

Let's Bring #BainbridgeTogether

YOUR COMMUNITY UPDATE

When articles about COVID-19 first hit the newspapers, many of us could not have predicted that the virus would become a pandemic and shut down our entire community. As weeks passed and it became clear that it would be a global emergency, local leaders mandated shelter-in-place orders around the country and operations stopped for many local businesses and nonprofits.

Since the early days of the pandemic, Bainbridge Community Foundation (BCF) has been holding regular sector calls to connect nonprofit leaders and discuss possible ways of collaboration. Through these conversations, in addition to three surveys analyzing the needs of nonprofits, it became clear that nonprofits would be hit hard—most had to cancel fundraisers and revise programs that are significant sources of revenue. According to the second survey conducted in May, 59% of organizations were planning to reopen during Phase 2 but without the ability to hold annual fundraisers or conduct programs normally, **most are expecting an average of a 45% decline in overall revenue for the year.** Many nonprofits had to furlough or lay off staff in order to handle the financial impact of stopping operations. Others maintained or even increased activities in response to the public emergency, and were in dire need of additional support to respond to the increased demand for human services. These needs may become even more potent as social distancing becomes the norm for the foreseeable future.



This fall, BCF is launching an awareness campaign called **#BainbridgeTogether**. “It’s easily forgotten how essential local nonprofits are to our community help our community learn about the essential services our nonprofits provide to our community. Some people may not know that many of our childcare or senior citizen support organizations are nonprofits, or that many of our hiking trails are built and maintained by nonprofits,” said Jim Hopper, Executive Director of BCF. “No matter what our needs or interests, there is always a nonprofit here on the island that will be there to help. They have always supported us, and now is a great time for us to support them as they continue to help us through this crisis.”

The campaign will start September 14th and run through the end of October. Each week, BCF will highlight the work of the nonprofits by theme from Caring for Our Kids to Healthy Living for Our Seniors. The foundation will release videos, articles and details on each nonprofit to showcase **how their work supports our community’s needs, culture, and values.**

Theme	Dates
Caring for Our Kids	Sept 14 – 18
Part I: Educating and Enriching Adults and Families	Sept 21 – 25
Part II: Supporting Adults and Families	Sept 28 – Oct 2
Healthy Living for Our Seniors	Oct 5 – 9
Enriching Our Lives Through Arts, Music, and Culture	Oct 12 – 16
Protecting Our Outdoors	Oct 19 – Oct 23
Nurturing Our Animals	Oct 26 – Oct 30

To learn more about how our nonprofits support us, please follow **#BainbridgeTogether** on Facebook

and Instagram, and follow Bainbridge Community Foundation on social media. You can also stay tuned on our website at www.BainbridgeCF.org or keep an eye on the local newspapers for announcements.

Responding to a Crisis



Without being able to predict a global pandemic, an earthquake, a recession, or another emergency, most of us like to know that there is support when we face a crisis. Bainbridge Community Foundation recognized the need for emergency funds after the economic downturn in 2008, and created the **Community Response Fund (CRF)**. Through the support of donors at all levels—from \$10 to \$10,000 or more—by the time of writing BCF has been able to award a total of \$1,387,603 in grants so far in 2020.

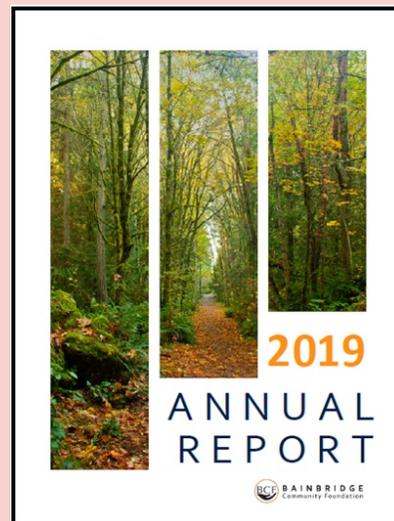
We are particularly thankful for the Rotary Fund of Bainbridge Island's \$50,000 donation at the beginning of the pandemic. The funds have supported nutritious food programs for kids, childcare, services for immigrants, financial support for housing costs, purchase of PPE for care of senior citizens, online activities to promote health for cancer survivors, and much more. With Rotary's help, BCF has awarded \$130,955 so far in grants to local nonprofits through the Community Response Fund, and over \$835,000 overall in COVID-related grants in 2020. We really appreciate all of the support from our generous community members!

Through our partnership with **All In WA** and through the generosity of Jeff Bezos, gifts to our Community Response Fund are currently being matched 1:1. To learn more, click on the picture or [here](#) for a quick video on Rotary's donation. You can make a gift [here](#).



Click Below to Read Our 2019 Annual Report

Click [here](#) to learn about our 2019 Community Grants Cycle, the state of the nonprofit sector, and much more!



Note: To encourage more charitable giving in 2020, recently enacted government COVID-19 relief bill (the CARES ACT) provides some tax relief for individual donors. **If you take the standard deduction on your taxes, you may be able to claim a new "above-the-line" deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations to charitable nonprofits in 2020.** In addition, donors can get a Federal income tax deduction for charitable contributions of up to 100% of the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). There are also benefits to donors who itemize their taxes. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.

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



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