

Your Community Update

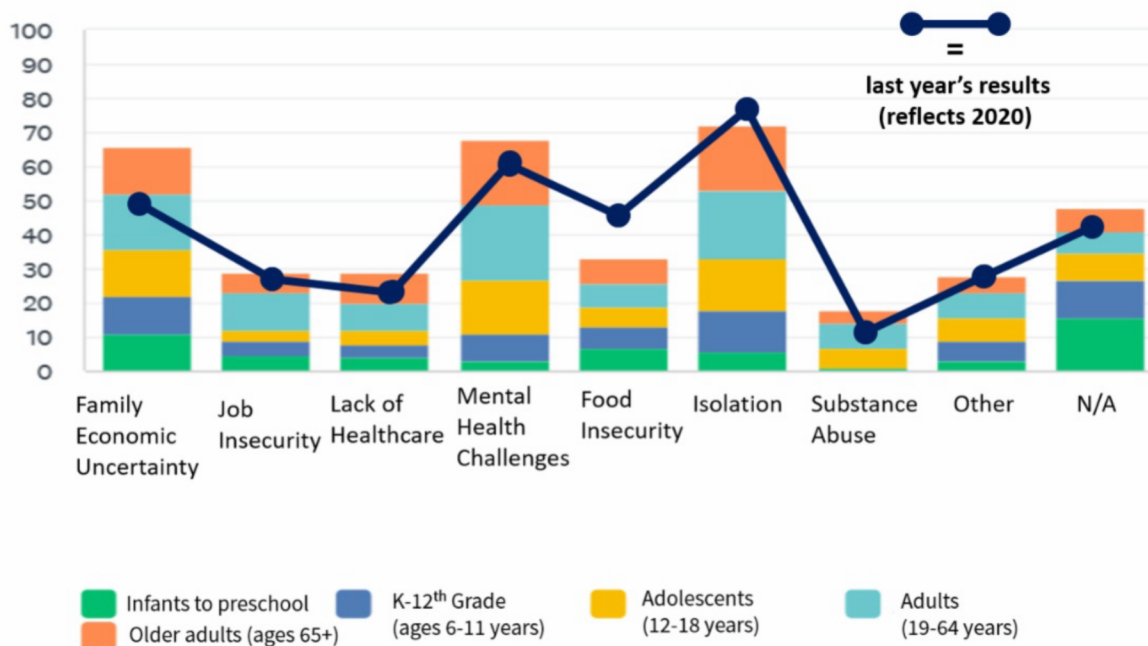
Looking at the Year Ahead

BCF recently conducted its Annual Nonprofit Survey with 55 nonprofit participants followed by four sector gatherings to discuss the results. Overall, the discussions were positive and nonprofits continue to prove their resilience, but programmatic and operational obstacles remain.



Isolation and mental health are the top two challenges still facing our community, which were also reflected in last year's survey. Concerns around food insecurity decreased overall, although health and human services nonprofits have been seeing a rise in food assistance requests since federal support expired. Family economic uncertainty appears to have risen across all age groups.

The graph below reflects challenges facing our community from the perspective of nonprofit leaders.



Other issues discussed at the sector gatherings included livable wages for nonprofit

employees and recruiting more volunteers. We look forward to consolidating the analysis in the next iteration of BCF's State of the Sector Report: A View of Our Community so we can help support our neighbors. Stay tuned! To read last year's report, [click here](#).

BCF Hosts Red Cedar Council Luncheon



BCF hosted its Red Cedar Council luncheon on Wednesday, February 16th at Heyday Farm to celebrate the gifts of a special group of visionary donors. To become part of the Red Cedar Council, donors include BCF in their wills or estate plans to achieve their long-term philanthropic goals.

At the lunch, Red Cedar Council members had intimate conversations about their visions for the future of Bainbridge Island—and how their legacy will live on through their strong connection to the foundation. These discussions over a Heyday Farm meal led to deeper connections with like-minded individuals, and many formed new relationships while others reconnected with friends.

To learn more about the benefits of joining the Red Cedar Council, please visit our [website here](#).



Community Grants Cycle Opens March 1

BCF is accepting applications for the 2022 Community Grants Cycle from all sectors of our nonprofit community from **March 1 - March 29 at 5PM**. BCF is hosting [a training](#) on March 2 at 2PM for nonprofits who might want to learn more about the grant writing process. **We encourage nonprofit leaders to reach out and discuss possible funding opportunities!** To apply, [click here](#) or feel free to contact Debbie Kuffel at debbie@bainbridgecf.org.



Community
Grants Cycle

Free Online Programs: Financial Literacy

Former BCF Board Member Paul Merriman, founder of The Merriman Financial Education Foundation, has dedicated his retirement to providing free trainings to all ages about how to secure a more stable financial future. On behalf of BCF, Paul organizes free virtual events with nationally renowned financial experts in order to help educate our community on how to better plan for our futures. Planned programs are highlighted below. Visit our [website here](#) to learn more or to register.



BAINBRIDGE
Community Foundation



The Merriman
Financial Education
Foundation

**NATIONAL EXPERTS SHARE WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
FOR A MORE STABLE FUTURE**

Visit www.BainbridgeCF.org to register

APRIL 7



**Do I Need
a Financial Advisor?**

How much money do I need before hiring an advisor? What should I look for in a financial advisor? What are the best sources of information for DIY investors? Former BCF Board member Paul Merriman—founder of Merriman Wealth Management—will answer your questions here.



APRIL 14



**The Inside Story
About ESG Investing**

In this presentation, financial experts Larry Swedroe and Sam Adams highlight the various forms of sustainable investing and how they impact you as an investor.



APRIL 21



**What's New for
Social Security 2022?**

How can an individual or couple maximize Social Security benefits? How much should young people plan on future Social Security payments? What is the best Social Security claiming strategy? Mary Beth Franklin, award-winning journalist and Certified Financial Planner, will discuss these topics.

"We want to make sure everyone has access to financial security, and financial literacy training is often out of reach for people. We intend to change that." – Paul Merriman



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