

## Your Community Update

### Foundation Opens New Fund For Social Justice and Equity

Bainbridge Community Foundation is proactively addressing the critical issues of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Social Justice (IDEAS) by creating an IDEAS framework. Through this multidimensional approach, BCF will focus on promoting and supporting equitable access to opportunities, programs, resources, and services for all in our community—regardless of a person’s race, age, gender identity, socioeconomic background, disability, or country of origin.



We work with our nonprofit partners to support equitable opportunities in our community through affordable housing projects, financial assistance programs for low-income families, emergency funds for urgent health and human service needs, and policy and strategy work.

BCF recognizes that we still have a lot to learn when it comes to issues related to IDEAS. We aim to enrich our conversations, deepen our knowledge, and expand our activities within this framework by supporting partnerships with other nonprofit leaders and convening meetings and workshops with experts to discuss these key issues. In order to maximize this work, BCF has also created an IDEAS Fund to support specific initiatives and partnerships that promote the IDEAS principles.

**Thanks to the leadership of our Board of Trustees, all funds donated through April 30th will be matched 1:1 up to \$25,000. Please [click here](#) if you would like to participate.** BCF’s support of 501(c)(3) nonprofits extends to all of Kitsap County and beyond if they provide programs or services to the broader Bainbridge community.

**April Financial Education Series:** Financial literacy is empowering—yet good, practical education about financial management is too often out of reach for people, especially those with limited incomes. BCF Board member Paul Merriman, founder of Merriman Wealth Management, has dedicated his retirement to providing free training to all ages about how to secure a more stable financial future. Events target all ages and levels of financial literacy, including youth, first-time investors who are still in the workforce, and those who have just entered retirement. **To learn more about each event and to RSVP, [click here](#) or visit our homepage at [www.BainbridgeCF.org](http://www.BainbridgeCF.org).**

**APRIL 3 9-10:30am**



**How to Invest in a Bubble**

In this presentation, Paul Merriman explores how to invest in an uncertain market, including topics such as the good, the bad and the ugly about Robinhood, 4 free lunches of investing, whether Bitcoin is the “new gold,” how to invest in a bubble, and much more. *Who should attend? First-time investors (ages 18-35), pre-retirees and retirees*

**APRIL 8 4:30-6pm**



**Six Retirement Blind Spots and How to Fix Them**

In this presentation Christine Benz, Director of Financial Planning for Morningstar and author of *30-Minute Money Solutions: A Step-by-Step Guide to Managing Your Finances*, shows pre-retirees and retirees how to manage portfolios and financial plans to protect against six very serious risks. *Who should attend? Pre-retirees and retirees*

**APRIL 15 4:30-6pm**



**We're Talking Millions! 12 Ways to Supercharge Retirement**

This presentation will be about Paul Merriman's new book and is mostly focused on investors who are in the accumulation stage of building their retirement investments. *Who should attend? First time investors (18-35) and anyone who wants to understand the basics of successful investing*

**APRIL 22 4:30-6pm**



**How to Plan for a Successful and Secure Retirement**

Larry Swedroe, a sought-after speaker and prolific writer on the science of investing, will be speaking about helping pre-retirees and retirees make the best of their retirement by making sound investments. *Who should attend? Pre-retirees and retirees*

**APRIL 29 4:30-6pm**



**The Most Important Class You Never Had**

Tim Ranzetta, President of Next Generation Personal Finance (NGPF), will present his work. NGPF was created on the belief that financial literacy is the key to creating stable futures for the next generation. *Who should attend? Parents, teachers, and other educators including home-schoolers*

## Past BCF Events

### March 18 / 2021: A View of Our Community

On March 18, BCF hosted an event entitled **2021: A View of Our Community** where we shared data on community needs and opportunities, reported on the results from the 2021 BCF Nonprofit Survey, and discussed the impact of BCF's work. Data



included details on the island's demographics, rising housing prices, income inequality, as well as information on each specific nonprofit sector. BCF also discussed the role of nonprofits in addressing the impact of COVID and how BCF is supporting them. BCF will use data from the event to write a ***State of the Sector*** report to keep our community informed of priority areas. Stay tuned!

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## March 25 / Conversations, Contributions, and Community

On March 25, BCF hosted Rebecca Wells, #1 New York Times Bestselling Author of *Ya-Ya Sisterhood* and *Little Altars Everywhere*. She created an intimate evening as she performed a chapter from *Daughter of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, her novel-in-process. The evening widened to include a conversation with the women present. Questions ranged from "Do you read aloud while you are writing" to "What do you think are the most important elements of creating a community?" Rebecca answered each question with authenticity and with rich illustration from her own life. Each participant received a signed copy of a Rebecca Wells book.



After five years in Nashville, Rebecca, a long-time islander, is our neighbor again. In addition to online performing and speaking, Rebecca teaches creativity and writing online. To be added to her mailing list, you may contact [RebeccaWellsDivineInk@gmail.com](mailto:RebeccaWellsDivineInk@gmail.com)

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## Did You Know?

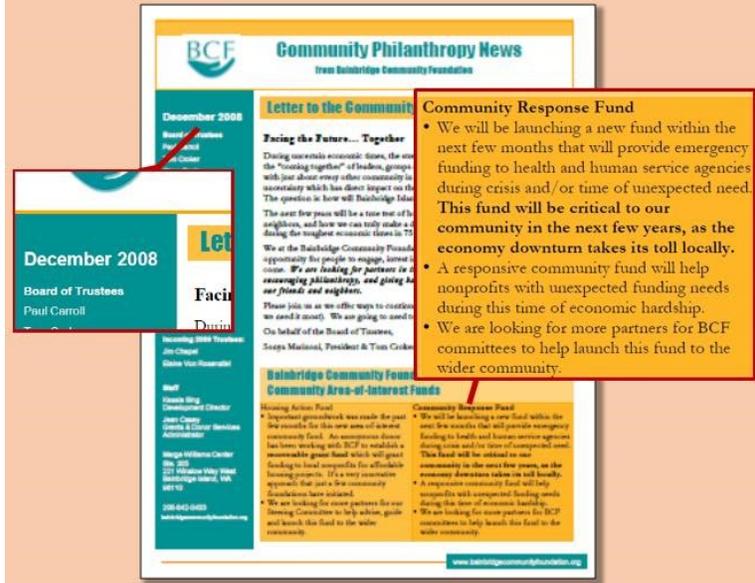
**In celebration of Bainbridge Community Foundation's 20th official year in action, we'd like to share a brief history of our Community Response Fund.**

According to the International Monetary Fund, the 2008 financial crisis was the most severe shock to hit the global economy since the Great Depression. Entire cities couldn't pay their debts, millions of jobs were lost in the United States, and unemployment rates hit 10 percent.

In 2008, a coalition of community and nonprofit leaders and donors, working under the guidance of BCF, recognized the need for a new fund to provide emergency financial

assistance to health and human service nonprofits during a crisis. From this, the Community Response Fund (CRF) was born. Over the years, the CRF has supported services and programs that nurture and care for our island residents each day, providing us all with a critical safety net. Funds cover a wide range of emergency assistance to nonprofits facing unexpected emergencies, such as supporting an advocacy

program for victims of domestic violence that had lost funding, replacing broken freezers with new ones at a local food bank, and repairing a septic tank so residents with developmental disabilities would not have to find temporary housing elsewhere.



When COVID-19 made its way to our neighborhoods in March 2020, all in-person activities came to an abrupt halt. The uncertainty of our futures became apparent through increased demand for essential services, and many nonprofits reported that they may not survive extended social distancing. On March 18<sup>th</sup>, BCF awarded its first pandemic grant through the CRF and has continued to support programs such as nutritious food programs for youth, childcare for

essential workers, services for low-income families, financial support for housing costs, purchase of PPE for caregivers, and online activities to promote healthy living. In 2020 alone, BCF awarded a total of \$131,000 in small grants to local organizations through our CRF.

The Community Response Fund will remain active and responsive to nonprofits supporting urgent human service needs. If you are interested in learning more click [here](#), or if you'd like to donate to the fund click [here](#).



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!



