

ANNUAL REPORT

WE GIVE. WE INSPIRE.
WE GROW.



2022-2023

JULY 1 - JUNE 30

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Land Acknowledgement

In the spirit of respect, truth, and reciprocity, we acknowledge the many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples who have lived in and cared for these lands for generations. We are grateful for the traditional Elders and Knowledge Keepers who are still with us today, and for those who have gone before us.

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

Our Mission and Vision



Mission:

We create meaningful connections between donors and local charities for the permanent benefit of Southeastern Alberta.



Vision:

*Vibrant, healthy, caring communities-
Today, Tomorrow, Forever!*

Staff (Current)



Niki Gray
Executive Director



Barbara Kenworthy
Finance Administrator



Sydney Ratzlaff
*Community Engagement
Coordinator*



Bailee Richardson
Administrative Coordinator



Helene Nicholson
*Regional Development
Coordinator*



Nicole Nichols
*Community Fund
Coordinator- Brooks &
District Community Fund*



Lauren Friesen
*Vital Signs Research
& Project Coordinator*

CFSEA Board of Directors (Current)

Executive Committee

Kyle Pudwell, *Board Chair*
Julie Friesen, *Vice Chair*
Tyler Pocsik, *Treasurer*
Glenda Hawthorne, *Secretary*

Board of Directors

Ahmed Kassem	Doug Little	Jim MacArthur
Cody Ibbotson	Don McLennan	Josh Hudson
Dan Kammerer	Frances Barnes	Matthew Lofgren
David Andrews	Jennifer Mah	

Welcome –

Executive Director and Board Chair Message

Where we **were**

This past year was a remarkable one for impact across the Southeast Alberta region with over \$1 million distributed in grants to local organizations. Although our grants continue to increase year after year, the needs in our communities surpass what is available for funding. Each grant cycle, the number of requests we receive from local charities is more than four times the amount we have available to distribute. The generosity and foresight of our donors who contributed over \$1.5 million this past year is the reason we are able to continue supporting our region through grants.

Where we **are**

The Foundation recognizes the limits charities are experiencing regarding capacity, addressing increased needs for their services, and overall funding. Local charities are facing the ongoing ripple affects of the pandemic, the cost of living, and inflation. One step we are taking to support these organizations' capacity building is through our Endowment Building for Sustainability project. Thanks to a grant from the Government of Alberta, we have published an Endowment Building Toolkit for organizations across the province to work with their closest geographical Community Foundation to establish and grow their own endowments for long-term sustainability. We will continue to work with local organizations to help increase the impact they have across our region.

Where we're **going**

The Southeast Alberta region is made up of over 109,837 people with vastly diverse perspectives and circumstances, connected through shared geography. As our Foundation continues to strengthen those connections through impactful giving and granting, our Board has identified regional development as a priority. Our strategic direction for the next three years includes investments of time and resources into identifying the unique needs, opportunities, and solutions, to better serve our rural communities.



Niki Gray
Executive Director



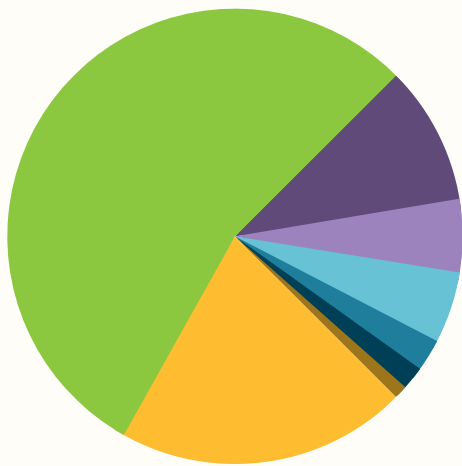
Kyle Pudwell
Board Chair

Financials At a Glance

Total Endowment \$24,531,793

Total Donations \$1,598,813

Total Grants \$1,096,312



- Flow Through **\$596,446**
- Community Grants & Field of Interest **\$226,014**
- Designated Funds **\$107,811**
- Agency Funds **\$56,855**
- Donor Advised Funds **\$55,534**
- Community Impact Award **\$25,000**
- Scholarship Funds **\$18,062**
- Youth Endowment Fund **\$10,590**

442 Total Funds

11.5%
Rate of Return

96
Total
Volunteers

107 Organizations that
Received Grants

225 Grants Distributed

To view our Audited Financial Statement, please visit our website
<https://cfsea.ca/publications/>

Agency Funds

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 will continue to support their charitable purpose, forever! The following organizations have established Agency Endowment funds at CFSEA:

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

Fund Highlight – HALO Air Ambulance

HALO Air Ambulance is Southern Alberta's only dedicated Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) Program. Since their first mission in 2007, HALO Air Ambulance has flown thousands of missions, impacting countless lives.



Partnering with regional and provincial stakeholders, HALO responds to a variety of calls for services including: emergency medical scene calls, critical care inter-facility patient transfers, search and rescue, fire rescue, law enforcement incidents, and all-hazard disaster responses.

The availability of the helicopter, strategically based in Medicine Hat, Alberta, improves the response time to critically ill and injured patients in remote and inaccessible areas and increases their capacity for delivering qualitative medical care and rescue services.

“The Community Foundation not only assisted us in comprehending the significance of our endowment but also demonstrated the importance of actively promoting investments and participating in the endowment ourselves. Investing in our endowment represents a dedicated commitment to our future.”

– Paul Carolan, Chief Executive Officer

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

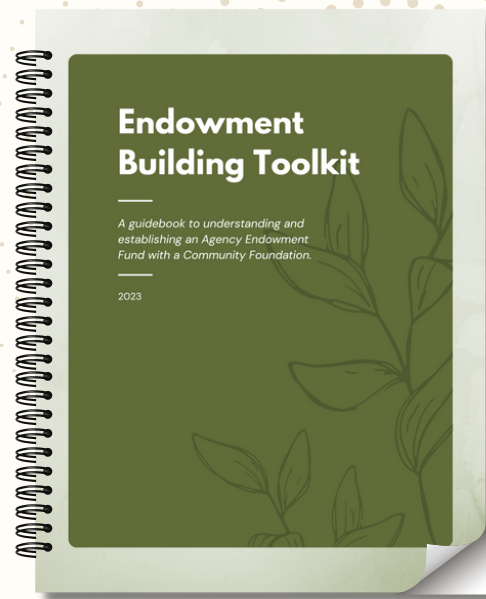
Endowment Building Toolkit

This toolkit has been developed to assist in the potential establishment of an Agency Endowment Fund for charitable organizations, municipalities, qualified donees, and non-qualified donees. The intention of the workbook is to learn about endowments through the information provided, identify where organizations may need to do research or obtain more information, and guide them through the process of developing an action plan for endowment building success.

In 2022, CFSEA received grant funding from the **Government of Alberta's Civil Society Fund** for the **Endowment Building for Sustainability Project**. The goal for this project was to design and pilot an endowment building toolkit to assist non-profits and charities across the province to establish and grow their own Agency Endowment Fund by partnering with their closest geographical Community Foundation to ensure long-term financial sustainability.

Agency Endowment Funds ensure organizations have the capacity to focus on their mandate and the services they provide while avoiding continuous and exhaustive fundraising and grant writing. Additionally, these endowments provide an opportunity for philanthropists to contribute to the charities of their choice while investing in the long-term financial stability and future of the organization. Donors can be sure that the endowed fund's principle will not be spent and can grow over time, providing a source of lasting support for their favourite charity.

CFSEA currently works with over 20 agencies who have established endowment funds across the Southeast Alberta region. Through this project, CFSEA continues to support charities and other qualified donees across the region who are interested in establishing an **Agency Endowment Fund**.



"I am so glad that we made the decision many years ago to set up an endowment fund with the CFSEA to ensure long term sustainability for the MHWSS. We have made a pledge to continue to work as a Board and staff team to ensure our fund will continue to grow year after year. The interest we earn from our fund every year helps reduce our dependency on grants and fundraising. I would strongly encourage every Agency to make the step to build their capacity as an organization to establish an endowment fund."

– Natasha Carvalho, Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society Executive Director

Donor Advised Fund Highlight – Cancarb Donation

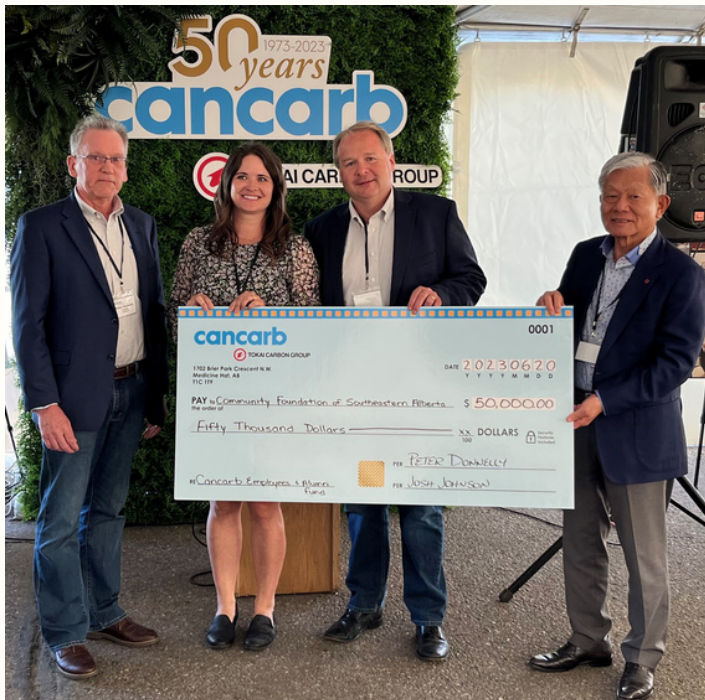
In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Cancarb Limited, the corporation contributed \$50,000 to the **Cancarb Employee and Alumni Endowment Fund** at the Community Foundation of Southeastern Alberta.

“Fifty years operating in Southeastern Alberta has meant everything to Cancarb. It has allowed our company to flourish and rely on the people who call this area home while servicing customers around the globe. This donation to the Cancarb Employee and Alumni Endowment Fund will ensure organizations that support the most at-risk in our community have the support they need, now, and well into the future.”

– Peter Donnelly, President of Cancarb

The Cancarb Employee and Alumni Endowment Fund was established in 2022 as a Donor Advised Fund. Each year a committee consisting of past and present Cancarb employees will designate a grant from their fund to the charity or charities of their choice!

Donor Advised Funds allow donors to make a charitable contribution to their fund as frequently as they wish and receive an immediate tax deduction. They then recommend grants from the fund year after year.



\$50,000

Donated to to the Cancarb
Employee and Alumni
Endowment Fund at CFSEA

Pictured (left to right) : Peter Donnelly - Cancarb President, Niki Gray - CFSEA Executive Director, Ross Buchholz - Cancarb VP, and Hajime Nagasaka - Tokai Carbon Co. Ltd. President & CEO

Heritage Club

Heritage Club Members are donors who have included the Community Foundation in their future plans with a gift through their estate. Members commit to leaving a bequest of future gifts of cash, a percentage of their estate, life insurance, retirement funds, or other appraisable assets. Their generosity and foresight will continue to create a positive impact across Southeastern Alberta for generations to come.

- Amos, Michelle
- Anctil, Michael
- Anctil, Wanda
- Anctil, Yvonne
- Atwal, Ajit
- Barnes, Drew
- Barnes, Frances
- Bender, Melvin
- Bernhardt, Otto
- Bernhardt, Ann
- Best, Debra
- Bradford, Keri
- Byers, Barb
- Byers, Kelly
- Carmody, Evan
- Carolan, Paul
- Christie, Andy
- Christie, Anne
- Christie, Chris
- Christie, Michael
- Cunningham, Karen
- Dynes, Bruce
- Dynes, Janice
- Edwards, Susan
- Edwards, Tyrone
- Frost, Keith
- Frost, Jeanette
- Gray, Niki
- Grona, Eleanor
- Hawthorne, Glenda
- Heine, Doug
- Heine, Shirley
- Hern, Ben
- Hern, Kathy
- Hogg, Nelson
- Hogg, Sharon
- Houlston, Robin
- Kammerer, Dan
- Knight, Kimberley
- Lloyd, Bill

- Lloyd, Fay
- MacKay, Jane
- MacKay, Sandy
- Mueller, Elizabeth
- Neubauer, Barry
- Neubauer, Janet
- Nichols, Nicole
- Nittel, Jim
- Niwa, Gregory J
- O'Reilly, Darlene
- O'Reilly, Todd
- Panabaker, David
- Panabaker, Debbie
- Pearson, Les
- Piper, Debbie
- Piper, Walt
- Porter, Mark
- Renner, Rob
- Roberts, Bill
- Roberts, Lavina
- Rodych, Donna
- Rodych, Ted
- Rothwell, Brian
- Rothwell, Gwen
- Saunderson, Donald
- Saunderson, Marjorie
- Semrau, Kevin
- Semrau, Marlene
- Shabatura, Cheryl
- Siegle, Rod
- Siegle, Shirley
- Sihvon, Margaret
- Sihvon, Murray
- Snedden, Shann
- Stimson, Anita
- Stimson, Gary
- Stickle, Glen
- Stickle, Joanne
- Summerbell, John
- Summerbell, Freddie

- Taylor, Bill
- Taylor, Marg
- Thompson, Barbara
- Torrance, Ken
- Valli, Gilda
- Way, Nora
- Welling, Miriam
- Anonymous (18)

Forever Remembered...

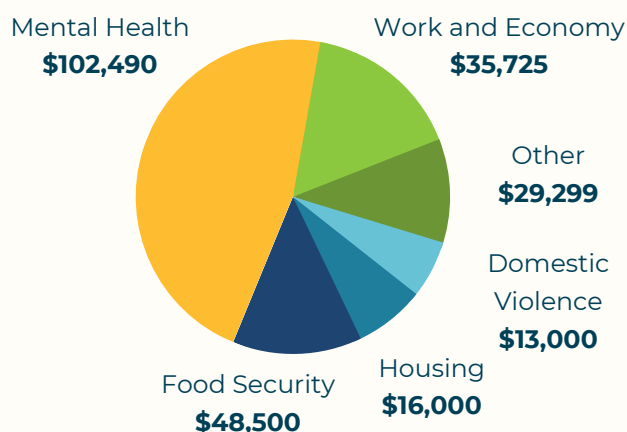
- Appleton, Helen
- Appleton, Vic
- Armstrong, Adele
- Bachmeier, Nicolas
- Bauman, Marion
- Bauman, William
- Biemans, Elizabeth
- Bories, Thomas
- Clugston, Timothy
- Garden, Al
- Garden, Tanis
- Hargrave, Thomas Colborne
- Hawthorne, Donald
- Hawthorne, Milta
- Hunt, Allan
- Ignatius, John P
- Kurpuweit, Marianne
- Lehr, Dorothy Joan
- MacLean, Donna
- McDougald, Alex
- Moon, Eleanor
- Morrison, William
- Pearson, Louise
- Raber, Manuel
- Rinke, Mata
- Sauve, Walter
- Valli, Victor (Ted)
- Welling, Jeff
- Anonymous (2)

Vital Signs

Vital Signs is a periodic check-up that measures the vitality of our communities by gathering data and sparking conversation about significant social and economic trends to tell the story of how our community is faring in key quality-of-life areas. Vital Signs data helps to determine CFSEA's granting priorities for the year. The 2022-2023 priorities are:

- **Mental Health**
- **Work & Economy**
- **Vulnerable Populations** – Food Security, Housing Stability, and Domestic Violence

Community Grants & Impact Award by Vital Signs Priority Area



Community Impact Award

The Community Impact Award is a \$25,000 grant designed for agencies with innovative project ideas that show creativity and leadership in supporting a vibrant, healthy, and caring community. Using information from the Vital Signs report, agencies who address the priorities of Work and Economy, Mental Health, and Vulnerable Populations, specifically Food Security, Housing Stability, and Domestic Violence, were invited to apply.

This year, The Brooks Farmers' Market received the Community Impact Award for their innovative and creative project called, "Brooks Farmers' Market Food Money". The Brooks Farmers' Market collaborated with community organizations to identify individuals and families in need of financial assistance to purchase food. The Market Food Money was distributed monthly, enabling participants to choose what they would like to purchase. When given this freedom to choose, approximately 75% of the money was spent on fruits, vegetables, eggs, and protein. The freedom to choose provides a profound sense of dignity for those using the Market Food Money.

"It can feel intimidating to be scanning the vegetable aisles in the grocery stores as you decide what is necessary for that week. However, being able to walk confidently to the tables at the market and to be warmly greeted by them has been amazing. They have been gracious, and kind, and have never made me feel 'worse off', rather the opposite. It has been fun to go home with a stack of vegetables and fruit (some I may never have tried) and experiment with new recipes in the kitchen. My son has been learning how to properly peel and cut different kinds of produce and loves to see what is inside. Thank you for taking the initiative to start this program this year. I know it has helped my family."

– Community Recipient



Community Grants – \$226,014.53

Including Field of Interest Grants in the amount of \$17,590

CFSEA's Community 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. Field of Interest Grants allow a donor to select a particular sector such as education, rural youth, recreation, etc. which then support a Community Grant meeting that area of interest.

Fall 2022 – \$100,732		
Organization	Project	Grant Amount
Hanna Food Bank Association	Food Bank Support	\$7,000
Habitat for Humanity Southern Alberta	Brooks - Affordable Housing	\$10,000
Medicine Hat and District Food Bank (Root Cellar)	Emergency Food Pantry	\$10,000
Irvine and District Agriculture Society	Free Public Skating & After School Curling	\$3,000
Prairie Gleaners Society	Vegetable Mix Bag	\$2,500
Kerby Assembly - Veiner Centre	Elder Abuse Case Management	\$13,000
CAREERS: The Next Generation Foundation	Enabling SEAB Youth to Take on the Future	\$5,000
North 40 Mile Recreation Society	Jubilee Park Playground	\$2,400
YMCA of Medicine Hat	Y Fusion	\$12,500
The SPEC Association	Local LINKS Booklet	\$6,750
Safelink Alberta	Outreach & Community Relations	\$5,000
Medicine Hat Pregnancy Support Centre	Baby Starter Kits	\$4,000
Medicine Hat Family Service	Couples Counselling	\$19,582

Spring 2023 – \$125,282.53		
Organization	Project	Grant Amount
Sanare Centre	Group Therapy	\$9,158.53
The Connection Intercultural Association of Medicine Hat	Intercultural Leadership Training Program	\$12,500
Redcliff Action Society for Youth	Homework Program	\$1,310
KidSport Medicine Hat & Redcliff	So All Kids Can Play!	\$10,000
REDI Enterprises Society	AISH Assessment Relief Program	\$21,000
Praxis Science Outreach Society	Science Olympics & STEM Resources	\$10,000
Friends of Medalta Society	Historic Beehive Kiln Revitalization	\$4,000
Redcliff Legion	Roof Repairs	\$2,100
Edmonton Social Planning Council	Alberta Living Wage Network Calculation	\$1,000
City of Brooks	Brooks Youth Police Academy	\$5,000
Bassano Elks Lodge 487	Hall Renovation	\$8,000
Prairie Rose Hospice Palliative Care Society	Alzheimer Education	\$2,500
The Champion's Centre Incorporated	Champion Centre Window Replacement	\$6,000
Brooks and District Child Development Society	Educational Toys	\$4,000
Oyen Childcare Society	Oyen Daycare Supports Positive Mental Health	\$7,000
Oyen Family and Community Support Services	FCSS Tot Time Playgroup	\$7,500
Foremost Agricultural Society	Groomer Project	\$4,000
Bow Island & District Tourism and Historical Society	Building Improvements & Upgrades	\$3,315
40 Mile Christian Education Society	Jump Start - AED	\$1,899
Dunmore Equestrian Society	The Heritage Gather 2023	\$5,000

Community Grants – Fall 2022

YMCA of Medicine Hat – Y Fusion – \$12,500

The YMCA of Medicine Hat provides services to people of all ages within a safe and healthy environment that enhances personal wellness. In 2022, the YMCA sought to find a solution for youth who had nowhere productive to go after school was dismissed, specifically at the Southridge YMCA. Seeing a gap in programming for youth ages 8 – 14, the YMCA launched Y Fusion, offering an after-school program with fitness, constructive, creative, and social elements. Y Fusion will continue to operate as the program expands for youth to have an inclusive, barrier-free program in their neighborhood.

“We are so excited that we have been given the opportunity to create a program for the youth that incorporates the importance of self-care through both physical health and mental health. The youth in our community are such an important part of what makes our community unique, and with the funds that we received, we are able to bring youth together to build them up and help to ignite their potential.”

– Victoria Potter, Director of Community Programs YMCA



Hanna and District Food Bank – Food Bank Support – \$7,000



Since 1986 the Hanna and District Food Bank has been providing food to the citizens of Hanna and surrounding area in their time of need. The Food Bank is managed by a committed team of volunteers who dedicate their time to meet the rising need and demand for food security within their area. This grant allowed them to serve 522 people in the Hanna area – from Delia to Cereal to Garden Plains. Without this valuable resource in the community, many would go hungry!

“The Hanna Food Bank has been very grateful for the grant we received in the past years, without this kind donation we would have had to refuse many senior members from Hanna, the chance for a full Christmas hamper. The grant has allowed us to fulfill our pledge and mandate, to do the best we can to remove the pressure of food insecurity in our community.”

– Willard Edwards, Hanna Food Bank Volunteer

Irvine & District Agricultural Society – Free Public Skating and After School Curling – \$3,000

The After School Curling and Free Skating Program promotes exercise, community-building, and the opportunity to learn some of our country’s most treasured pastimes. The free skating program served 500 youth this year and has helped kids learn how to skate – from barely standing up straight on day one to doing twirls on the ice by the end of the season! Curling is becoming a lost sport with the younger generations - this program has provided 36 students the opportunity to learn and improve their skills. Families have come together, and new friendships have been formed thanks to the free skating program.

“Having fun curling and skating with friends and family is good for the body and soul. The participants have a great time, and they feel part of the community! Thank you to the Community Foundation for making it possible to provide the After School Curling and Free Public Skating to our community this past season!”

– Diane Good, Secretary/Treasurer



Community Grants – Spring 2023

KidSport Medicine Hat & Redcliff – *So All Kids Can Play!* – \$10,000

KidSport Medicine Hat and Redcliff is a local non-profit organization who helps to remove financial barriers that prevent kids from playing sports. The organization provides grants to cover sport registration fees for children aged 18 and under so that they are able to play a season of sport. Since the local chapter's inception in 1997, KidSport Medicine Hat and Redcliff has been able to distribute close to \$900,000 and help over 4,500 kids receive funding. With the grant from the Community Foundation, KidSport was able to help get even more local kids off the sidelines and into the game!

"We are incredibly grateful for the grant from the Community Foundation – it allowed our organization to help numerous local kids play sports and we were able to purchase a new laptop to process applications with. Thank you to the Community Foundation for their continued support that allows us to help local families and athletes play a season of sport!"

– Connelly Sherwick, KidSport Board Chair



City of Brooks – *Brooks Youth Police Academy* – \$5,000



The Brooks Youth Police Academy was established in 2022 by the City of Brooks' Newell Safe Communities Committee in partnership with the Brooks RCMP's Community Policing Unit. This four-day mini version of a real police academy is a work experience and skill-building opportunity created for students with a genuine interest in a policing, community safety, or crime prevention career. The Academy teaches valuable life skills, presents unique learning opportunities, and addresses an identified need for youth programming in the community. It emphasizes the importance of communication skills and how to maintain mental health in and out of the field.

"The grant funding provided by CFSEA made it possible for us to ensure we could feed, clothe, and create the best academy possible for our youth cadets. Because of this, we are able to help these youth, and many more, create a positive and successful future for themselves."

– Kendra Sieben, Safe Communities Facilitator

Bow Island & District Tourism and Historical Society – *Building Improvement & Updates* – \$3,315

The Bow Island & District Historical Society strives to foster cultural tourism through traditional and contemporary live blues music and ensures this art form is guaranteed a continued presence in Southern Alberta. This grant allowed them to replace the existing back stairs of this historic landmark. Blues at the Bow Theatre is a treasured gem that exudes culture, history, and passion. Take a trip and step into a unique experience!



"We were thankful to learn that we had received a grant from the CFSEA. This enabled us to upgrade our staircase at the back of the theatre. It was a much-needed repair that we had on our 'honey-do list' for a while. Receiving the grant funds enabled us to continue allocating funds towards bringing the high caliber musical arts to our area, for everyone to enjoy. Our theatre is a vintage building, that requires maintenance & upgrades. We are passionate about keeping it well-maintained. People have enjoyed the theatre and live music for the past 100 years, and we want to encourage upcoming generations to be able to enjoy it. Receiving this grant from CFSEA contributed to keeping the lost art of live music alive."

– Tamara Grol, Board Member

Community Services Recovery Fund (CSRF)

The Government of Canada's Community Services Recovery Fund was a one-time investment of \$400 million to help community service organizations (charities, non-profits, Indigenous governing bodies) adapt, modernize, and be better equipped to improve the efficacy, accessibility, and sustainability of the community services that they provide through the pandemic recovery and beyond. **The Community Foundation of Southeastern mobilized a working committee to review and deliver \$390,800 to six local charities in Southeastern Alberta.**

Total Amount – \$390,800

Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Medicine Hat & District <i>Digitalization of Matches Paper Files</i> \$88,515	CORE Association <i>Staying Connected</i> \$64,175
Friends of Medalta Society <i>Information and Communications Technology Systems Modernization</i> \$78,110	Medicine Hat and District Health Foundation <i>Modernizing Fundraising Software</i> \$10,000
REDI Enterprises Society <i>REDIness Initiative</i> \$50,000	Sanare Centre <i>Fund Development for Organizational Resilience and Sustainability</i> \$100,000

"In response to the pandemic, Big Brothers Big Sisters' operations moved online and our employees, including service delivery staff, began to work from home. Remote work had the added benefit of reducing operational costs, however, despite the positive aspects, our ability to access paper records stored in our physical office was a major barrier. In order to serve our communities, our staff needed access to both past and present client files and this required the digitization of all records. This grant has ensured the success of our overall goal, which is to enable more flexibility in remote work and facilitate accurate and rapid participant screenings while maintaining higher privacy and security standards."

– Holly Stadnicki, Big Brother Big Sisters Executive Director

"Medalta's Information and Communications Technology Systems Modernization Project delivered replacements for obsolete desktop computers, the installation of a new telephone system, and allowed all staff to migrate to a single productivity platform. Further, the CSRF grant allowed us to install virtual conferencing capabilities in our multipurpose conference room. This has expanded the range of delivery options for our youth Community Classroom program and allowed us to improve governance by holding more effective board meetings with our remote Board Directors. We are so grateful to have received support from CSRF through CFSEA for this project. It has brought our systems up to date and we can now focus more completely on our important work rather than fighting with outdated systems."

– Mike Onieu, Medalta Executive Director

Funded by the
Government of Canada's
Community Services Recovery Fund

Canada

**Community
Services
Recovery Fund**

Scholarships

The Karen Cunningham Drama Scholarship Fund was established in 2018 to recognize Grade 12 students who maintain a minimum of 75% in Drama 30 or Humanities and are entering an arts or humanities program at a post-secondary institution the upcoming year.

“I graduated from the U of S in 1967 with a major in drama and no idea of what I would do with it. I fell into teaching and loved it. It became my life’s work, using drama as an end unto itself but more importantly, as a tool to help my students discover who they were, who they could become. Over 3,000 students passed through my classes and it was a joy to introduce them to theatre and the drama within themselves. They were my family. So in their names, I endow this scholarship for others to continue their journey for knowledge.”

– Karen Cunningham



Pictured: Karen Cunningham, Teacher

Ytzel Velarde received **The Karen Cunningham Drama Scholarship** in the of Spring 2023. In high school, Ytzel participated in Drama Class all three years. Her fond memories of Drama Class include directing a one-act play, doing improv, playing Vampira in Plan 9 from Outer Space, and playing Megan in Puffs. Ytzel is currently enrolled in the University of Lethbridge Faculty of Arts and Science, working towards a bachelor's degree in English. She plans to use this degree to pursue a career in publishing or editing, and one day pursue a master's degree.

“This scholarship helped me with my tuition and some other important purchases for school. I’m absolutely so grateful to Karen Cunningham for sponsoring me with this scholarship and helping me get where I am now. To me, further education is a gateway to my future goals and to living a life that I’m passionate about.”

– Ytzel Velarde, Scholarship Recipient

Total Scholarship Funds Distributed \$18,062

Youth in Philanthropy (YiP)

Youth in Philanthropy (YiP) is a hands on approach to grant-making that grows compassionate communities by connecting young people to social issues, local charities, and philanthropy experiencing the giving and granting process. Philanthropy is defined to the youth as “giving of time, talent, or treasure”.

The Youth in Philanthropy program is designed to inspire the next generation of philanthropists to start thinking about ways they can improve the quality of life for others by giving back to their community.

Participating schools and youth groups form a student-led committee that oversees the allocation of up to \$2,000 in grants to local charitable organizations. The benefits of participating in YiP are long-lasting. Students gain analytical skills, appreciation of philanthropy, community leadership, and teamwork skills to support their future endeavors.

In 2023, seven groups participated in YiP, helping to distribute \$10,590 to 12 charities across Southeastern Alberta:

Saamis Immigration Services Association: \$2,100	Medicine Hat SPCA: \$600
Safety City – Southeastern Alberta Safety: \$1,400	Ronald McDonald House Charities Alberta – Medicine Hat: \$590
Forty Mile Regional FCSS: \$1,400	McMan Youth, Family and Community Services Association: \$400
Prairie Gleaners Society: \$1,300	CORE Association: \$400
Brooks Animal Protection Society: \$1,200	Medicine Hat Women’s Shelter Society: \$400
Alberta Pound and Rescue Centres (APARC): \$600	Brooks Food Bank: \$200

Kristen Bowal’s Grade 6 Leadership class at River Heights School participated in YiP for the first time this year. They fundraised through bake sales and craft sales, and alongside CFSEA’s \$590 grant, raised a total of \$1,522.47 for the Medicine Hat Ronald McDonald House.

“Participating in the YiP program was such a rewarding and positive experience for our student leadership group. Our students learned the power of giving back to the community. The program is set up to support students to engage in connecting with the organization they choose to support. Our students were invested and learned many valuable skills in the process. Thank you for building future leaders who give back!”

– Kristen Bowal, River Heights Teacher

Our Youth in Philanthropy Program operates from the Youth Endowment Fund, generated from a growing community of generous donors and supporters, like **Canadian Natural Resources Limited**. These donors have a desire to support social change and engage youth by giving them a unique opportunity to make decisions about how grant funds are distributed in their communities.



Pictured: Cassi Hider, RMHC General Manager & River Heights Students



Pictured: Renee Jesse, Blair Koizumi, Niki Gray (CFSEA), Deb Chidley, Jeff Smyth

Spread Kindness YXH

#SPREADKINDNESSYXH

From World Kindness Day on November 13th, 2022, until National Random Acts of Kindness Day on February 17th, 2023, CFSEA launched Spread Kindness YXH, a 13-week campaign. In partnership with the City of Medicine Hat, The Medicine Hat and District Chamber of Commerce, and the What Matters to Hatters Coalition, we helped to spread kindness in Medicine Hat.

The resiliency, courage, and perseverance of the community has been remarkable through challenging times over the last couple of years. We were thrilled to collaborate with community partners to help spread kindness and highlight the wonderful residents of Medicine Hat who are doing random acts of kindness all year long.

In total, 18 Medicine Hat based organizations participated in Spread Kindness YXH through various activities and kindness initiatives: *HALO Air Ambulance, What Matters to Hatters, Veiner Centre, BeYouth Centre, Salta Gymnastics, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Medicine Hat and District, REDI Enterprises, The Connection, My96, Bikers are Buddies, IF Cox School, Saamis Immigration Services, Schnicks Moving Company, Medicine Hat College Social Work Club, Special Olympics Alberta, Methanex, and The City of Medicine Hat Parks and Recreation.* Examples of kindness initiatives shown from participating organizations included:

Saamis Immigration held an Unsung Hero Recognition for their team to highlight 21 of their employees who go above and beyond in the workplace and in their community!

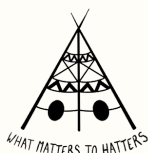
“While receiving the unsung hero recognition is amazing in itself, my work with the community is ever-evolving, and while as of this day I do not see the sense of community that I wish we had, it fuels my passion to bring change to our city, to bring back that sense of community!”

– Unsung Hero recognition recipient (Saamis)



More examples include the **Connection Intercultural Association** who provided small care packages for isolated newcomers during the holiday season. The **REDI Enterprises** Self Advocacy Action Group delivered cookies to community members with their clients. It was truly inspiring to witness the many uplifting acts of kindness that occurred over the course of 13 weeks.

Spread Kindness YXH was supported by the City of Medicine Hat and Family Community Support Services who helped CFSEA invest \$10,000 into the community to support kindness initiatives.



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 Agency Endowment.

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

- Ajit, Manjeet Atwal and Family Fund
- Alberta Legal Heritage Fund
- Alex & Jean McDougald - Food Bank Fund
- Alex & Jean McDougald - Salvation Army Fund
- Armstrong & Havard - Rotary Music Festival Fund
- Audrey Adele Armstrong Fund
- Austin Curtin Medicine Hat College Enactus Fund
- Austin Curtin Medicine Hat College Foundation Fund
- Barry & Janet Neubauer Fund
- Big Country Allied Arts Association Fund
- Bill Sellhorn Memorial Fund
- Bob & Judy Herring Fund
- Brian & Lorene Nichols and Family Fund
- Brock and Brenda Millions Fund
- Brooks & District Community Fund
- Canadian Fertilizers Community Fund
- Cancarb Employees and Alumni Endowment Fund
- Chacko Zeller Fund
- Chief Gordon Earl Leadership Legacy Fund
- Claude Bishop Fund
- Communities in Bloom Fund
- Cultural Alliance Fund
- Cypress County Community Fund
- Danny Koch Memorial Fund
- David & Cheryl Andrews Fund
- Donna MacLean Esplanade Education Fund
- Donna MacLean Grasslands Naturalists Fund
- Donna MacLean Library Fund
- Donna MacLean Museum Fund
- Donna MacLean Ontario College of Art & Design Fund
- Donna MacLean Participation House - Toronto Fund
- Donna MacLean Southern Alberta MedicAir Society Fund
- Donna MacLean S.P.C.A. Fund
- Donna MacLean War Amps Fund
- Dr. F.W. & Harriet Gershaw Fund
- Dr. Ken Blair Professional Corp. (YIP) Fund
- Drowning Ford Grazing Association Fund
- Dr. Timothy Clugston Foundation Fund
- Environmental Legacy Fund
- Eugene and Ruth Eaton Scholarship Fund
- Forty Mile Community Adult Learning Association Fund
- Frederick & Mack McLaughlin Fund - Brooks Food Bank Foundation
- Frederick & Mack McLaughlin Fund - E.I.D. Historical Park
- Frederick & Mack McLaughlin Fund - Medicine Hat Health Foundation
- Freedman Fund
- Friends of French Immersion Fund
- Friends of Medicine Hat Youth Baseball Society
- Frost Family Fund
- Gerald Grant - Medicine Hat High School Fund
- Growing Active Kids Fund
- Ian & Phyllis McLaughlin Fund
- James & John McConnell Scholarship Fund
- Jamie & Stefanie Roach Memorial Fund
- Jardine Bursary Fund
- Jason Mauch Memorial Fund
- John Ignatius Jenner 4H Multi Club Fund
- John & Mata Rinke Fund
- Jonathon Dee Appleton Drama Award
- Junior Colts Football Fund
- Karen Cunningham Scholarship Fund
- Kevin and Marlene Semrau Fund
- Kidus Ketema Mulugeta Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Lavern & Marianne Kurpuweit Fund (YIP)
- Lavern & Mary Kurpuweit Fund

- Leismeister Family Reunion Fund in Honor of Frank and Eva
- Les Pearson Fund
- Lewall Family Fund
- Loretta and Joe Laycock Scholarship Fund
- Lyle Aleman Memorial Fund
- MacKay Family Fund
- Mack Higdon, Austin & Ethel Currie Fund
- Macphail Sherwick Wealth Advisory Group Fund
- Margaret Houlston Hydrocephalus Fund
- Marilyn Curtin Alzheimers Society Fund
- Marilyn Curtin Food Bank Fund
- Marilyn Curtin HALO Fund
- Marilyn Curtin Health Foundation Fund
- Marilyn Curtin Medicine Hat Public Library Fund
- Marilyn Curtin SPCA Fund
- Marilyn Curtin Women's Shelter Fund
- Mayor's Community Fund
- Medicine Hat 2008 Alberta Summer Games Fund
- Melvin J Bender Fund
- Merelie & Melodie Armstrong Memorial Fund
- Methanex Social Investment 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
- Robert Bardston Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Rose & Henry Dola Fund
- Rotary Club of Medicine Hat Sunrise - Les Erickson Memorial Fund
- Rotary Music Festival Colby Hargrave Trust
- Rural Community Fund of Forty Mile
- Saamis (Medicine Hat) TeePee Association Fund
- Sara Michaud Scholarship Fund
- Savanna Drilling Fund
- Snedden/Mayer Family Fund (YiP)
- South Asian Cultural Association Rotary Music Festival Fund
- Stephen Hawthorne Memorial Fund
- St. Michael's Bow Island Scholarship Fund
- Strikeout Stigma Fund in Honour of Mason Close
- TD Canada Trust (YiP)
- Terry and Darrel Dola Fund
- The Barnes Family Fund
- The Bingeman Fund
- The Care Beyond Cure Fund
- The Curtin Family Fund
- Theresa Kope Memorial Fund
- Thomas and Constance Sissions Fund
- Thomas Bories Memorial Fund
- TransCanada Medicine Hat & Area Mainliner Social Club Fund
- TX Ranches - 4H Fund
- TX Ranches - Baseball Fund
- Valli Family Scholarship Fund
- Vic & Helen Appleton Fund
- Youth Endowment Fund (YiP)
- Zirka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble Fund

The Power of Endowments

Growing our ability to support vibrant, healthy, and caring communities requires support that continues to grow. Over 20 years, a \$25,000 gift will grow to \$36,000 while granting \$30,000 – that is the power of generosity. *(Figures based on an 8% ROR, 1% recovery, and 5% granted).*

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Staff, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our donors who entrust us to be the caretakers of their giving, the volunteers who work to support the various moving parts of the Foundation, to our community partners who are tackling the region's challenges, and to our ambassadors who continue to build on our strengths - together, we are impacting the generations of tomorrow.



P. (403) 527-9038 **E.** admin@cfsea.ca **W.** cfsea.ca

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.

You can leave a legacy for generations to come!

Online: cfsea.ca

E-Transfer: donations@cfsea.ca

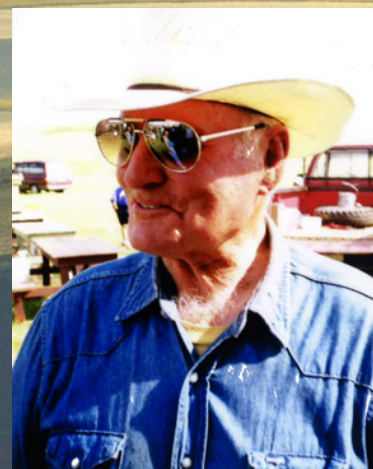
In-Person or Mail: 104, 430 – 6th Avenue SE,
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 2S8

Cheques made payable to: CFSEA

Charitable Registration Number: 136030285RR0001

Thank you for your generosity!

*Vibrant, healthy,
caring communities—
Today, Tomorrow,
Forever!*



John Ignatius – Founder