

BROOKS & DISTRICT COMMUNITY FUND

Annual Review

December 2020
Vol.1

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Spring Repurposed Fund awards \$37,430 in granting dollars to six local charities & non-profit organizations.



Photo from Left to right: Anne Muraya, Gwen Cameron, Lenita Musgrove, Sharon Reid

With the end of the year drawing near, 2020 has been a year to remember for everyone. During the height of the pandemic, the number of active cases within Brooks and The County of Newell soared past 1000, and with that came a dramatic increase in the need for the services that many of our local charities and non-profits provide. So far this year, around \$141,000 has been distributed by the CFSEA to charities and not-for-profits within the Brooks & District region.

In March, the Spring Repurposing Grant offered the first round of support and \$37,430.00 was granted to 6 groups: **The Champion's Centre Incorporated, Brooks Food Bank Foundation, The SPEC Association for Children & Families, Brooks & County Victims Service Unit, St. Vincent du Paul and Crossroads Clinic Association.** Funds were spent on PPE, Sanitization Material, Updated Technology and Emergency Food Hampers. Supporting vulnerable populations was a primary goal of the Spring Repurposed Grants and our region.

During the same time that the Spring Repurposing funds were announced, our annual Youth in Philanthropy Program was taking place. We were very grateful to have the opportunity to work with first time participants, St. Luke's Outreach School. Teacher Naomi Hartery and her students were very enthusiastic to take part and help their community in any way they could. After much research and analyzing of the greatest needs within Brooks & District, they chose the Brooks Food Bank Foundation to receive \$2,000.

COVID-19

Response

Fund:

Addressing the medium to long term needs in the wake of the pandemic.



The Community Foundation provided a second emergency funding grant through the COVID-19 Response Fund for SE Alberta which included the Government of Alberta's Charitable Giving Matching Donation Program and the Stay-At-Home Gala proceeds which was held in spring to help establish the Response Fund. To date, there has been six rounds of funding through the COVID19 Response Fund, and many needs in our Brooks & District region have been supported through these grants. It helped to fill gaps created by the increased and changing demand for services created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The matching donation program enhanced the fund with \$81,620 and our local group *100 Women Who Care* chose the Brooks & District Community Fund to receive the donations from their Spring meeting. The COVID-19 Response Fund provided \$45,600 in funding to 6 charities within our area: **Newell Further Education, Brooks & County Victims Services Unit, Crossroads Clinic, SPEC Association for Children and Families, Brooks & District Seniors Outreach Society and Griffin Park Parent Council.**



Emergency
Community
Support Fund
provides
\$46,937 to
Brooks &
District.

The third avenue of funding for the Brooks & District area was the Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF) which was made possible through funding provided by the Government of Canada to Community Foundations of Canada, United Way and Red Cross. Launched on May 19, 2020, the Government of Canada's new Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF) aimed to provide additional and much-needed assistance to charities and non-profit organizations serving vulnerable populations. These funds were flowed through national networks, including Community Foundations of Canada (CFC), United Way Centraide Canada and the Canadian Red Cross. CFSEA was proud to work with CFC and the Government of Canada to deliver funding across Southeast Alberta to ensure that our most vulnerable citizens are safe and healthy.

The CFSEA then received and distributed over \$516,000 to charities throughout Southeastern Alberta, including an additional \$46,937 in granting dollars being allocated to 4 organizations locally: **Lifetalk Counselling Services, Brooks & County Victims Services Unit, Crossroads, Clinic Association and Brooks & District Child Development Society.** Every dollar received this year will ensure that no one is left behind in the wake of the pandemic.



Photo: Anne Muraya

Fall Smart & Caring Grants Award \$10,000

Times are different, but granting in support of non-profit and charitable needs in the region remains a priority.

Smart and Caring Grants support communities across Southeastern Alberta by enhancing belonging of all citizens and strengthening the nonprofit and voluntary sectors. Donors choose this fund as a way to allocate their contributions to support the community's greatest needs. In awarding grants, we conduct a comprehensive procedure to determine the most crucial community needs from data and evidence-based practice. Grants are then awarded based on potential impact and fund availability.

While our Fall 2020 Grant Reception plans looked a little different this year with in-person celebrations not being possible at this time, \$10,000 was awarded to the **Brooks & District Child Development Society** on December 2, 2020. This granting cycle was especially difficult as there was an influx in asks coming from all over the Southeastern Alberta region.

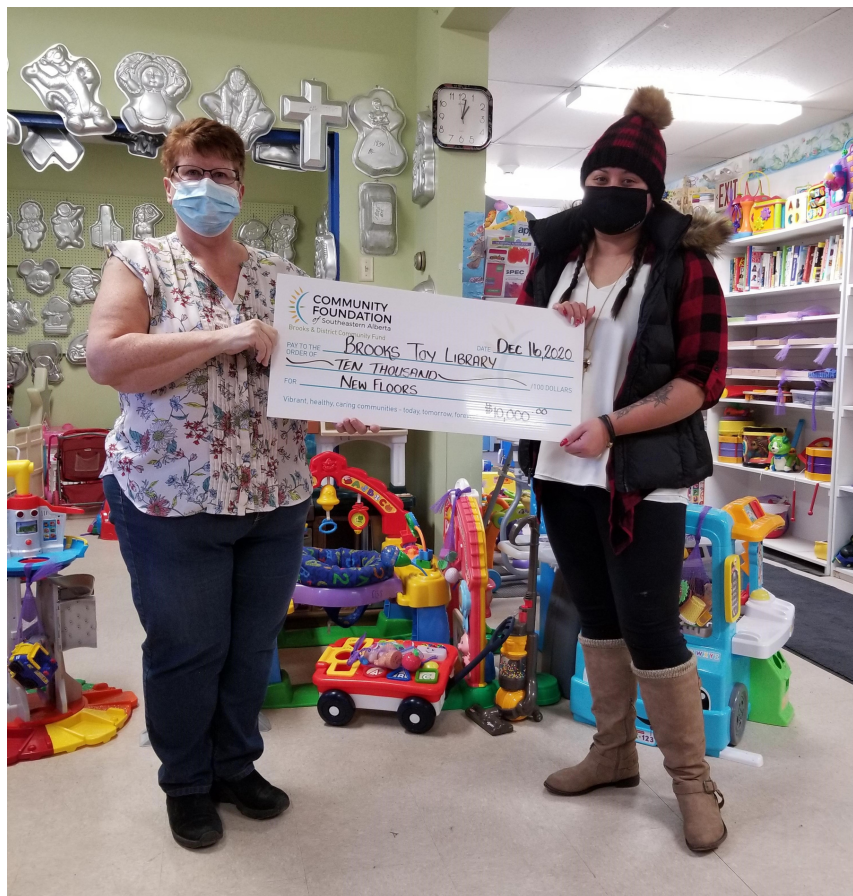


Photo Left to Right: Debbie Kowal, Nicole Nichols

Acknowledgements

Brooks & District has received an incredible level of grant support this year, and we cannot thank you enough for your continued and ongoing support of our local Brooks & District Community Fund, and for all that you do to support our area. Thank You to our many donors, sponsors and friends!



We also want to thank our local Advisory Committee for all their dedication and hard work. Through the work of our committee members (Chair- David Andrews, Leona Ferguson, Inge Ellefson, Lisa Tiffin, Debbie Piper, Nicole Gardner, Brian Petersen, Matthew Lofgren, Cindy Slenders, Grant & Kathleen Jensen) reviewing and distributing grants throughout the region, it was an incredible year. Through every round of funding, the committee members offered their knowledge, community insight and support. The success of the Brooks & District Community Fund would not be possible without all of their dedication, support and hard work.

We are looking forward to growing our fund in the coming year, which in turn assists in supporting many more non-profit and charitable projects that will achieve our mission and help our area continue to be a vibrant, healthy, caring community – today, tomorrow, forever!

On behalf of our CFSEA Board, staff and our local Brooks & District Advisory Committee, we wish you all the best this holiday season and throughout 2021!

If you would like more information or wish to make a donation to support the charitable needs of our region, forever, please contact our local Fund Coordinator, Nicole Nichols at 403.376.8884 or brooksdistrictfund@cfsea.ca.



When **GIVING**
MATTERS Most



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
of Southeastern Alberta