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Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of the greater Homer area by promoting philanthropic and charitable activities.
When our new executive director, Mike Miller, shared with me the theme of our annual report, I cheered. For the past two years, the Homer Foundation has prepared for this moment: The time is right for us to build community together.

So much has happened since our long-time executive director, Joy Steward, announced her impending retirement. Joy, you see, was determined to make a graceful exit. To her, that meant every detail of the succession would be thoughtfully planned and executed. It meant that there would never be an interruption to our daily work of community philanthropy. Joy saw this transition as an opportunity – a chance to examine and strengthen our internal structures today in order to be better positioned to meet our community’s needs tomorrow.

For the past two years, Joy and the board focused on these internal structures. We reassessed and reinforced our investment strategies, added a much-needed staff position, developed new strategic plans and goals, revised our bylaws and policies, welcomed highly qualified new board members, and secured generous donations. We carefully and thoughtfully strengthened the groundwork of our foundation.

In July, we welcomed our new executive director, Mike Miller, and acknowledged Joy’s retirement at our annual picnic. Her legacy is a gift to us all – a vibrant and sustainable foundation poised to soar into the future.

And so, the future begins here, connecting and creating community. This is the work that inspires Mike, Lauren, and our board. I invite you to join us.
Anthropologists tell us a sense of community is important to establish harmony in society. The division of work, feeling of association, togetherness, and cooperation - all these help establish a healthy atmosphere. In a community, people live by associating with one another. The need for association is a common human feeling. It helps in establishing peace and harmony within a community. Without a feeling of association, there can be chaos in the society or community. Through our actions towards each other, we make our lives vibrant and full.

For more than 28 years, the Homer Foundation has represented what is best in Homer: local people insuring that social service, arts and the environment receive support as integral parts of our community. The Foundation is also the largest local grantor of scholarships in the lower Kenai Peninsula.

At the Homer Foundation, we link generosity with community need. To date, we have distributed over $3.2M in grants and scholarships. We are a community foundation. Volunteer board and committee members working together to support local non-profits to meet the needs of those around us. We rely on and provide a way for our generous neighbors to create a legacy for Homer through their wise giving.

As you will read in the Investment Committee report, we are in good financial health. Our investments are managed by Vanguard securities and our funds grew at a comfortable 6.53% last fiscal year. We returned four percent locally and 2.53% was reinvested to grow our funds. That’s healthy.

From all funding sources (donations and investments) last year we distributed $176,000 in grants and scholarships. We know that represents a small portion of what is needed. We have a strategic goal to reach $20M committed funds by 2028. A fund of that size will generate $800,000 in grants annually into the Homer area. How will we do that? We’re going to broaden our reach, grow existing funds, welcome new funds and convene within the community to determine where unmet needs exist.

You are the key to community success. As a public foundation, we couldn’t do what we do without you. On behalf of the staff and Board of Trustees I want to say thank you to all the donors and volunteers we rely on for support. Whether your gift is large or small you are helping create community and provide a legacy for Homer area’s future.

Mike Miller
Executive Director

The Homer Foundation 2019 Annual Report
Paula is our newest member, joining in May of 2019. Paula lived in Homer since 2007, during which time she was working at various universities as faculty or administrator. Her husband works in Homer, and they plan on living here far into the future. She has also started a consulting company that serves the non-profits in the greater Homer area. Paula has a love for science education, aquatic insects, fly fishing, and travel.

The Homer Foundation 2019 Annual Report
From the Development Committee Report

This has been an incredibly exciting year for the development committee. We saw a large increase of community donations to the Foundation. We have engaged in strategic planning and studied ways to best serve the mission of the foundation. We have implemented new approaches and have a solid list of ideas for the future.

Can you imagine our community nonprofits with a sustainable source of funds that helps them to focus more on meeting their mission and less on fundraising? With your help, we can make this happen. Last year our board set the goal of building our corpus up to $20 million. As our corpus grows, we can invest hundreds of thousands of dollars a year into building and sustaining our quality of life without being dependent on factors outside our home. And as we build a healthier community, there is a multiplying factor that reaches beyond each individual to families and neighbors and to our children and future generations.

The faster our investment corpus grows, the sooner we can collectively make a difference. But twenty million dollars - are we dreaming? It is more practical than you might think. If we work together as partners, we can make this happen.

How are we doing so far?
We have over $2.5 million in our corpus which is managed by Vanguard. This is spread over our interest area and donor advised funds. Additionally, more than $5 million in future gifts has been designated through planned giving.

Did you know that you become a member of our Legacy Society when you designate a gift in your will to the foundation?
What a great way to create your legacy. And don’t worry, if circumstances change you can always change your gift. Talk to us about how to get started.

What I love about the Homer Foundation?
I love that I can give to potentially all of the good causes served by our nonprofits while knowing that grant requests are carefully reviewed so funds go where they do the most good. We know that you show your love for our community in many ways. We had a big increase in donations to our unrestricted and operational funds. We also had many fundholders who made significant contributions to their own funds. New volunteers helped work with our committee work.

Please know how grateful we are when you show that love through your generosity and commitment to the mission of the Homer Foundation. Your gift today helps keep us going. Your gift for the future is your legacy to our wonderful home.

With heartfelt thanks,

_Liz Downing_ and the Development Committee
The strength behind community foundations is the ability for individuals to come together and build permanent philanthropic assets for their community, and then use those assets to address needs and support causes they care about. The Homer Foundation provides a simple, powerful, and highly personal approach to giving. You are the most important part of this process.

**Ways of Giving**

Our donors have found many creative ways to make a tax-deductible donation to support their community. Here are just a few!

- Add the Homer Foundation to your estate planning
- Make the Homer Foundation a beneficiary of a retirement account
- Make the Homer Foundation a beneficiary of a life insurance policy
- Donate cash
- Donate stocks and securities;
- Donate through corporate employee matching funds
- Donate a property;
- Donate a home
- Donate a car
- Donate art work
- Donate Food for our events
- Donate your time through joining one of our committees
- Choose the Homer Foundation to your estate planning
- Choose the Homer Foundation through PICK.CLICK.GIVE., the PFD Charitable Check-off
- Choose the Homer Foundation when shopping online at Amazon Smile
  
  [www.smile.amazon.com/ch/92-0139183](http://www.smile.amazon.com/ch/92-0139183)

- Choose the Homer Foundation when shopping online at eBay
  
  [www.paypal.com/givingfund/donors](http://www.paypal.com/givingfund/donors)

- Our donors have found many creative ways to make a tax-deductible donation to support their community. Here are just a few!

**Areas of Interest**

- Unrestricted Fund, use my gift where it will have the greatest impact
- Animal Care
- Arts, Culture, and Music
- Community
- Community Service
- Education
- Environment and Conservation
- Health and Social Services
- Operations
- Sports and Recreation
- Youth Programs
- Any of our permanent Funds.

**CONNECT WITH US**

Contact us to find out how we can help you achieve your philanthropic goals.

- 907.235.0541
- Find us on Facebook
- 3733 Ben Walters Lane
  Homer, AK
  lower level of the Kachemak Bay
  Title Building
- Find us on Instagram
- info@homerfoundation.org
- www.homerfoundation.org

Subscribe to our e-newsletter

Go to [www.thehomerfoundation.org/family-of-funds/](http://www.thehomerfoundation.org/family-of-funds/) To find a complete list of funds
Donor Story - Will Files and Marthaellen Anderson

You can’t eat the scenery

Homer Foundation provides sustainability to local organizations. As Will said, “We are a beautiful, high-energy community, but you cannot eat the scenery. The Homer Foundation is a way to build community. A local community foundation is something to be proud of, and an investment in ourselves. Just as everybody at times needs that lift from somebody else, so do organizations.”

Marthaellen and Will are long time Alaskans. Her parents and brothers homesteaded in the Kenai area. Will’s parents were missionaries in the Interior and Southeast. Marthaellen graduated from Seldovia High School, determined to return to Homer someday. Marthaellen taught preschool and yoga for years. Will retired as an educator and tech consultant and now devotes his time to non-profit support.

As both current donors and Legacy Society members, they understand how their gift builds community. They started giving when they saw a need for long term funding for a local agency and agency fund holder, the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies. The funding from the Homer Foundation makes steady, reliable healthy progress possible for local nonprofits. That stable funding helps through the lean times so that nonprofits can grow and enjoy long-term health.

Marthaellen & Will are thankful for the Homer Foundation and the people who contribute, both in dollars and time and energy.

Will Files and Marthaellen Anderson
Celebrating Generosity, Securing the Community’s Future

The Homer Foundation is proudly growing our Legacy Society. Any individual who has made a commitment to the community’s future through a planned gift or bequest is invited to join the Homer Foundation’s Legacy Society.

We recognize the following individuals as leaders of the Legacy Society, and thank them for their vision and generosity. If you have arranged for a future gift to the community through the Homer Foundation we would like to shine a light on your generosity and include you as a Legacy Society member.

HOMER FOUNDATION LEGACY SOCIETY

Anonymous
Philemon Morris
Tom Kizzia
Joy Steward
Stuart Schmutzler
Janet Fink
Ken Castner
Nancy Lord
Bill Fry
Dorothy Fry
Joyce Robinette
Will Files
Marthaellen Anderson
Kathy Hill
Janet M. Knutson
Edward W. Hutchinson
Kim Fine
Max Mitchell
Peggy Price
Kathy Franz
The Clyfus Family
Flo Larson
Terri Spigelmyer
Lisa Climo
Michael Mungoven
John Mouw
Rika Mouw
Denise Pitzman
Gordon Pitzman
Robert Purcell
Melon Purcell
Paul Seaton
Tina Seaton
Jenny Stroyeck
Michael Armstrong
Randy Wiest
Daniel Perry
Martha Briscoe
Richard Burton
Marylou Burton
Donna Rae Faulkner
Don McNamara
Kathy Herrnsteent
Roger Herrnsteent
Kathryn Thompson
Christa Collier

A bequest to the Homer Foundation is simple to include in your will, and we can provide sample language for you and your legal counsel. You can integrate charitable giving into your financial planning by checking with your financial advisor for more information and ideas.

Please consider adding your name to this list of generous visionaries by leaving a legacy to your community through your estate plan and joining the Homer Foundation’s Legacy Society. Your gift can be a catalyst for change and an inspiration to others. Contact the Homer Foundation to become a Legacy Society member today.
The Homer Foundation’s Investments are managed by the Vanguard Group. The investment manager works closely with the Investment Committee, chaired by Phil Morris. The Homer Foundation has a full Financial Review conducted by an outside CPA firm. The Financial Review is available upon request, as is the IRS Form 990 (or 990T).

### Financial Summary

#### 2019

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<th>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Earned Income</td>
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<td>Investment Gains (Losses)</td>
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<td>Distributable Investments Earnings</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants from Participating Funds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants from Restricted Funds</td>
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<td>Personnel</td>
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<td>Operating &amp; Program Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Nonprofits Supported

- **38** nonprofits supported through grants

### Grants Awarded

- **24** Scholarships Awarded
- **212** Total Donors
- **14** Donor Advised Funds
- **13** Agency Endowment Funds
- **68** Distributed in Awards
- **30** Field of Interest Funds

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The Homer Foundation 2019 Annual Report
Financial Impact in Review

Assets Under Management
Includes all special projects

Contributions
Distributions

Managed Assets By Fund Type

Total $2,950,725
- Field of Interest $902,365
- Donor Advised $892,393
- Unrestricted $465,056
- Agency Endowments $369,706
- Restricted $164,547
- Other $156,658

Contributions By Fund Type

Total $607,864
- Donor Advised $208,921
- Field of Interest $150,969
- Unrestricted/Admin $142,346
- Special Projects and Other $80,170
- Agency Endowments $25,459

Grant Distributions By Category

Total $176,933
- Youth/Education $69,181 (39%)
- General Operating Support $46,372 (26%)
- Health & Social Services $22,045 (12%)
- Other $18,875 (11%)
- Arts & Culture $11,850 (7%)
- Conservation/Environment $5,250 (3%)
- Sports & Recreation $3,000 (2%)

Grants By Fund Type

Total $176,933
- Restricted $85,913
- Donor Advised $56,301
- Field of Interest $29,534
- Unrestricted $5,184
The Homer Foundation is back on track with fiscal year 2019. Switching our investments to Vanguard for management means that our portfolio is now mainstream and showed an adjusted return for fiscal year 2019 of 6.53% after fees. We have declared distributions for fiscal year 2020 at 4% of the portfolio leaving 2.53% return to inflation to protect our funds.

Within the Vanguard mix we have approximately 35% in domestic equities, 30% in various Vanguard bond funds and 35% in foreign equities. As the markets go, so goes our portfolio. Historically, the markets have been positive the majority of the time. With the smoothing of our performance, our fund holders should be able to better project their returns on an annual basis and hopefully there will be enough growth left over for some protection against inflation.

Over the first 28 years of the Homer Foundation’s existence, we have been innovative and have had numerous changes to our investment policies and procedures. We have always tried to adjust to the turbulent investment environment. Some years we have done extremely well and other years, not so much. At all times, your board has tried to adapt to changing conditions and to use the talents of the board members to good effect.

As many of the founding members have transitioned off the board, the make-up of the board has changed. In the past, we have always been able to adapt our policies, procedures, and talents to accommodate these changes in personnel. Relying on Vanguard for our investments should stabilize our returns in the future. We look forward to many years of progress as we focus on growing the funds through the newly inaugurated legacy society.

I, too, will be leaving the board this fall and am confident it will be in good hands for 2020 and beyond. I look forward to continuing to support the foundation in many ways and urge our readers to focus on ways to help us grow a legacy for the greater Homer Community.

Phil Morris
Investment Committee Chair
## 2019 Fund Balances

### Unrestricted Funds
- Homer Foundation
- Unrestricted Funds: $362,834
- Julia Park Howard
- Unrestricted Fund
- Steve and Noko Yoshida Fund
- Homer Foundation
- Admin Fund: $14,159
- Aquila Fund: $88,063
- **TOTAL**: $465,056

### Agency Endowment Funds
- Alaska Marine Conservation Council Fund: $7,997
- Bunnell Street Arts Center: $9,611
- Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies Fund: $63,867
- Friends of the Homer Public Library Fund: $85,442
- Homer Animal Friends Fund: $13,437
- Homer Community Food Pantry Fund: $19,006
- Homer Council on the Arts Fund: $8,843
- Homer Mariner Fastpitch Softball Fund: $18,782
- Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship Fund: $8,445
- **TOTAL**: $369,707

### Field of Interest
- A Music Education Fund in Memory of Renda Horn: $31,833
- Alice Witte Memorial Scholarship Fund: $8,368
- Ashley J. Logan Fund: $44,892
- Bill & Liz Johnson Teacher Education Scholarship Fund: $17,497
- Bluegrass Fund: $50,637
- Brother Asaiah Bates Fund: $9,091
- Choices for Teens Fund: $11,457
- City of Homer Fund: $205,705
- Constance M. Benston Fund: $10,302
- Diane Wambach “Shoot for the Stars” Scholarship Fund: $5,446
- Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship Fund: $39,147
- Educator’s Professional Development Fund: $15,803
- Fish and Wildlife Scholarship Fund: $31,937
- Health Care Providers Scholarship Fund: $2,8265
- Heather Pancratz Memorial Fund: $12,230
- Homer Community Science Scholarship Fund: $16,947
- Homer-Kachemak Bay Rotary Club Fund: $18,980
- Jessica M. Stevens Memorial Fund: $11,773
- Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship Fund: $8,445
- Kachemak City Fund: $9,240
- Kevin Bell & Family Hockey Fund: $7,371
- Martha H. Briscoe Fund: $10,714
- Nikki Geragotelis (Fry) Memorial Scholarship Fund: $142,396
- Ptarmigan Arts Scholarship Fund: $22,581
- Rotary Club of Homer Downtown Fund: $7,139
- Sheldon Youth to Youth Fund: $7,230
- Spay & Neuter Fund: $9,919
- Thor’s Scholarship: $7,012
- **TOTAL**: $902,365

### Donor Advised
- Compass Rose Fund: $15,483
- Cottonwood Fund: $45,267
- Daisy Lee Bitter Marine & Coastal Education Fund: $15,230
- David and Mary Schroer Fund: $36,563
- Gooseberry Fund: $41,787
- Homer Incentive Fund: $17,591
- **TOTAL**: $321,205

### Other
- Repair & Replacement Fund/Kachemak City: $91,329
- Restricted Funds: $164,547
- Non Cash Liabilities: $(6,533)
- Earnings Pending Distribution: $71,862
- **TOTAL**: $2,950,725

### Less Funds Held for Others: $284,188

### Total Net Assets: $2,666,537
New Funds

**Strengthening Community**

**Fish & Wildlife Scholarship Fund**
This scholarship was created by one of our outstanding board members, Steve Albert, a resident of Homer who dedicated his life to fish and wildlife management for the State of Alaska. Prior to coming to Homer, he resided in Eagle River where he raised his family to love and appreciate the wonderful flora and fauna of Alaska. He began this scholarship fund to support students in pursuit of higher education in wildlife and/or fisheries biology or management, because there were no scholarships available to this field when he began his studies. The first award was granted this spring to a bright student from Homer High School. The Homer Foundation welcomes this new fund to our family and are proud to support this worthy endeavor!

Contributions to any of the existing funds managed by the Foundation are an excellent way to support your community. These donations support the sustainability and resiliency of our community through long-term philanthropy fostered by the Homer Foundation. Donations can be either with a gift today, through a bequest, or consider establishing your own fund to support your most cared about causes. Contact the Homer Foundation to learn more.
You should have been there the day that the Distributions Committee granted $1800 to Anchor Kings Wrestling! This Anchor Point wrestling club works with thirty to forty students and does so much more than provide gear, training and travel to competitions. They help create confident athletes who then go on to succeed in sports at the high school level where they will be more likely to stay in school. Oh wait, if you have given to the Homer Foundation, you actually were there that day in the form of your donation!

The Homer Foundation’s tagline is “Connecting generosity to community need.” The exact moment and place that connection happens is the Distributions Committee. I envision a spark each time a grant is funded!

As a donor, I am reassured by the grant process. Most on the committee are community members. Careful consideration is given to each grant on the basis of need, viability, budget, and past awards. And this is where the real magic happens! Every member of the committee has an equal voice at the table. The deliberations are intelligent and vibrant. I have never seen such a respectful discussion as with this group! In the end, we reach consensus on an award and I see another spark as a donor’s generosity is again connected with community need. Rest assured that your donated dollars are distributed with careful consideration and due diligence!

The support of the youth wrestlers is just one example of grants awarded in the last year. You as a donor also supported the arts when Homer Council on the Arts, Bunnell Street Arts Center and Pier One all collaborated on the New Old Time Chautauqua Be Mary performances. You supported social services with a grant to Hospice of Homer for help with a bookkeeper’s assessment. And you helped youth education by funding a grant to Project Grad’s Achieving Wonder in Education. The list goes on!

With 106 grants amounting to more than $170,000 awarded in the last fiscal year, I am happy to report that the community has come together in a big way to help meet community need through the Homer Foundation. And the Distributions Committee is here to help create that spark!

Denise Pitzman
Distributions Committee Chair
The Homer Foundation has awarded twenty-one scholarships totaling $31,000 to Homer area students. These scholarships are supported by permanent endowments administered by the Homer Foundation and would not be possible without the vision and generosity of community donors.

“These scholarships have value well beyond the monetary. It is the message we send to each recipient: ‘We believe in you,’” explains Homer Foundation staff Lauren Seaton.

The success of the Foundation’s scholarship program depends on volunteers like our school counselors, notably Homer High School counselor Lin Hampson and her staff on the front line, connecting students to scholarship applications; volunteers Jane Miles and Lolita Brache, who processed packets for the review committees; and the dozens of volunteers who made up these committees, sharing their time and expertise to read and rate applications, assuring a fair and equitable selection process.

Because of the donors who had the vision to establish these scholarships, and the community members who continue to support them, these funds will be here to support the education of our youth far into the future. Tax exempt donations to support scholarships, or any of the 70 funds managed by the Foundation, are appreciated and put to work in our community.

Dexter Lowe is attending the University of Alaska Fairbanks this fall. He will be studying Wildlife Biology and Conservation. “I am so thankful to be the recipient of the Homer Foundation’s Fish and Wildlife Scholarship. It is an enormous aid to my future and has made my academic goals feasible. I truly appreciate the objectives of this scholarship, as I could not find any other scholarships specific to this area of study. The management and protection of our wildlife is so important and I am so grateful that this scholarship exists, not only for myself, but also for any student that comes after me.”
The Nikki Geragotelis (Fry) Memorial Scholarship was established by Nikki’s parents, Bill and Dorothy Fry, and their family and friends, as a positive outlet for their grief. The scholarship rewards students that reflect Nikki’s spirit, sportsmanship, integrity, and friendliness. Building on the success from prior events, Bill and Dorothy held the third annual Bear Creek Music festival on the grounds of their Bear Creek Winery facility with the many proceeds benefiting the fund. In addition, Bill has used his creativity to create whimsical metal sculptures in the gardens of the winery available for purchase with the proceeds also benefiting the scholarship fund. These efforts have resulted in this fund being able to give away the largest single scholarship at $5,000. This year, the committee could not decide between two wonderful candidates and received the blessing of the Frys to split the scholarship for this year.

As the managers of this fund, our hats are off to the Frys for finding fun, creative ways to support the students in our community, today, and long into the future.

**Avram Salzman** is attending Yale University to study Political Science. Avram was the recipient of two of our scholarships, the Beluga Tail Non-Fiction Writing Scholarship as well as the Drew Scalzi Memorial Maritime Scholarship. Recognizing the latter, “I was, and still am, ecstatic about my selection for this scholarship. Working in the maritime industry has been monumental in building my character and appreciation for the natural world. Spending each summer immersed in Alaska’s oceans and wilderness, I have been inspired to work for their protection. I see politics as the best avenue for me to fight for environmental justice, so I will pursue studies in Political Science and Environmental Justice. I hope that the investment you have made in these studies will come full circle as I work to keep our oceans and environment healthy for generations to come.”

**Luciano Fasulo** is attending Oregon State University in pursuit of a degree in Physical Therapy. Luciano received the Healthcare Providers Scholarship, the Homer Community Science Scholarship, as well as the Kachemak Bay Medical Clinic Scholarship. “I am sincerely honored to have been selected as the recipient of these scholarships. Thank you for your generosity, which has allowed me to lighten some weight off my shoulder about finances. Every little penny you have provided me will increase my chances to succeed at Oregon State University. I am very thankful for receiving your thoughtful gift, and because of your scholarship, I am able to feel rewarded for my work I have been doing. As well as know that my community supports me and will keep supporting me in the future.”

**Mackenzie Callis** is one of our post-high school recipients of the HealthCare Providers Scholarship. She was also a recipient of a scholarship from the Homer Foundation in 2009. She is pursuing her Masters of Science in Nursing at the University of Alaska Anchorage. “As this year’s recipient of The Homer Foundation’s Health Care Providers Scholarship, I would like to thank the Foundation, the scholarship committee, and the many donors who have contributed to this fund over the years for their generous financial support and ongoing commitment to the development of aspiring healthcare providers of the Lower Kenai Peninsula. I am deeply passionate about mental health care and excited to be continuing my nursing education with their award. The Foundation’s investment in the academic and professional dreams of our community is part of what makes living in (and in my particular case, returning to) Homer so special.”

The Homer Foundation is proud to be the largest local awarder of scholarships.

The Homer Foundation 2019 Annual Report
2019 Distributions

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE GRANTS

Youth Advisory Committee
South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services .......... $1,500
SPBHS Summer Activities
Popeye Wrestling Club .......... $1,500
Wrestle Like a Girl

Educator’s Professional Development
Becky Paul .................. $450
attending Restorative Justice Training
Darcy Mueller ............ $250
attending Cross-Fit training

Unrestricted Fund
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District ................ $1,000
Snacks for Achieving Wonder in Education program
Razdolna Elementary School .... $500
Emergency Packet Supplies

The KLEPS Fund
Hospice of Homer ............ $210
Thanksgiving Meal Delivery
Pratt Museum ............... $1,500
Summer Intern
Homemiddle School .......... $3,206.35
Microsoft Surfaces for Blended Learning Support
Center For Alaskan Coastal Studies ........ $2,500
Opportunities for Ocean Stewards
Friends of the Homer Public Library .......... $1,000
Summer Reading Program
Pier One Theatre ........... $1,500
Summer Youth Theatre Program

Homer Incentive Fund
Homer Flex School ........ $750
Artist in the School with Jeff Szarzi

Rotary Club of Homer Downtown
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown ...... $462.13
Rotary Peace paintings
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown ...... $225.25
Sending Students to RYLA

Martha H. Briscoe Fund
Kachemak Heritage
Land Trust ............... $1,500
Copier Replacement
Center For Alaskan Coastal Studies ........ $2,500
Opportunities for Ocean Stewards

May M. Benson Charitable Fund
Girl Scout troop 137 ....... $3,300
Sangum, India- Explorations of Food Security
HoWL ....................... $1,000
Part-Time Bookkeeper

JEMCO Fund
Kenai Peninsula Orchestra ................. $900
Fireweed Frescoes

Jane Little Family Endowment Fund
SAH Soccer Inc ............... $700
Operating Support for SPARC
Rotary Club of Homer Downtown ........ $600
Sending Students to RYLA

Jack & Mary Lentfer Fund
HoWL ....................... $1,000
Part-Time Bookkeeper

The Cottonwood Fund
Storyknife
Writers Retreat ............ $5,000
Shoemaker Cabin completion

David & Mary Schroer Fund
Homem High School .......... $2,000
Green Dot/ School Wide Positive Behavior Supports
Homem Flex School .......... $500
Science Lab Hot Plates
Homem Middle School .......... $3,000
Nordic Skiing Activity Support
West Homer Elementary .......... $3,000
Dishwasher for Cafeteria

Homer Mariner
Fastpitch Softball Fund .......... $500
Equipment Purchase
Pratt Museum ............... $1,000
Summer Intern
Homem High School
Mariner Booster Club .......... $1,000
Sports Program Support
KBBI ...................... $1,200
General Operating Support
Paul Banks Elementary .... $3,000
iPads and applications

Choices for Teens Fund
Anchor Kings
Wrestling Club ............... $1,000
Gearing Up for Competition
Pier One Theatre........... $106.54
Summer Youth Theatre Program

Ashley 3 Logan Fund
Anchor Kings
Wrestling Club ............... $800
Gearing Up for Competition

Jessica Stevens Memorial Fund
Pier One Theatre .......... $632.30
Summer Youth Theatre Program
**City of Homer Grant**
Bunnell Street Arts Center ................ $2,011
Center For Alaskan Coastal Studies .......... $1,000
Cook Inletkeeper ................ $1,000
Homer Community Food Pantry ............... $2,960
Homer Council on the Arts .................. $1,736
Homer Farmer’s Market ................ $1,000
Homer Hockey Association ................ $1,691
Hospice of Homer ................ $2,841
HoWL ........................................ $1,724
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic .... $2,989
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust ............... $1,000
Kachemak Nordic Ski Club ................ $1,910
KBBI Kachemak Bay Broadcasting Inc .......... $3,025
Sprout ....................................... $2,839

**AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUND EARNINGS**
Alaska Marine Conservation Council ........ $281.29
Center For Alaskan Coastal Studies ........ $1,422.82
Homer Council on the Arts ................. $311.03
Pratt Museum .............................. $1,003.76
Hospice of Homer .......................... $1,385.71
Kachemak Bay Family Planning Clinic .... $419.35
Kachemak Heritage Land Trust .............. $974.26
KBBI Kachemak Bay Broadcasting Inc ....... $1,216.29
Homer Animal Friends .................... $472.64
Friends of the Homer Public Library ....... $2,918.31
Homer Community Food Pantry ............. $2,668.51
Bunnell Street Arts Center ................ $338.04
Homer Mariner Fastpitch Softball Fund .... $540.24

**HOMER COMMUNITY CHEST**
Homer Community Food Pantry ............... $24,463.48

The Homer Foundation 2019 Annual Report
This year, Homer Middle School National Junior Honors Society volunteered our time serving as the Homer Foundation Youth Advisory Committee (Y.A.C.). As such, we were provided $3,000 to donate toward youth activities in our community. We received five applications for the money.

We carefully evaluated the applications, looking for the value and impact of each program. YAC members contacted each organization to pose follow-up questions, and brought our notes back to the committee.

After seven weeks of careful consideration and many meetings, we finally made our decision using discussion and voting protocols that we all agreed upon. In the end, we decided to split the funds between two organizations. We donated $1,500 to both Popeye Wrestling / Wrestle Like A Girl for a summer girls’ wrestling camp, and South Peninsula Behavioral Health Services for summer therapeutic activities for youth. We chose these organizations because of their positive impact on Homer’s Youth.

We appreciate our donors, who have confidence in our ability to make thoughtful decisions.

Bristol Johnson and Hannah Stonorov, on behalf of the Homer Foundation YAC
One day, I received a telephone call asking if I could meet for lunch. Never one to turn that sort of invite down, especially from Dan Westerberg, friend and estate lawyer in Homer at the time. I was curious when he told me he wanted to discuss the Homer Community Foundation.

After a tasty lunch, he quizzed if I knew about the foundation and I told him I knew about it, but not much how it worked nor why. After a couple of hours of discussion, he asked me to consider joining the board, gave me some information and a sheet to fill out my intent. This was my introduction. I was intrigued. Once I applied, my information was voted on by the board and Joy Steward, Executive Director at the time, called to say my application was accepted and gave the the date of the next meeting.

The first meeting was a bit daunting walking into a room of highly motivated people.

I came to understand that collectively Homer Foundation wanted a sound future for nonprofits and means to create sustainable giving to build communities on the lower Kenai Peninsula. Prior to this mission, various citizens of Homer wanted a place to invest money for just this purpose. Others wanted a legacy-type fund. Some learned to love Homer over the years and wanted to establish a fund for a specific cause.

Having lived overseas six years, reflecting on what life in Homer and Alaska meant to me, the community foundation fit what I wanted to do after returning from teaching overseas in International Schools.

A few weeks later the board met for a retreat in the Still Point Wilderness Lodge in Halibut Cove where we spent two overnights and two days in board training with Linda Chamberlain. During conversations and informal discussions those magical fall days, it was abundantly clear that serving on this board was a creative and inspiring thing to do while benefitting nonprofits made up of volunteers who create vibrancy and love in this community.

If this sounds like something you are interested in, please call the Homer Foundation and leave your name with Lauren, the brilliant assistant (no bias) or Mike Miller, the very capable new Executive Director, and let them know of your interest. You can also mention it to any other board member who will add your name to the prospect list. You, too, can eat a tasty lunch, have a lively discussion and wind up part of a team of people who want only the best for this lovely place at the end of the road. We even eat pie at the end our meetings!

Flo Larson
Chair of Leadership Development Committee
Thanks to the generosity of our community, the Homer Community Food Pantry (HCFP) continues to provide food and emergency assistance, with compassion, to an increasing number of people seeking our services. The last year showed greater than 20% increase in both contributions and expenditures. This means that we are seeing increasing generosity at a time of growing need. The Homer Foundation is an important collaborator in helping us meet this growing need.

The food the HCFP provides comes from varied sources. Safeway and Save-U-More provide weekly donations of perishable foods. Other donations come from canned food drives such as the Coast Guard’s Haunted Hickory, the Safeway holiday food drive, and many other community contributions which help immensely. Along with these generous donations, food purchases still exceed half of the yearly HCFP expenditures. Scores of volunteers help prepare and distribute the food each week. Many individuals, businesses, and various fundraisers provide funds to allow HCFP to meet the rising need in our community including a City of Homer Grant managed by the Homer Foundation.

However, while food is an obvious and tangible need, behind the scenes, the HCFP also provides emergency assistance to those having trouble paying rent, utilities, or medical expenses. Our volunteers interact with other local nonprofits to leverage assistance. The Homer Foundation manages the Homer Community Chest fund, whose grants directly go to help the HCFP emergency non-food assistance program. There are many people in our community who skip meals, decide what bills they can and cannot pay, forgo medical treatment, and are homeless or on the edge of homelessness. The Homer Foundation is a compassionate partner with the HCFP in helping address this need.

The Homer Community Food Pantry (HCFP)

Last year the Homer Foundation distributed $24,463.48 to the Homer Community Food Pantry.
True to its goal of connecting generosity to community need, the Homer Foundation has given an enthusiastic boost of confidence and monetary support to the Fireweed Frescoes, the new instrumental music program in the kindergarten to second grades at Fireweed Academy. There is a rising tide of youth music happening in Homer right now, partially thanks to grants awarded by the Homer Foundation, which allowed us to purchase enough violins so that each of our students has an instrument to play.

This is the latest addition to youth music programs in the Homer area. Recognizing the need to provide more opportunities for young musicians to play and perform and to help raise up new musicians who might go on to participate in the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra—the late Sally Kabisch and Lisa Whip began Homer’s first youth ensemble music program, the Homer Youth String Orchestra Club (HYSOC). For more than a decade, volunteers have led the group, which began with rehearsals at the Homer Middle School.

Because of this vision, youth music has grown exponentially among young people aged 5 to 18.

❖ HYSOC has grown to include three ensembles, based upon age and experience, with frequent collaborations among the musicians and scholarships available for participants in need.

❖ The Preludes program at Paul Banks Elementary School provides group violin instruction to all kindergarten and first graders during school and second grade students afterschool.

❖ The Frescoes program at Fireweed Academy provides all kindergarten through second grade students with violin instruction during school hours.

Together, these programs provide instruction, ensemble experience, and performance opportunities to nearly 250 young people annually. The music ripples out across the community.

From the beginning, the goal of these programs has not been to produce professional musicians but to help young people become better learners and better citizens. Research shows music instruction builds new pathways in the brain. Younger people develop executive skills like concentration and perseverance. Experience with ensemble playing and performance builds cooperation and empathy, helping us listen to others as we move about the world.

Keep your eyes open for upcoming ways to help, through the Prelude Program Spaghetti Feed, HYSOC’s Practice-a-thon, and house concerts offered by Fireweed Frescoes. The program will forever be grateful for the generous support from the Homer Foundation.
## 2019 Donations by Fund Type

### Unrestricted Fund
- Adam Porter  
  *In honor of Alice Porter*
- Alan Martin
- Allen Jantzi
- Allison Kelley  
  *Depth Perceptions Bodywork*
- Amazon Smile
- Andrea Steward
- Andy Haas & Terri Spigelmyer  
  *Haas & Spigelmyer Inc.*
- Angela Brock & Dave Ritchie  
  *Gabriel D. Ritchie*
- Ann Dixon
- Anne Shoup & Cathy & Mike McCarthy
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Anonymous
- Giving Tuesday
- Arlene Ronda
- Barbara Ryan-Baxter  
  *In honor of Wildheart the Giving Salmon*
- Beth Bowe  
  *Mark Yohnan*
- Betsy & David Lawer
- Beverley & Leo Nikora
- Bill & Dorothy Fry
- Bill & Roni Overway
- Bob Cole & Carol Swartz
- Bobby & Sharon Wilson
- Bobby Copeland & Michael McKinney
- Bonnie Jason & David Schneider & Family
- Carla Stanley
- Carol Comfort-Waldorf & Wally Waldorf
- Charles & Nancy Evans
- Charles Landmesser
- Chris & Pat Moss  
  *Maritime Enterprises*
- Christie & Ty Gates
- Christina Demetro & Eric Mouffe
- Christine Caffee  
  *Claudia Caffee*
- Christopher & Linda Robinson
- Claudia Haines & Steve Glasman
- Clayton & Michelle Smith
- Clyde Boyer & Vivian Finlay
- Curt & Lorna Olson
- Dale & Dianne Spence-Chorman
- Debbie & Jack Oudiz
- Deborah Poore & Charlie Gibson
- Denice & Roger Clyne
- Denise & Gordon Fitzman
- Diane & Mike McBride  
  *Kachemak Wilderness Lodge*
- Diane Kaplan  
  *Rasmuson Foundation*
- Don Reed & Janie Leask
- Donald & Mary Sanders
- Doug & Sandy Stark
- Doug Johnson  
  *Best Western Bidarka Inn*
- Dr. Keith & Sally Brownsberger
- Duffy Clarke
- Elaine Grantier
- Eleanor Andrews
- Emmitt & Mary Trimble  
  *Coastal Realty*
- Eric & Jennifer Waltenbaugh
- Flo Larson
- Floyd Shilanski
- Francis Ulmer
- Ginny Espenshade
- Giving Salmon
- Gray Jacobik
- Guy Rosi
- Helyn Schoepke  
  *IBM*
- Jackie Norvell
- James & Brenda Dolma
- Janie & Jim Buncak  
  *Classic Cook*
- Jeanne & Kevin Walker
- Jennifer Medley
- Jill & Fabian Wimkar
- Jillian Lush
- Jim Rowe & Luana Stovel
- Jinky Handy
- Jo & Peter Michalski
- Joe & Diane Svymbersky  
  *Pacific Sun Charters*
- John & Rika Mouw
- John Rummery  
  *All Seasons Honda*
- Joseph & Paula Martin
- Joyanna Geisler
- Joyce Robinette
- Julia Clymer & Karl Stoltzfus
- Julie & Dave Derry  
  *The Executive Suite*
- Karen Berger & Steve McCasland  
  *Homer Brewing Co.*
- Kate & Patrick Henry
- Katherine Smith
- Kathryn Carssow
- Kathy Hill
- Katie Gavenus
- Ken Taylor
- Laura Passic
- Laura Patty & Gary Thomas
- Law Offices of Lindsay Wolter
- Lee & Sandy McDaniel
- Lindsay Wolter & Jedd Fonkert
- Lolita Brache & Jane Miles
- Mark & Cat Larrea Mcdermott
- Marlene & Michael Fitzette
- Martha Briscoe
- Mary Frische & Tom Collopy  
  *Wild North Photography*
- Matt & Rebecca Clarke
- Maxine & Dave Weber
- Maynard & Mari-Anne Gross
- Michael & Catherine McCarthy
- Michael Gracz
- Michael Hiller
- Mike Navarre  
  *Rasmuson Foundation*
- Mike Pate  
  *In memory of Kathy Pate*
- Miranda Weiss & Bob Shavelson
- Nadya Klingel & Mel Strydom  
  *The Grog Shop*
- Nancy Chastain
- Nancy Lord & Ken Castner
- Nell & Rich Gustafson
- Nina Kemppel  
  *Alaska Community Foundation*
- Patrick Ahern
- Paul & Tina Seaton
- Paula & Joe Martin
- Pauli & Harmon Hall
- Philemon Morris
- R & M Consultants
- Rachel Lord
- Rita Ramirez & Tom Bodett
- Ruby & Tim Haigh
- Sandy & Dennis Rollins
- Saundra Hudson & Chris Perk
- Scott & Cathie Ulmer
- Shirley Fedora & Bill Palmer
- Sofia Fouquet
- Stephanie & Ian Fitzman  
  *Fortune Sea LLC*
- Steve & Chris Theno
- Steve & Noko Yoshida
- Stu Schmutzler & Joy Steward
- Sue & Lee Post  
  *The Homer Bookstore*
- Sue Mauger
- Sue Wohlgemuth & Ken Landfield
- Support Vessels of Alaska
- Susan Oesting  
  *Seymour Fine Arts*
- Susan Saupé
- The Clarius Group LLC.  
  *Mike & Mary Fell*
- The Grog Shop
- Tom & Lori Zitzmann
- Tom Kizia
- Tracy Asselin
- Victoria Lord
- William Harris  
  *Harris Sand and Gravel Inc.*

### Field of Interest Funds
- Brother Asaiah Bates Fund
- Michelle Wilson & Sean Hogan  
  *Cosmic Kitchen*
- Bill & Liz Johnson  
  *Teacher Education Scholarship Fund*
- Jane Magnuson  
  *In memory of Jane Cason*
- Kachemak Bay Marine Det 838
IRA Charitable Rollover Gifts

If you are 70½ years old or older, you can take advantage of a simple way to help charities like the Homer Foundation and receive tax benefits in return. You can give up to $100,000 from your IRA directly to a charity, without having to pay income taxes on the contribution. This can be accomplished with an IRA Charitable Rollover gift.

At some point, you have to withdraw money from your IRA. Once you turn 70½, you must take a required minimum distribution (RMD) each year from your IRA, and the RMD amount increases with your age. You are taxed on the RMD at ordinary income tax rates, as opposed to lower capital gains tax rates. And if you do not take your full RMD, you may be subject to a tax penalty.

The Benefits of an IRA Charitable Rollover gift.
An IRA Charitable Rollover gift offers several benefits. Because the transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, you benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions. This is especially relevant beginning this year, since the standard deductions have been increased, making itemized deductions less appealing.

How do you make an IRA Charitable Rollover gift?
The process is simple. All you need to do is instruct your IRA custodian to make a distribution from your IRA directly to the charity or charities of your choosing. Your IRA custodian should include your name and address, as well as any specific instructions you have for the use of the gift, along with the payment. We are happy to prepare a letter of instruction for you to send to your IRA custodian.

What is an IRA Charitable Rollover gift?
An IRA Charitable Rollover gift is a distribution from your IRA that is paid directly to a charity of your choice. You cannot claim an itemized charitable deduction for this gift, but it is not included in your income and you pay no income taxes on it.
What Homer Foundation Offers Our Donors

The Homer Foundation helps connect your generosity with community needs you care about. Whether you’re giving to one of our many established funds or creating a fund to steward what you are passionate about, your gift creates a legacy of impact for generations to come.

We offer:

❖ Flexibility and Focus – You decide how, when and where to spend your money. The HF helps you transform your passions into action.
❖ Efficiency – Giving through HF reduces or eliminates the overhead, time and expense of running a private foundation.
❖ Financial Stewardship – We help you achieve maximum tax advantages and work with your financial advisors and attorneys to incorporate giving into your plans.
❖ Support and Leadership – HF staff and board help identify local needs, so your donations can make the greatest difference.

Through your generosity, we are building permanent philanthropic assets for our community.
Calling all Halibut Cove Live fans! You did not miss the dates for summer 2019 events. The marvelous venue, Quiet Place Lodge, underwent a re-decking this summer and could not host any events in 2019. Your hosts, Pauli and Harmon Hall, are excited for the coming year and cannot wait to show you what they’ve been up to! We are so grateful for their continued support.

Hold the Date
Mark your calendars for July 25th and 26th, 2020. Due to the timing of the tides and Alaska weather typical of later summer dates, we will be looking to host only one weekend of Halibut Cove Live next summer. Our hosts and staff are already planning next year’s events. We want to ensure we maintain the special experience of these events, and are creatively brainstorming ways to make this another memorable Halibut Cove weekend.

Halibut Cove Live continues to be our most important fundraiser and outreach activity. We look forward to presenting the 10th year of this unique event next summer.

Be sure to check halibutcovelive.com for further details.