

2021 / 2022 Annual Report

Celebrating 30 Years!

* fiscal year end June 30, 2022

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Land acknowledgement

We are grateful and privileged to live, play, and work on Treaty 7 and Treaty 4 territory, traditional lands of the Siksika (Blackfoot), Kainai (Blood), Piikani (peigan), Stoney-Nakoda, and Tsuut'ina (Sarcee), as well as the Cree, Sioux, and the Saulteaux bands of the Ojibwa peoples. We honour and acknowledge that we are on the homelands of the Metis Nation within Region III.

Our team actively participates in ongoing activities, teachings, and community events which help enhance our knowledge and compassion for Truth and Reconciliation.

Welcome *Chair & Executive Director Message*

To the many friends and supporters of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta,

It's been a remarkable year for CFSEA and much has been accomplished, including the launch of the Joint Agency Endowment Building program, the release of the 2021 Vital Focus, the hosting of the 2022 Vital Conversations, and the onboarding of our permanent Executive Director. 2022 is also the year that we celebrated our 30th Anniversary! We are forever grateful for the vision of the original Board, Founder; John P. Ignatius, and the ongoing generosity of our donors.

This was also the year of moving back to in-person events! We hosted six events across Southeast Alberta to celebrate our donors, community partners, volunteers, and grant recipients. With over 300 individuals in attendance, we were delighted to see so many familiar and smiling faces – we missed you!

We would like to acknowledge the tremendous resiliency, courage, and perseverance of the charitable organizations across the region over the last few years. As we move forward, we know that what lies ahead of us will shift as our communities experience the ever changing needs as a result of inflation, the cost of living, the mental health crisis, food insecurity, domestic violence, and housing instability. However, our mission, vision, and values remain unchanged and unwavering. We are invested in building the charitable sector across the region by supporting various causes, convening partners, and providing leadership everywhere we can. We are in this together.

2022/2023 will be a year for in-depth strategic planning, Board & staff development, community engagement, and evaluating our communities' unique needs across the region. We are looking forward to working alongside you in supporting vibrant, healthy, and caring communities for another 30 years!



Heritage Club Members

Heritage Club Members are donors who have included the Community Foundation in their future plans with a gift through their estate.

Heritage Club members have made a conscious decision to build today into a better tomorrow and leave a gift for the lives that follow. Members commit to leaving a bequest or future gift of cash, a percentage of their estate, life insurance, retirement funds, or other appraisable assets. Their generosity and foresight will create a positive impact across Southeastern Alberta for generations to come.

Amos, Michelle	Edwards, Susan	Neubauer, Barry	Semrau, Kevin
Anctil, Michael	Edwards, Tyrone	Neubauer, Janet	Semrau, Marlene
Anctil, Wanda	Frost, Keith	Nichols, Nicole	Shabatura, Cheryl
Anctil, Yvonne	Frost, Jeanette	Nittel, Jim	Siegle, Rod
Atwal, Ajit	Gray, Niki	Niwa, Gregory J	Siegle, Shirley
Barnes, Drew	Grona, Eleanor	O'Reilly, Todd	Sihvon, Murray
Barnes, Frances	Hawthorne, Glenda	O'Reilly, Darlene	Sihvon, Margaret
Bender, Melvin	Heine, Doug	Panabaker, David	Snedden, Shann
Bernhardt, Otto	Heine, Shirley	Panabaker, Debbie	Stimson, Anita
Bernhardt, Ann	Hern, Ben	Pearson, Les	Stimson, Gary
Best, Debra	Hern, Kathy	Piper, Debbie	Stickle, Glen
Bradford, Keri	Hogg, Nelson	Piper, Walt	Stickle, Joanne
Byers, Barb	Hogg, Sharon	Porter, Mark	Summerbell, John
Byers, Kelly	Houlston, Robin	Renner, Rob	Summerbell, Freddie
Carolan, Paul	Kammerer, Dan	Roberts, Bill	Taylor, Bill
Christie, Andy	Kanewischer, Murry	Roberts, Lavina	Taylor, Marg
Christie, Anne	Knight, Kimberley	Rodych, Ted	Thompson, Barbara
Christie, Chris	Lloyd, Bill	Rodych, Donna	Torrance, Ken
Christie, Michael	Lloyd, Fay	Rothwell, Brian	Valli, Gilda
Cunningham, Karen	MacKay, Sandy	Rothwell, Gwen	Way, Nora
Dynes, Bruce	Mackay, Jane	Saunderson, Donald	Welling, Miriam
Dynes, Jan	Mueller, Elizabeth	Saunderson, Marjorie	Anonymous (11)

Forever Remembered – Continued legacies supporting vibrant, healthy, and caring communities – today, tomorrow, forever!

Appleton, Vic	Kanewischer, Don
Appleton, Helen	Kanewischer, Edna
Armstrong, Adele	Kurpjuweit, Marianne
Bachmeier, Nicolas	Lehr, Dorothy Joan
Bauman, Marion	MacLean, Donna
Bauman, William	McDougald, Alex
Biemans, Elizabeth	Moon, Eleanor
Clugston, Timothy	Morrison, William
Garden, Al	Pearson, Louise
Garden, Tanis	Raber, Manuel
Hargrave, Thomas Colborne	Rinke, Mata
Hawthorne, Donald	Sauve, Walter
Hawthorne, Milta	Valli, Victor (Ted)
Hunt, Allan	Welling, Jeff
Ignatius, John P	





CFSEA's

30th Anniversary

30 years ago, John P. Ignatius had a long-term vision - to create a Community Foundation that would support charities year after year, long after he was gone. With John's vision and the assistance of dedicated volunteers, the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta was established on June 26, 1992.

"I remember the tough going in the very beginning because it was something brand new. People needed to know what it was all about, so we explained it was money that would stay right here in the community. Each of the original directors anted up to get it started. Great to hear that after 30 years it has been so well supported. It makes those early days especially rewarding." – **Russ Holowachuk, CFSEA Director (1992 – 1996)**

Throughout the years, CFSEA has supported the community's greatest needs in the form of grants. We have pivoted to support the community through emergency relief efforts such as floods, fires, and the Covid-19 pandemic. We have launched and celebrated many programs such as Vital Signs, the Heritage Club, Random Acts of Kindness Day, and Youth in Philanthropy.



To celebrate our 30th Anniversary, we held our annual Founder's Day Picnic which was our first in-person event since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. At the event, we highlighted past donors, volunteers, grant recipients, and past initiatives through our '30 stories for 30 years' series. Numerous individuals spoke on the impact CFSEA has had over the last 30 years, including Michael Ancil who was awarded a Honourary Lifetime Board Membership for his time, commitment, and dedication during his seven years as a Director and Board Chair.

Since 1992, we have distributed over \$8.4 million to support vibrant, healthy, and caring communities across Southeastern Alberta. Although, we did not do all this on our own; it is because of dedicated volunteers, community partnerships, and committed donors who chose to invest in "a gift that lasts forever." Thank you to everyone who has supported CFSEA over the last 30 years!

"To have been part of the Community Foundation during part of its 30 years of service to Southeastern Alberta was a tremendous opportunity and experience. During my six plus years with the Foundation, I received a firsthand appreciation for the generosity of the people in our area and the tremendous value the Foundation makes of their financial contributions. It was a privilege to work with professional Board Members who represented the diversity of our community and served with the utmost integrity and with Staff who displayed service excellence and dedication. I will always feel honoured to be considered a Community Foundation Alumni." – **Gerry Labas, CFSEA Director (2010 – 2017)**

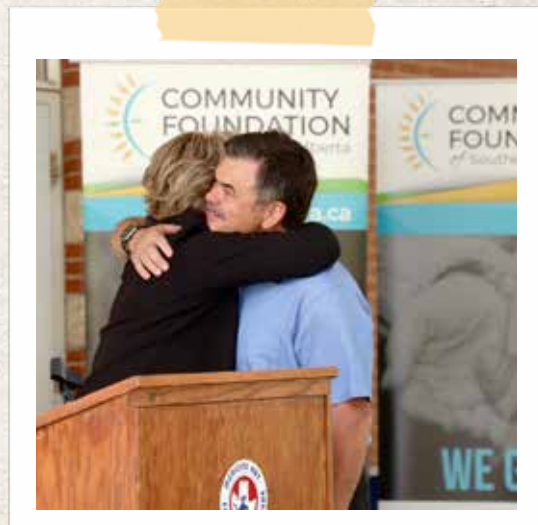


Original Board Members

- John Ignatius – Chair
- Tom Morrison – Treasurer
- Don Saunderson – Secretary
- Betty Park
- Edward Matsalla
- Gerald Maser
- Gordon Sissons
- Hank Iwanicki
- Leslee Martin
- LeRay Pahl
- Orville Kope
- Raymond Palardy
- Dr. Robin McQuarrie
- Russ Holowachuk
- William (Bill) Bauman

Honourary Board Members:

- Garth Vallely
- John Ignatius
- Michael Ancil
- Vera Bracken
- Willam (Bill) Bauman



Agency Funds \$56,430

An agency endowment fund is a simple and effective way for a charitable organization to establish its own endowment for long-term sustainability. Donors can be sure that the endowed fund's principal will not be spent and can grow over time, providing steady and predictable income for the agency's future.

Funds distributed to the organization annually are unrestricted and will continue to support their greatest needs, forever!

These agencies have established endowment funds at CFSEA:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Medicine Hat & District	HALO Air Ambulance Society	Praxis Science Outreach Society
Brooks Public Library	KidSport Society of Medicine Hat and Redcliff	Redcliff Historical & Museum Society
Canadian Mental Health Association Alberta Southeast Region	Root Cellar Food & Wellness Hub (formerly Medicine Hat & District Food Bank)	REDI Enterprises Society
CORE Association	Medicine Hat Family Service	Ronald McDonald House
CFSEA Operating Endowment	Medicine Hat News Santa Claus Fund Society	Rotary Club of Medicine Hat Music Festival Society
City of Medicine Hat (Arts & Heritage Fund)	Medicine Hat Public Library	Society of Grasslands Naturalists
Friends of Medalta Society	Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society	The Mustard Seed Medicine Hat
		United Way of Southeastern Alberta
		YMCA of Medicine Hat

Praxis Science Outreach Society

The Praxis Science Outreach Society's vision is to foster a dynamic community inspired and empowered by knowledge and appreciation of science. The organization is celebrating 30 years of offering science-based programs for all ages and established an Agency Endowment Fund in June 2022.



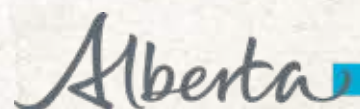
You can contribute directly into an endowment fund for the charity of your choice! cfsea.ca/we-grow/agency-endowments/

"Praxis Science chose to start a legacy fund so we can ensure we have a presence in the lives of youth for 30 more years! Our programs have touched so many in the last 30 years – many of our students are now volunteers in the STEM field – we see how important it is to continue a presence in Southeastern Alberta and an Endowment Legacy Fund will help ensure this."

- Patty Rooks, Science Outreach Coordinator

The Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta Board of Directors are invested in building the charitable sector across the region. In 2021, the Joint Agency Endowment Building program was launched. In partnership with charitable organizations, CFSEA is supporting their goals of establishing and growing Agency Endowment Funds to help build steady and predictable funding for long-term sustainability.

To further this investment of supporting charitable capacity, CFSEA received a grant from the Government of Alberta's Civil Society Fund to launch an Endowment Building Toolkit. The project will enhance charitable capacity across the non-profit sector. By establishing endowments, it ensures charities have steady and predictable, unrestricted funding to support their ongoing expenses, alleviating the need to continuously apply for grants or fundraise. This will allow charities to focus on their mission and program delivery to support their clients in a greater way than ever before. The toolkit will act as an extension of CFSEA's endowment expertise and establishment of four rural community funds. Additional collaboration with other Community Foundations and charities in Alberta will aid in detailing CFSEA's endowment process and the benefits of partnering. The toolkit is scheduled to launch in summer 2023 and will be available to charities across Alberta and Canada, assisting them in establishing and growing Agency Endowment Funds with their closest geographical Community Foundation.



Rural Community Funds

In 2018, the Community Foundation established the first three Rural Community Funds to serve the charitable needs of specific geographical regions within Southeastern Alberta. By 2021, the impact these funds had on their regions inspired the fourth community fund to serve the Cypress County region. Donations to the community funds stay in the area, and granting recommendations are decided by local citizens.

Rural community funds allow donors to give where they live and will benefit the community they call home – today, tomorrow, forever!

Contact:

Brooks and District Community Fund

BrooksDistrictFund@cfsea.ca

403.376.8884

Cypress County Community Fund

CypressCountyFund@cfsea.ca

403.527.9038

Prairie Crocus Community Fund

PrairieCrocusFund@cfsea.ca

403.664.9571

Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile

40MileFund@cfsea.ca

403.866.8901



Brooks and District Community Fund

Grants dispersed to Brooks and the County of Newell (2021/22): \$ 36,510

Community Grant Highlight

Brooks & District Fish and Game Association (BDFGA) received a \$10,000 Spring 2022 Community Grant for the Habitat Enhancement Project.

Established in 1970, the BDFGA has been dedicated to the development, enhancement, and preservation of wildlife habitat and fisheries in Southern Alberta. Their vision for the Habitat Enhancement Project is to introduce more native tree and shrub species that will provide more habitat areas for wildlife and to increase recreational use such as kayaking, walking, bird watching, and cross country skiing. The grant will support the purchase of trees and shrubs.

“On behalf of the Brooks & District Fish and Game Association Habitat Enhancement Project Team, we would like to thank the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta for your support for our Habitat Enhancement Project for the Brooks Aqueduct Trout Ponds. We are honoured and grateful to have the Foundation as a sponsor on this project.” – Rod Rosland, Project Leader



\$36,510



Cypress County Community Fund

In December 2021, the CFSEA launched the fourth Rural Community Fund to serve the unique needs within Cypress County. Donations made to the Community Fund stay in the region to support local charities, forever, while providing an opportunity for residents to give where they live.

Grants dispersed to Cypress County (2021/22): \$ 17,280

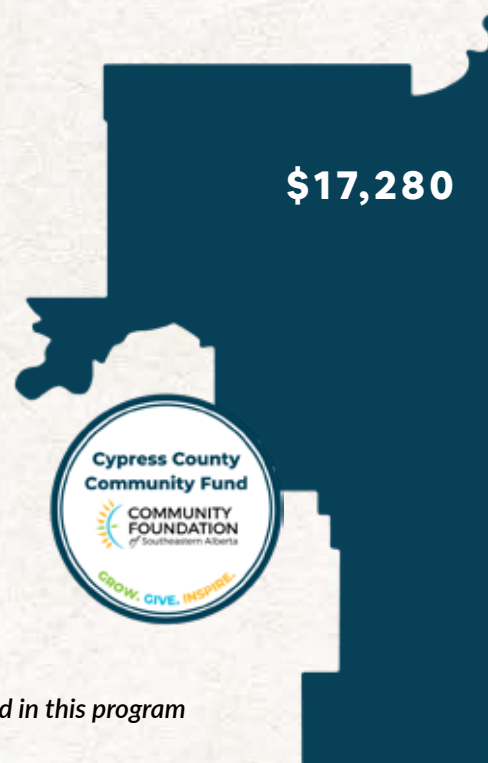
Community Grant Highlight

Avalon Equine received a \$6,500 ring 2022 Community Grant.

Established in 2020, Avalon Equine's focus is in supporting pre-teens' and teens' self-esteem by focusing on confidence building, resiliency, self-concept, self-awareness and how to express and manage emotions effectively all while working with an equine partner. Facilitating groups of 5 to 25, focus on team building, relationship development, self-awareness, conflict resolution and group collaboration problem solving techniques. The grant awarded will benefit a no-cost, Equine Interaction Program to students.

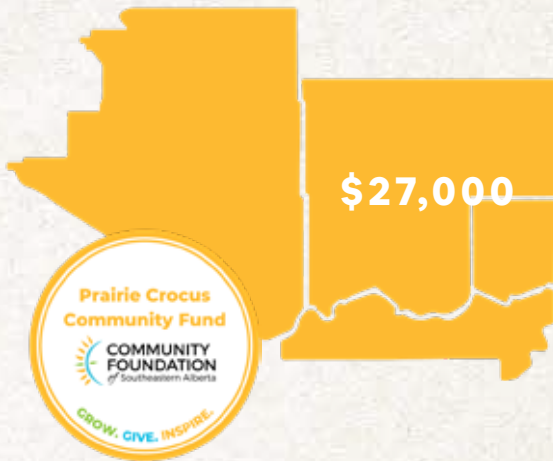
"It was truly remarkable to see the growth in so many of these kids who participated in this program and the lasting impact that they and others have seen in their day to day lives."

- Linda Kraft, Owner/Operator of Avalon Equine, BA; BEd, CEIP-ED



Prairie Crocus Community Fund

Grants dispersed to the Prairie Crocus region (Special Areas 2, 3, and the MD of Acadia) (2021/22): \$ 27,000



Community Grant Highlight

Hanna Volunteer Association

\$15,000

Come for Lunch, Stay for the Conversation Program is designed to decrease food insecurity while increasing social connection, sharing resources, building community relationships, and decreasing stigma through providing a hot nutritious meal in a safe, non-judgmental space. This program is inclusive of all community members. A pay-what-you-can model allows individuals who do not have financial means to pay for a meal to eat for free, but also allows individuals who are able to pay, but seek social interaction to attend. In the first four months of the program, 693 meals have been provided. Word is getting out in the community of the positive impacts the program is making.

"Come for Lunch, Stay for the Conversation Program is so much more than food. Our organization has had the opportunity to meet a young mom and her children through the program. When they first started attending, mom was very quiet and guarded. Through friendly casual conversations, we engaged her to start attending a family literacy program. From this new connection a trusting relationship has been built, and mom had the confidence to ask for additional supports. We have assisted mom in establishing a safety plan, accessing funding, connected her with additional resources, and helping her create a strategy towards moving her and her children out of their current unsafe situation. This life changing experience all evolved from attending our hot lunch program. Yes, the program is making a difference in people's lives."

- Doray Veno, Executive Director for Hanna Learning Centre



Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile

Grants dispersed to the County of Forty Mile (2021/22): \$ 24,398

Community Grant Highlight

Foremost Minor Baseball

Foremost Minor Baseball received a \$4,700 Spring 2022 Community Grant to make updates to their baseball equipment for the season. New balls, baseball bats, pads, gloves, bases, and various other items will be purchased for each team. The upgrades to the equipment will enhance safety and the overall playing experience for baseball players in Foremost.



"While we were unable to use the money for the 2022 baseball season, we are looking forward to next season when we will be able to use the updated equipment. We have just started purchasing and ordering for next year and are excited to be able to provide new equipment for our kids. We are purchasing new catcher's equipment as well as more protective screens to make a safer practice environment. We greatly appreciate the support from CFSEA."

- Heather Ehnes, Volunteer Grant Officer Foremost Minor Baseball



Financials - At a Glance

Total Donations \$1,223,289

\$22,159,462

Total Endowment

-5.9%

Rate of Return

Funds

433

Volunteers

84

New Funds

Auto-Star Fund

Cancarb Employees and Alumni
Endowment Fund

CFSEA Ambassador Fund

Cypress County Community Fund

Hatters Help Ukraine- Flow Through

Praxis Science Outreach Society
Legacy Fund

St. Michael's Bow Island Scholarship
Fund

Anonymous Fund



Grants at a Glance

Total Grants \$784,365

Designated Grants

\$ 142,540

Donor Advised

\$ 86,697

Field of Interest

\$ 24,720

Agency

\$ 62,033

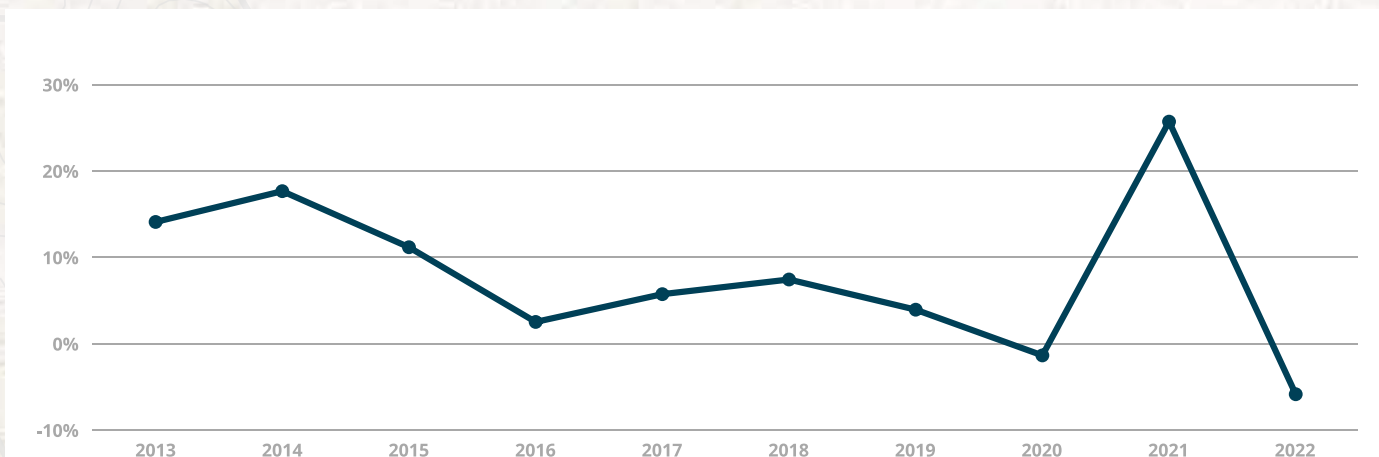
Scholarship

\$ 48,060

Flow Through General

\$ 87,160

Return on Investment



Organizations
that Received
Grants:

106

Total Number
of Grants
Distributed:

230

Community Grants \$311,402

Community Grants (formerly 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 to allocate their contributions to support the community's greatest needs. In awarding grants, CFSEA conducts 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.

FALL 2021 - \$ 108,467

Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Medicine Hat & District
GoGirls & GameOn group program expansion
\$10,800

Bow Island Friends of The Library Society
2022 Children's Festival
\$7,047

Brooks and District Women's Safe Shelter Society
BDWSS Playground
\$2,400

Brooks Regional Ball Park Association
Inflatable Batting Cage for Winter Ball Program
\$10,000

Canadian Red Cross Society
Eliminating Health Equipment Loan Program Wait Times
\$15,000

CAREERS: The Next Generation Foundation
Connecting Southeastern Alberta Youth to the Skilled Workforce
\$3,000

Cleo's Karma Canine Rescue
Washer & Dryer Purchase
\$2,000

Empress Friendship Centre
Empress Friendship Centre Outreach & Support Project
\$12,000

Medicine Hat College Foundation
Community Connection: Mental Health Series presented by the Brandon Niwa Legacy Fund - The Beej Project
\$10,000

Medicine Hat Family Service
Medicine Hat Family Service Computer Upgrade Program
\$12,000

Miywasin Friendship Centre
"Ribbons, Fabric, & Connection to Culture"
\$10,000

Shortgrass Library System
Code Red
\$10,755

The Connection Intercultural Association of Medicine Hat
Kindness Box
\$4,000

Veiner Centre
Medicine Hat Tax Clinic for Low-Income Seniors
\$4,625

SPRING 2022 - \$ 195,650

Avalon Equine
Building Resiliency in Youth
\$6,500

Be Youth Centre
Sustainable Transportation
\$3,200

Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Medicine Hat & District
Pilot Life Skills Program
\$6,000

Bow Island Minor Baseball Association
Start up of Bow Island Minor Baseball
\$1,500

Brooks & District Fish and Game Association
Habitat Enhancement Project at Brooks Aqueduct Property NE-15-18-14-W4
\$10,000

Brooks Region
Kinbrook Connection Pathway Partnership
\$10,000

Canadian Mental Health Association Alberta Southeast Region
Subsidized Suicide Prevention Training
\$15,000

Covenant Foundation
Covenant Health: St. Joseph's Home - Equipment
\$10,000

Dunmore Equestrian Society
Southeastern Alberta Heritage Festival
\$6,500

Foremost Minor Baseball
Foremost Minor Baseball
\$4,700

Hanna Volunteer Society
Come for Lunch. Stay for the Conversation.
\$15,000

Junior Achievement of Southern Alberta
Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship Programs for Youth in Southeastern Alberta
\$17,240

Medicine Hat & District Food Bank (1992) Association
Food First Community Kitchen
\$15,000

Medicine Hat Pregnancy Support Centre
Babies' Essentials
\$12,000

Medicine Hat SPCA
Emergency Boarding
\$1,500

Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society
Texting Support Services for Victims of Domestic Violence
\$10,000

Redcliff Senior Citizens Society
Redcliff Senior Society Exercise
\$6,640

Saamis Immigration Services Association
Hi-Flex Hybrid Learning
\$10,000

Southern Alberta Pop Up Parks Association
Southridge Community Garden & Playground
\$10,000

The 40 Mile Park Foundation
40 Mile Park Playground Section C
\$2,400

The Venturers Society
Cypress Hills: Keeping the Park Beautiful & Safe
\$8,280

Whispering Pines Fellowship Centre & Camp
New Mountain Bikes for Whispering Pines Camp
\$2,500

Fall 2021 Community Grant Impact Stories

The **Veiner Centre** received a \$4,625 Fall 2021 Community Grant to host the 2022 Free Tax Clinic for Seniors, which specifically targeted low-income seniors and older adults (50+) in and around the Medicine Hat area.

The tax clinic is a gateway for many seniors to lift themselves out of poverty and improve their quality of life. Clients who have their taxes prepared can then be referred to other programs that they may qualify for including government benefits, housing, the City of Medicine Hat's Fair Entry program, and more. This was the first time the clinic had been held at the Veiner Centre since the 2013 flood. The clinic had five volunteers who committed 170 hours of their time to complete 268 tax returns.

Many seniors may not identify or fully realize that they are considered low-income. By identifying these individuals, the Veiner Centre can intervene early and assist them by securing benefits and programs they may not have realized they were eligible for.

"This tax clinic is important for our community as it provides a necessary service free of charge, making it accessible to low-income seniors who couldn't necessarily afford it otherwise. I enjoy meeting people and being able to provide them with this important service." – **Doug, Tax Clinic Volunteer**



Shortgrass Library System received a \$10,750 Fall 2021 Community Grant for the Code Red initiative to improve safe community access to menstrual products, help reduce stigma, and improve access to information about menstruation by providing free period products in women's, men's, and non-gendered washrooms in various member public libraries across Southeastern Alberta.

This funding allowed six member libraries in the region to provide free pads and tampons to their communities, reaching hundreds of people in need. "Period poverty" is a significant issue facing Canadians who menstruate, with 23% having struggled to afford period products- a problem exacerbated by the rising cost of goods in 2022. Code Red has helped to ensure that menstruators do not have to go without.

"Everyone deserves to have access to essentials, and that includes menstrual products. Thanks to the support of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta, menstruators across the region are able to access these products in an environment that is open to everyone: their public library." – **Petra Mauerhoff, Shortgrass Library System CEO**



Spring 2022 Community Grant Impact Stories

The Root Cellar Food and Wellness Hub (formerly the Medicine Hat and District Food Bank) received a \$15,000 Spring 2022 Community Grant for the Food First program. The Food First program is a 12-week community kitchen program that teaches families the skills needed to prepare healthy, nutritious meals and snacks. It also addresses poverty with innovation and long-term solutions.

The Root Cellar works directly with families to address long-term food sustainability in their lives by connecting them to community supports. The program has a very high success rate as the large investment put into every family gives the Root Cellar the ability to lift them out of food insecurity, therefore no longer requiring access to the Emergency Food Pantry. The Root Cellar's "hand up, not hand out" approach has proven to take people out of the system by building community which gives families the opportunity to become self-sufficient and successful long-term.

"The Community foundation has always been a huge supporter of what we do at the Root Cellar. The support towards the food first program has meant that we were able to use our unique approach to touch local families and support them to become food secure. In this grant cycle, we have been able to assist with detox and treatment, literacy, employment, and legal supports. One student has even come back as a reliable and valuable volunteer!"

– **Melissa Mullis, Root Cellar Food and Wellness Hub Executive Director**



Southern Alberta Pop Up Parks Association received a \$10,000 Spring 2022 Community Grant for the Southridge Community Garden and Playground project. The journey to transform the outdoor community space at Sandford Crescent community housing complex started with a neighbourhood BBQ where families of all backgrounds participated and shared their vision for the project.

In the following months, Pop Up Parks held a garden box building day with volunteers and neighbours, a garden planting day, and a handful of gardening, harvesting, and play days with children of all ages. An interactive playground with vinyl design was installed on the pathways and around the concrete pad, and local artist, Will Oskam, who also grew up in the neighbourhood, added kid-friendly and playful art designs. A single permanent basketball hoop, with markings that will replace the current makeshift court, and one mobile hoop were also installed. The transformed basketball court is busy every afternoon.

"CFSEA's support of this project, has brought color, play, and growth to the community." – **Dina Jubrak, Southern Alberta Pop Up Parks Association Secretary/Treasurer**



Healthy Communities Initiative (HCI) \$2,417,700

The **Healthy Communities Initiative (HCI)** is a \$60 million investment from the **Government of Canada** to support communities as they create and adapt public spaces to respond to the new realities of COVID-19. CFSEA was proud to work alongside Community Foundations of Canada and the Government of Canada to help flow-through funds to organizations across Southern Alberta who are creating safe and vibrant public spaces, improving mobility options, and providing digital solutions.



CFSEA, in partnership with the Red Deer and District Community Foundation, formed an equitable review committee with residents from Southern Alberta to review and administer HCI grants. Through three rounds of funding, \$2,417,700 was distributed to community-led infrastructure projects as part of the Government of Canada's Healthy Communities Initiative across Southern Alberta.

Five charities were supported across **Southeastern Alberta** specifically. Congratulations to:

REDI Enterprises Society – Digital Access to Community for Persons with Disabilities	\$64,600	Digital solutions
Brooks & District Museum and Historical Society – WiFi Hotspot Lending Project	\$20,821	Digital solutions
Town of Hanna – Community Marquee Mobile Unit	\$25,000	Creating safe and vibrant public spaces
Medicine Hat Public Library – Creating a Safe and Inclusive MHPL	\$21,529	Digital solutions
Redcliff Youth Action Society – Redcliff Community Space Enhancement for Children, Youth, and Families	\$64,600	Creating safe and vibrant public spaces

Brooks Museum Impact Story \$20,821

With COVID-19 affecting the daily lives of residents, the Brooks and District Museum wanted to offer its visitors an easily accessible and appealing outdoor location for walks and picnics. Public spaces can offer physical and mental health benefits by providing people with outdoor areas to be active and connect with others. In June 2021, the HCI grant awarded **\$20,821** to the **Brooks and District Museum and Historical Society** for an outdoor **Wi-Fi Hot-Spot Lending Program**. This project allowed the museum to place several Wi-Fi hot spots in historical buildings and within the rose garden located on their 7-acre property. The project also enhanced the range of iPads and other technology available while museum staff hosted educational tours.

“The grant allowed us to be inclusive and offer our space to the community for a wide range of programs and activities. We are extremely grateful for the HCI program and CFSEA for the funding that we received.” – **Tanya Dingwall, Brooks and District Museum and Historical Society Assistant Curator**

For a full list of grant recipients, please visit <https://communityfoundations.ca/chci-results/>

Scholarship

Lyle Aleman Memorial Fund

The Lyle Aleman Memorial Fund began in 2017 as a way to honour Lyle Aleman, who passed away suddenly on June 4, 2015 at the age of 44. Lyle grew up in the greenhouse industry and, after receiving his business degree, started working at the Red Hat Co-operative Ltd. in 1998. He then got married and had five beautiful daughters whom he treasured.

Lyle had an impact on his family, friends, and the community around him. His smile, laugh, and words of encouragement are missed by all who loved him. He was a leader in many aspects of life, including his work life. He also selflessly gave his time and expertise at his children's schools and his church community.

The idea of a memorial fund came about because Lyle was well thought of and respected by the growers, staff, and vendors at Red Hat. The Lyle Aleman Memorial Fund was established as a Designated Fund that distributes annually as a scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to recipients who have graduated grade 12, live in the Medicine Hat/ Cypress County area, and are pursuing post-secondary education in the fields of business, accounting, economics, or marketing.

With Lyle's love of golf, it made perfect sense to raise funds for the memorial scholarship through an annual golf tournament. While he is missed every day, the tournament is a perfect opportunity to come together and celebrate him every year, while giving back to the community through the scholarship.

It is hoped that this scholarship will help a worthy recipient to further their education and enable them to make a difference in their community-whether this is in future work endeavours or selflessly in the community around them.

- Gillian Digman, COO of Red Hat Co-operative Ltd.



Vital Conversations

Each year, CFSEA hosts a Vital Event which is a periodic check-up that measures the vitality of our community and helps to determine CFSEA's annual granting priorities. This year, CFSEA hosted the 2022 Vital Conversations which included the Vital Conversations Survey and the Vital Conversations Event to learn more about trends impacting local quality of life.

During the event, community members took part in two facilitated discussions to explore issues, opportunities, and solutions in our community. What we heard from these conversations and the survey is outlined in the 2022 Vital Conversations Report Back to the Community which was published in Fall 2022.

"I feel that our community is on a great path of improving everyone's quality of life. I think that there is still much growth to be done, but we are heading in the right direction. I love and appreciate this community."

– Vital Conversations Survey respondent

Vital People

The Vital People Award aims to acknowledge, recognize, and encourage the staff and volunteers working in front line, program delivery, coordination, and junior management positions for local charities. The program supports these leaders in our community by investing in their success through two, \$500 awards to assist with professional development opportunities that best suit the needs of the individuals. Congratulations to the 2022 recipients!

Jessica St. Pierre – South Eastern Alberta Safety Alliance Society (Safety City)

Maria Sprenkels – Bow Island and District Health Foundation (BIDHF)



Photo Left to Right: Clint Thacker – Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile Advisory Committee Chair, Maria Sprenkels – BIDHF Administrative Assistant, Charla Brocklesby – BIDHF Board Chair



Jessica St. Pierre, Safety City Child Safety Seat Technician

Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Week

The Community Foundation partnered with Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) and the City of Medicine Hat to facilitate Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Week from November 14th to November 20th, 2021. RAK Week is meant to encourage Random Acts of Kindness within the community and to help make kindness the benchmark. The goal of this week-long, city-wide initiative was to enhance the social well-being of others and engage residents to become active members of the community. Below is a list of organizations that participated in RAK Week activities:

Be YOUTH Centre

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Medicine Hat and District

Canadian Mental Health Association-Alberta Southeast Region

Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta

CORE Enterprises

Keys to Hope Counselling Services

Medicine Hat and District Health Foundation

Medicine Hat Construction Association

Medicine Hat Police Service

Medicine Hat Public Library

Medicine Hat Women's Shelter

Nurture Pregnancy Centre

Police Point Park

Redcliff Bakery

River Heights Elementary School

Ronald McDonald House

Sanare Centre

The Intercultural Connection

The Salvation Army

The Southeast Watershed Alliance/
Grassland Naturalists

Veiner Centre



Hatters Help Ukraine

The Community Foundation partnered with a local volunteer group, Hatters Help Ukraine, to support their efforts in raising over \$58,000 to welcome Ukrainian evacuees to Medicine Hat. 100% of the funds raised went to support food, travel, accommodations, and initial settlement costs for Ukrainian families fleeing devastation and tragic loss.

To date, approximately \$30,000 has been spent in relief efforts to support four Ukrainian families: \$15,000 to purchase gift-cards for the families to support food and personal item expenses, \$10,000 on airfare, and \$5,000 to initial housing costs.

"It is incredibly impressive that this grassroots group raised such a large amount of funds for this very important cause. It speaks to the truly generous nature of our community..."

– Tracie Mutschler, Executive Director, McMan Youth, Family, and Community Services Association



Youth in Philanthropy (YiP)

Youth in Philanthropy (YiP) is designed to introduce motivated young people to philanthropy and local community development. The program gives students hands-on experience working as a team and with local charitable organizations through the giving and granting process. The Community Foundation hopes to inspire the next generation of future leaders to start thinking about ways they can improve the quality of life for others by giving back to their community.

In 2022, 8 groups participated in distributing \$16,000 to 12 charities across Southeastern Alberta:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Medicine Hat and District- \$400

Brooks Food Bank Foundation- \$1,000

Canadian Mental Health Association

Alberta Southeast Region- \$2,000

Canadian Red Cross- \$1,000

Eagles Nest Ranch- \$2,000

McMan Youth, Family, and Community

Services Association- \$600

Nurture Pregnancy Centre- \$2,000

Prairie Gleaners Society- \$2,000

Praxis Science Outreach Society- \$1,000

Medicine Hat News Santa Claus Fund- \$400

The Mustard Seed - Medicine Hat- \$2,600

Town of Bow Island- \$1,000

Heather McCaig's Leadership Class at Crescent Heights High School has been participating in YiP since 2007. Since then, Heather's classes alone have distributed over \$30,000 to local charities. Within the Leadership Class, students research the community's greatest needs and learn more about the charities working to address those needs. The program helps students to become active and engaged members of the community by allowing them to learn about different services and places where they can volunteer. Heather has witnessed students develop more confidence through this program and has watched them go on to lead and work for charitable organizations themselves.

"This program gives my class resources we would not normally have. My favorite part of the program is when the students meet the people at the charity and can see how excited they are when presented with their cheques. I would like to thank the Community Foundation for running this program and allowing us this amazing opportunity to not only examine the needs of our city, but also to assist us in making our students better citizens. This program is a true blessing." – **Heather McCaig, Teacher, Crescent Heights High School**



The Youth in Philanthropy program is made possible through the generosity of community champions who designate their donations to the CFSEA Youth in Philanthropy Fund along with the following funds:

Dr. Ken Blair Professional Corp. (YiP)
Lavern & Marianne Kurpjuweit (YiP)
Snedden/Mayer Family (YiP)
TD Canada Trust (YiP)
Youth Endowment Fund (YiP)
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.

Community Impact Award

Saamis Immigration Services Association \$30,000

The Community Impact Award is one, \$30,000 grant designed for agencies with innovative project ideas that show creativity and leadership in supporting a vibrant, healthy, and caring community. Saamis Immigration Services Association (SISA) received this award for their innovative project, "Circles of Care."

The **Circles of Care** project develops a coordinated approach to networking volunteers and service providers from which newcomer populations can draw and contribute necessary support and assets. While still in the early stages, the Circles of Care project has been able to connect community partners, learn from successes, and define gaps in service provision. This Circle has allowed young Ukrainians to join cultural dance classes and sports teams, connected youth to the technology needed for studies, bridged gaps in federal/provincial support programs, and continues to develop English language resources. Over the next six months, the Circle of Care will catalogue what Medicine Hat has to offer newcomers and build mutually beneficial relationships for a strong community.

"Not one provider has all of the answers, but as a Circle of Care, we do." – Saamis Immigration Services Association



Endowment Funds

CFSEA engages donors with causes they are passionate about to build permanent endowments. Donors have established funds in their family name, in memory of a loved one, and for a specific charity or scholarship. Donors can also establish funds that contribute directly to CFSEA's Operating Endowment or they can allocate a certain percentage from an existing fund.

In 1994, CFSEA Board member, Bill Bauman donated his 1926 Model T Ford to the Community Foundation to raffle off in support of operational and administrative costs to ensure another year of services. In 2002, the Board of Directors established an Operating Endowment Fund for CFSEA. This Agency Fund continues to support operational costs each year and is open to contributions from the general public while receiving donations from staff, volunteers, and donors. It is because of these community champions that CFSEA continues to support vibrant, healthy, and caring communities.

Donor Advised, Designated, Field of Interest, Scholarship, and Operating Funds:

Ajit, Manjeet Atwal and Family Fund	Donna MacLean Participation House - Toronto Fund	Jason Mauch Memorial Fund
Alberta Legal Heritage	Donna MacLean S.P.C.A. Fund	Joan and Walt Sauve Families Fund
Alex & Jean McDougald - Food Bank Fund	Donna MacLean Southern Alberta MedicAir Society	John & Mata Rinke - Designated
Alex & Jean McDougald - Salvation Army Fund	Donna MacLean War Amps Fund	John Ignatius Jenner 4H Multi Club Fund
Armstrong & Havard-Rotary Music Festival	Dr. F.W. & Harriet Gershaw Fund	John P. Ignatius Operating Endowment Fund
Audrey Adele Armstrong, Estate of	Dr. Murray and Beryl Cowan Fund	Jonathon Dee Appleton Drama Award
Austin Curtin Medicine Hat College Enactus Fund	Dr. Timothy Clugston Foundation	Junior Colts Football Fund
Auto Star Fund	Drowning Ford Grazing Assoc.	Karen & Anita Cunningham Fund
Big Country Allied Arts Association Fund	Eleanor Rutledge Moon Fund	Kevin and Marlene Semrau Fund
Bill Sellhorn Memorial Fund	Environmental Legacy Fund	Kidus Ketema Mulugeta Memorial Scholarship Fund
Board and Staff Fund	Estate of Manuel Raber Fund	Lavern & Mary Kurpjuweit Fund
Brian & Lorene Nichols and Family Fund	Eugene and Ruth Eaton Scholarship	Les Pearson
Brock and Brenda Millions	Forty Mile Community Adult Learning Association Fund	Lewall Family Fund
Brooks & District Community Fund	Frederick & Mack McLaughlin - E.I.D. Historical Park	Lily's Fund
Canadian Fertilizers Community Fund	Frederick & Mack McLaughlin - Medicine Hat Health Foundation	Loretta and Joe Laycock Scholarship Fund
Cancarb Employees and Alumni Endowment Fund	Frederick & Mack McLaughlin- Brooks Food Bank Foundation	Lyle Aleman Memorial Fund
CFSEA Ambassador Fund	Freedman Fund	Mack Higdon, Austin & Ethel Currie
Chacko Zeller Fund	Friends of French Immersion	MacKay Family Fund- Operating Fund
Chief Gordon Earl Leadership Legacy Fund	Friends of Medicine Hat Youth Baseball Society	Margaret Houlston Hydrocephalus Fund
Claude Bishop Fund	Frost Family Fund	Marilyn Curtin Alzheimers Society
Communities in Bloom	Gerald Grant - Medicine Hat High School Fund	Marilyn Curtin Food Bank
Cultural Alliance	Gordon H. Sissons- Operating Fund	Marilyn Curtin HALO
Cypress County Community Fund	Growing Active Kids	Marilyn Curtin Health Foundation
Danny Koch Memorial Fund	Ian & Phyllis McLaughlin	Marilyn Curtin Medicine Hat Public Library Fund
David & Cheryl Andrews Fund	Investors Group Fund	Marilyn Curtin SPCA
Don and Edna Kanewischer Memorial Fund	James & John McConnell Scholarship Fund	Marilyn Curtin Women's Shelter
Donna MacLean Esplanade Education Fund	Jamie & Stephanie Roach Memorial Fund	Mayor Ted Grimm Roast Fund
Donna MacLean Grasslands Naturalists Fund	Jardine Bursary Fund	Mayor's Community Fund
Donna MacLean Library Fund		Medicine Hat 2008 Alberta Summer Games Fund
Donna MacLean Museum Fund		Megan Wahl Memorial Fund
Donna MacLean Ontario College of Art & Design		Merelie & Melodie Armstrong Memorial

Methanex Social Investment Fund
 Myers Norris Penny Fund
 Nicholas and Leo Bachmeier Memorial Fund
 Niwa Family Fund
 Paddi Gallimore Fund
 Peggy Archibald Memory Fund (St. Pat's Church)
 Phyllis McLaughlin Fund
 Prairie Crocus Community Fund
 Ralph Browne Scholarship Fund
 Rawleigh Family Trust Fund
 Rick and Bonnie Hanson Fund
 Robertson Bardston Memorial Scholarship Fund, The
 Rose & Henry Dola Fund
 Rotary Club of Medicine Hat Sunrise - Les Erickson Memorial Fund
 Rotary Club of Medicine Hat Sunrise - Les Erickson Memorial Fund (Glen & Bonnie Christensen)

Rotary Club of Medicine Hat Sunrise-Operating Fund
 Rotary Music Festival Colby Hargrave Trust
 Roy and Elaine Wiedemann
 Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile
 Rural Youth and Recreation Fund
 Saamis (Medicine Hat) Teepee Association Fund
 Sara Michaud Scholarship
 Savanna Drilling
 Snedden/Mayer Family- Operating Fund
 South Asian Cultural Association Rotary Music Festival Fund
 SPCA - Save Old Souls
 St. Michael's Bow Island Scholarship Fund
 Stephen Hawthorne Memorial Fund
 Strikeout Stigma in honor of Mason Close
 Terry and Darrel Dola Fund
 The Barnes Family Fund

The Bingeman Fund
 The Care Beyond Cure Fund
 The Curtin Family Fund
 The Valli Family Scholarship Fund
 Theresa Kope Memorial Fund
 Thomas and Constance Sissons Fund
 TransCanada Medicine Hat & Area Mainliner Social Club Fund
 TX Ranches - 4H
 TX Ranches - Baseball
 Vic & Helen Appleton Fund
 Walt Sauve Memorial Fund
 Warren Stark Fund
 White Family- Operating Fund
 William J and Anne Morrison Operating Endowment Fund
 Zirka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble
 Anonymous Funds (3)





A gift that lasts forever.



P. 403.527.9038

E. admin@cfsea.ca

W. cfsea.ca

Online: cfsea.ca

In Person or Mail:

104, 430 – 6th Avenue SE,
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 2S8

Cheques made payable to:

CFSEA

Charitable Registration number: 136030285RR0001

Thank you for your generosity!

WE GROW

CFSEA engages donors with causes they are passionate about to build permanent endowments.

WE GIVE

CFSEA distributes investment earnings to a broad range of community initiatives.

WE INSPIRE

CFSEA connects issues, convenes partners, and develops community-based solutions.



John Ignatius
Founder

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*John's vision,
30 years later!*