company, following the 2010 gas pipeline explosion that devastated San Bruno's Crestmoor neighborhood. For the seventh year, YouTube and Google.org, Google's philanthropic arm, made a generous \$100,000 contribution to the program.

“The San Bruno Community Foundation is thrilled to collaborate with YouTube and Google.org to invest in the San Bruno community through the Community Grants Fund,” said Foundation President Malissa Netane-Jones. “This year’s 26 Community Grants will benefit a broad cross-section of those who live, work, and engage in San Bruno, from incoming ninth graders participating in Capuchino High School’s Summer Bridge program to downtown businesses highlighted in marketplace events coordinated by Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center to grieving seniors who seek support from bereavement counselors at Mission Hospice and Home Care, Inc.”

The recommended grantees were selected from a competitive pool of grant applications that were received by the program’s September 20, 2023, application deadline. A review panel of volunteers, including community members and individuals with grantmaking and nonprofit experience, evaluated the applications and ultimately recommended that the Board approve grants for the 26 programs. Most importantly in its evaluation, the panel weighed the benefits of the proposed programs to the San Bruno community. Other criteria the panel considered include each proposal’s alignment with one of the Foundation’s identified focus areas, program methodology and budget, the requested grant amount in relation to anticipated community benefit, and the applying organization’s track record, stability, and financial health.

This year’s grant awards include:

- \$5,000 to American Association of University Women (AAUW) North Peninsula, CA, to enable four San Bruno middle school students to attend the Tech Trek science and math summer camp for girls at a local university;
- \$12,000 to Art in Action to deliver visual arts education curriculum at San Bruno Park School District elementary schools to provide all students, regardless of economic circumstances, with an outlet for creative self-expression;

- \$15,000 to CASA of San Mateo County to support San Bruno children in foster care and/or the juvenile justice system by pairing them with trained community volunteers who provide one-on-one support, mentoring, and advocacy in the courtroom and beyond;
- \$10,000 to Catalino Tapia Scholarship Foundation to provide comprehensive support to first-generation college students by offering scholarships, mentorship, workshops, and stipends, ensuring their success in higher education and beyond;
- \$6,000 to City of South San Francisco (Project Read) to provide literacy programs and other social services to low-income San Bruno parents and children through Learning Wheels, Project Read's literacy van;
- \$25,000 to CORA (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse) to provide San Bruno victims and survivors of domestic violence with 24-hour access to crisis intervention services, including crisis counseling, safety planning, and access to emergency shelter;
- \$12,500 to Each Green Corner to empower students to address food insecurity and climate readiness through sustainable urban agriculture and the Food Explorers Curriculum by supporting the garden and outdoor classroom complex at Portola Elementary School with a food systems educator and storage infrastructure;
- \$7,500 to Junior Achievement of Northern California to provide financial literacy, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship programming to Capuchino High School students, cultivating the knowledge and skills needed to move toward college and career success, through the Inspiring Economic Empowerment program;
- \$10,000 to Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County to provide legal assistance to San Bruno residents facing eviction or living in substandard conditions with the goal of

keeping them in their homes, preventing homelessness through enforcement of legal rights, and remedying inadequate living conditions through advocacy;

- \$12,500 to LifeMoves to support unsheltered San Bruno residents, address their behavioral health and medical needs, and provide individualized case management through the Homeless Outreach Team;
- \$6,000 to the Lowen Soccer Club to enable economically disadvantaged San Bruno youth to participate on competitive club soccer teams through Lowen's Scholarship Program;
- \$20,000 to Mindful Life Project to provide mental health and wellness support through comprehensive in-person, full-time mindfulness-based social and emotional learning programming at Belle Air and Allen Elementary Schools;
- \$5,000 to Mission Hospice and Home Care, Inc., to offer free monthly drop-in grief support with experienced bereavement counselors for community members at the San Bruno Senior Center;
- \$15,000 to Music for Minors to provide standards-based, in-school music education to TK-2nd grade students at San Bruno Park School District elementary schools;
- \$5,000 to Partners & Advocates for Remarkable Children & Adults (PARCA) to offer advocacy, family support groups, information and referral, parent education, inclusive recreation opportunities, and community outreach to San Bruno families with developmentally disabled members;

- \$12,500 to Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center to coordinate a series of activation events in downtown San Bruno involving local businesses, community vendors, and performing artists to promote and celebrate San Bruno's small businesses;
- \$15,000 to San Bruno Community Gardens, Inc., to bolster and sustain San Bruno's community-enhancing community garden by investing in capital improvements including a new irrigation system;
- \$16,500 to San Bruno Education Foundation to establish a scholarship program to enable socioeconomically disadvantaged eighth graders to experience U.S. history first-hand and participate in Parkside Intermediate School's annual trip to Washington, DC, and Williamsburg, Virginia;
- \$7,000 to San Bruno Lions Foundation to distribute holiday food baskets to San Bruno families in need through San Bruno public schools;
- \$5,000 to San Bruno Lions Foundation to provide a special winter holiday experience for special education students and teachers at El Portal School in San Bruno;
- \$15,000 to San Mateo County Community College District (Bay Area Entrepreneur Center of Skyline College) to support Skyline College students conducting hands-on community projects aimed at attracting new customers to San Bruno businesses by planning a series of pop-up events to help rebrand downtown San Bruno and at assisting business owners in forming a new association and communication network to further activate and mobilize the downtown area;
- \$15,000 to San Mateo Union High School District to expand Capuchino High School's Summer Bridge Program for incoming ninth grade students, allowing for greater

interpersonal connections and enhanced social and emotional learning opportunities for students and faculty;

- \$15,000 to Second Harvest of Silicon Valley to serve San Bruno families and individuals at risk for hunger through the distribution of healthy food;
- \$15,000 to Sonrisas Dental Health, Inc., to improve health equity in San Mateo County by removing systemic barriers to care, providing prevention education, and increasing dental utilization for adult residents of San Bruno;
- \$10,000 to StarVista to provide school-based mental health education presentations covering such topics as depression, anxiety, coping skills, stress, help-seeking, and suicide prevention, to reduce stigma and increase access to care for San Bruno high school students; and
- \$7,500 to Upward Scholars to provide financial assistance, academic support, career development opportunities, and mental health support to San Bruno adult immigrants enrolled in community college.

“San Bruno Community Gardens is deeply committed to cultivating connections, nourishing bodies, and fostering sustainability within our community,” said Gus Sinks, President of San Bruno Community Gardens, Inc. “With a grant from the San Bruno Community Foundation, our organization will be able to replace our aging irrigation system, benefiting garden members and the wider San Bruno community by ensuring a sustainable and community-enhancing community garden. We are deeply grateful for the Foundation’s support.”

“A youth mental health crisis has been growing exponentially over the last decade, amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Mindful Life Project is dedicated to addressing that crisis by empowering underserved children, families, and educators through mindfulness-based social

and emotional learning programming to gain self-awareness, confidence, self-regulation, and resilience,” said JG Larochette, Mindful Life Project’s Executive Director. “Funding from the San Bruno Community Foundation will enable our organization to provide ongoing mental health and wellness support to San Bruno students and build upon the effective partnerships we’ve forged at Allen and Belle Air elementary schools.”

Since 2016, the Foundation has awarded 186 Community Grants totaling \$2.3 million.

The San Bruno Community Foundation is the nonprofit organization created by the City of San Bruno to administer the \$70 million in restitution funds received from PG&E after the devastating 2010 gas pipeline explosion in San Bruno’s Crestmoor neighborhood. The Foundation serves the San Bruno community by investing in projects, programs, services, and facilities that have significant and lasting benefits. Through making grants, leveraging partnerships, and taking advantage of other resources, SBCF assists and enables the community to maximize shared investments and realize their subsequent enhancements and benefits.

Google.org, Google’s philanthropy, brings the best of Google to help solve some of humanity’s biggest challenges combining funding, product donations, and technical expertise to support underserved communities and provide opportunity for everyone. We engage nonprofits, social enterprises and civic entities who make a significant impact on the communities they serve, and whose work has the potential to produce scalable, meaningful change.

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