

## Your Community Update

### Did You Know?

**In celebration of Bainbridge Community Foundation's 20th official year in action, we'd like to share a brief history of our Community Grants Cycle.**

In the spring of 2005, a group of BCF Board members sat around a kitchen table to review applications for the first annual Community Grants Cycle (CGC). That year, BCF distributed \$68,150 to nine local nonprofits.

As the cycle grew and began receiving more applications over the years, BCF recruited volunteers from the community to participate in the grants review process —which included a review of the applicant's financials, an evaluation of the proposed project, and an interview with nonprofit leadership. BCF Board and staff members set up procedures and policies for the CGC, and they offered their guidance and knowledge of the community to help train volunteers.

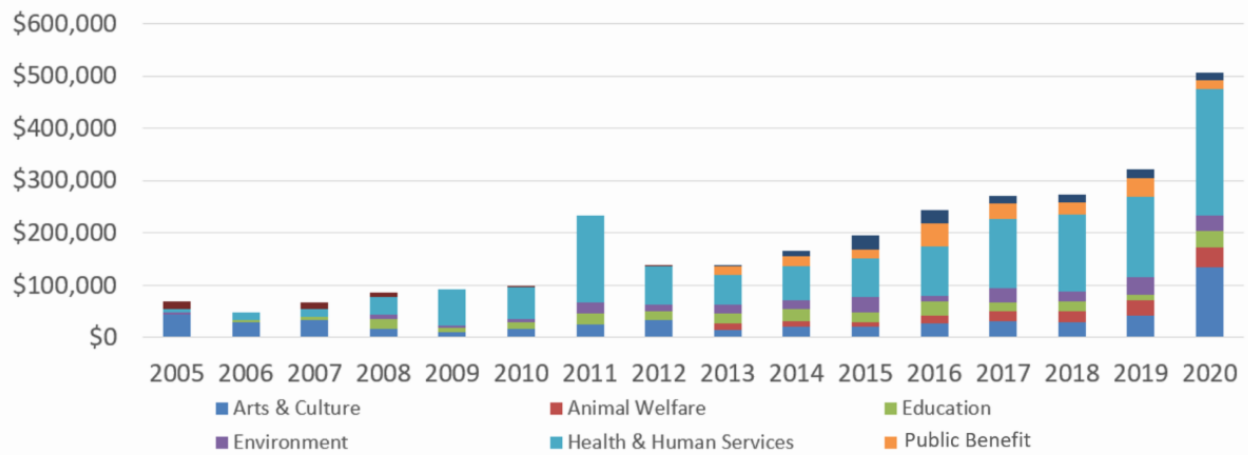


Our 2012 Evaluation Team

Today, the CGC has grown to include dozens of volunteers who take part in awarding hundreds of thousands of dollars directly back to nonprofits in our community. Grants go toward a variety of projects, including financing childcare for low-income families, providing art classes for our seniors, and supporting low-income housing on the island.

As seen in the chart below, in times of crisis the community steps up. In 2011, the economic crisis was looming large in our community and donors provided additional money through the CGC for health, housing, and human service nonprofits. In 2020, BCF awarded about \$185,000 more than the previous year through the CGC in response to COVID-19. When including all forms of grants mechanisms, BCF has awarded a total of \$973,005 to date for COVID-19 support and stabilization.

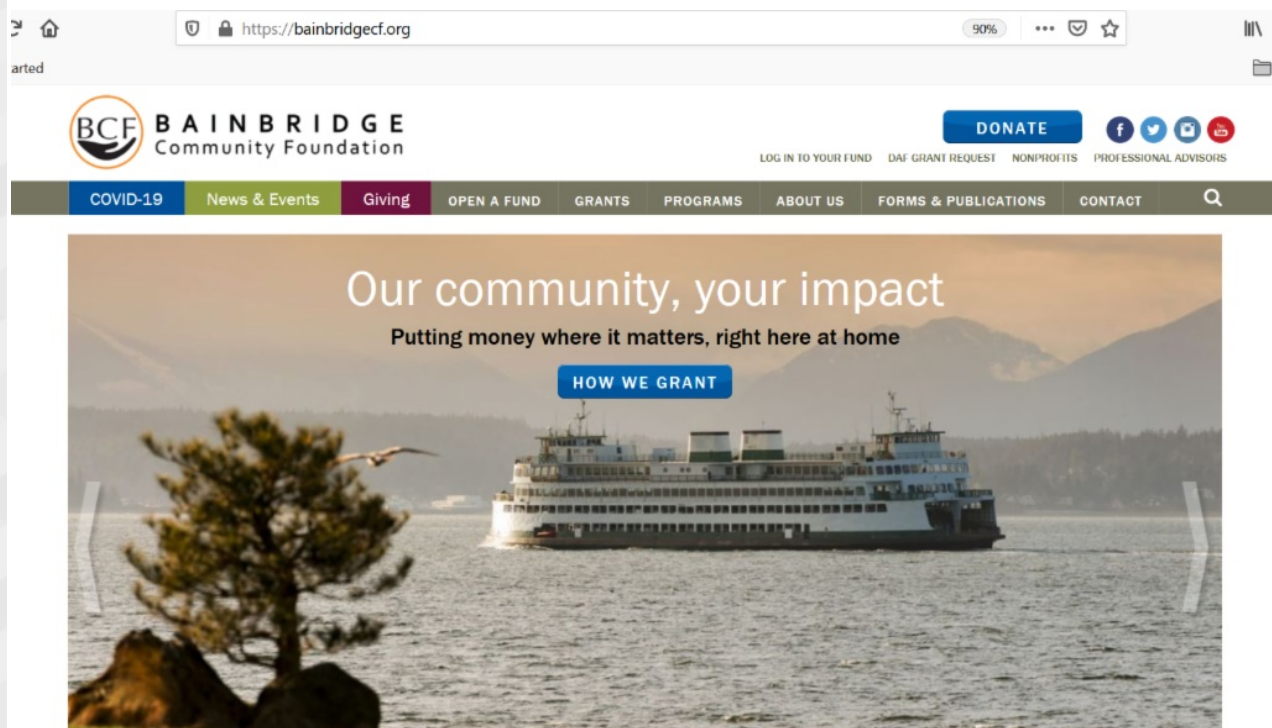
## Dollars Granted



BCF is currently in the midst of evaluating nonprofits for the 2021 Community Grants Cycle. We are so thankful for the dozens of volunteers who have shown up this year—a whopping 47 volunteers!—and we can't wait to see what our nonprofits do next.

## Check out our new website!

BCF has launched a new website, which should make navigating our material easier for both newcomers and repeat visitors. [Check it out!](#)



## Attention Local Nonprofits

Check out the resources below to better understand the changes brought on by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. In sum, the



Employee Retention Credit (ERC), introduced in March 2020 as part of the CARES Act, supported a number of employers—however, many were ineligible to claim the credit in 2020 if they had received funding through the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). **The rules have now changed and the restriction for PPP loans has been retroactively removed**, as long as employers aren't double dipping on wages. The

credit has been extended to December 31, 2021. Read more below to better understand the changes:

- [IRS guidance on Employee Retention Credit](#)
- [Article summarizing changes and opportunities](#)

## Puget Sound Energy Requests Community Feedback

Puget Sound Energy held a second virtual community workshop on May 3, 2021 to share a project overview of their [Murden Cove –](#)



[Winslow Transmission Line Project](#). **PSE is now holding a 30-day feedback period for the community.** If interested, submit your thoughts via [email](#), voicemail (1-888-878-8632), or by visiting [psebainbridge.participate.online](https://psebainbridge.participate.online). After this period ends on June 2, PSE will review all feedback and will identify a preferred path forward.

**NOTE: BCF is not affiliated with this project.**

## COVID-19 Vaccines Available

COVID-19 vaccines are still available! Please check out the City of Bainbridge Island (COBI) website [here](#) to learn about where and when to get your COVID-19 vaccine.



If you have any questions about this newsletter, please contact [media@bainbridgecf.org](mailto:media@bainbridgecf.org). If you don't already, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn at the links below!



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