



2025 Annual Report



Grays Harbor
Community Foundation



Message from our Executive Director

As a trusted community partner in the community for over 30 years, we have built relationships with many local partners to do good things for Grays Harbor. We are the connector between our donors and the organizations they wish to benefit within Grays Harbor County.

Through donor support, we ensure that our nonprofits have ample support through both funding and training opportunities. Through our granting programs we are able to meet the basic needs of our community, while also investing in projects that garner community spirit and pride.

All of our work in the community is a direct reflection of our kind and generous donors who care deeply about Grays Harbor. With close to 200 funds held at the Foundation, our donors have a wide variety of charitable wishes that we are able to help them accomplish with our deep knowledge of Grays Harbor and its current, and long-term needs.

With over \$3.8M total invested in Grays Harbor in 2025 and \$119M in assets, we continue to grow and give back to the community that gives so much to us. In partnership with our Board of Directors, we look forward to all the good we will continue to do together in 2026!

Sincerely,



Eric Potts, Executive Director



Financial Overview



Financials

Grant awards: \$3,543,558
Scholarship awards: \$1,184,500

Contributions: \$2,129,445
Investment Income: \$3,822,433

Operating Expenses: \$671,236

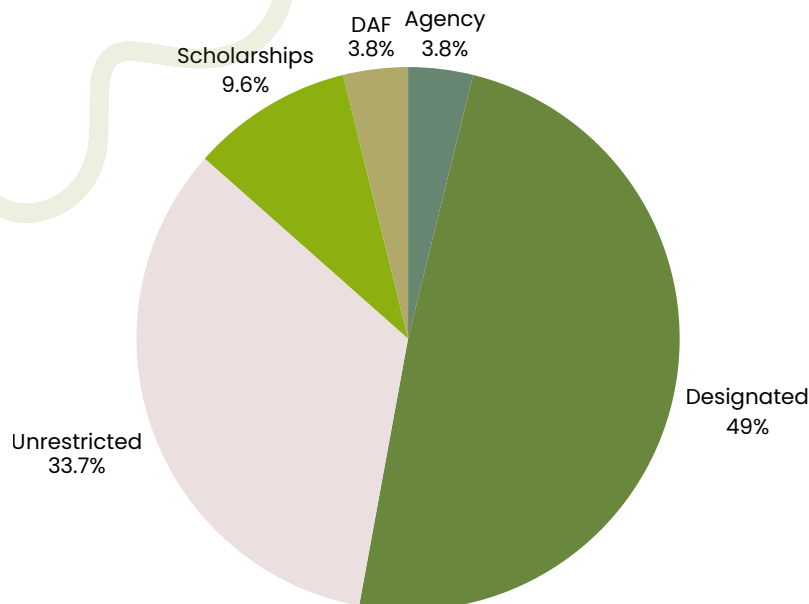
Total assets as of December 31, 2025:
\$119,767,679

Assets

2024
\$107 Million

2025
\$119 Million

Fund Portfolio



Return on Investment for Fundholders

15%

Individual donations in 2025

428

2025 Highlights



Graduate School Loan Program

The Foundation awarded 4 Graduate Loans to Grays Harbor graduates to further their education through Professional Degrees and Certifications. Loans are up to \$10,000 a year for a total of two years.



Vocational Scholarship Program

To respond to a growing demand for careers in the trades, we launched a brand new, year round scholarship program for students to receive funds to go into careers such as automotive technician, lineman school and beauty school.



Scholarship Fund Matching Program

To celebrate National Scholarship Month in November we created a program which matched 20% of every donation to a scholarship fund we received during the month up to \$10,000. We received \$200,640 from our generous donors to support several scholarship funds held at the Foundation and were able to create a handful of new scholarships. The Foundation matched \$40,128 to support the individual donations made throughout the month.



\$125,500 in After School Support

Hundreds of Grays Harbor students had a safe place to go after school thanks to our After School Fund. We supported 7 different schools through this grant cycle.

New Funds Created

- Steve Bove Memorial Athlete Scholarship Fund
- RFE Youth Scholarship Fund
- Daly Family Music and Arts Fund
- Herb Reiter Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Peyton Poler Sunshine Fund
- Eric Snell Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Peyton Poler Memorial Scholarship Fund
- John P. Anderson Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Jason Short Memorial Scholarship Fund



Grants Program

Grants Overview

In 2025, we awarded \$2.5M in grants through our granting programs. With several opportunities offered annually, we offer flexibility and consistency to our local granting partners each year.

Nonprofit organizations and school districts are eligible to apply annually. All organizations awarded funding are required to submit a six month progress report to continue to be considered for future funding opportunities.



Community Building

Offered twice annually for awards that range between \$5,000 - \$35,000. However, any requests outside of that range can be discussed with our office prior to submittal.



Impact Grants

Offered quarterly for grants up to \$5,000. This program targets organizations looking to make a more immediate impact on a smaller scale.



After School Grants

Designed for elementary school programs, an average grant is around \$10,000. All school districts within Grays Harbor County are eligible to apply once annually.

Fun Facts



Average Community Building Grant

\$25,000



Top Funded Giving Priority
Education



Grant cycles per year

8



Largest Grant Award

\$38,000

2025 Grants Program

91

GRANTS AWARDED
THROUGH GRANT
CYCLES

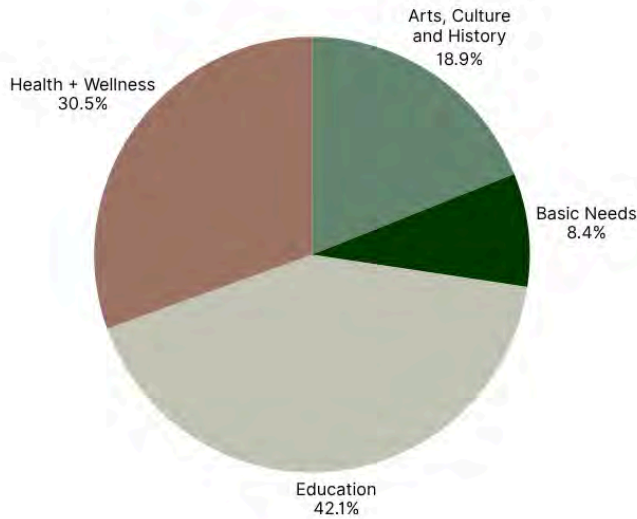
\$38,000

LARGEST GRANT AWARD

\$2.5M

AWARDED TO
NONPROFITS AND
SCHOOLS

Awards by Giving Priority



Award Percentage



8

GRANT CYCLES

\$125,500

IN AFTER SCHOOL
GRANTS

70

DONOR ADVISED
FUND GRANTS

Grant Funding in Action

Foundation awards \$25,000 grant to Oakville Little League

Last year, Oakville Little League received a \$25,000 Community Building Grant from the Grays Harbor Community Foundation to replace backstops at both of their fields. Without replacing these back stops, the committee felt they would be jeopardizing the safety and usefulness of this facility. In the past, volunteers had done their best to patch things together and strengthen the existing structure but they were at a juncture where that is no longer possible.



The project was completed just in time for the 2026 season and they wrote to us:

"We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with you. The backstops look fantastic and arrived just in time for our 2026 Spring season. Oakville Little League appreciates everything you have done for us and your continued support of the community."



We hope many kids and families enjoy afternoons at the ballpark for many years to come!

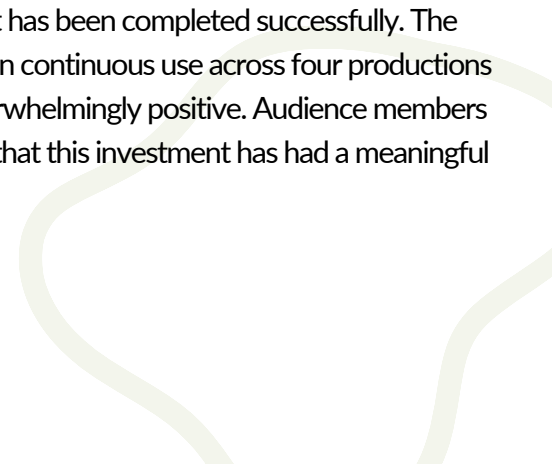
Grays Harbor Community Foundation Awards \$30,000 to Driftwood Players for Sound System Upgrades

Last February, the Foundation awarded the Driftwood Players a \$30,000 Community Building Grant to replace their sound system. The project cost just over \$80,000 with the theatre contributing the rest of the funds.

Prior to this project, the Driftwood Players Theatre was operating with an audio system that had been in place since the organization took ownership of the building in 1982. The aging equipment was becoming increasingly unreliable and limited the types of productions the theatre could effectively stage.

Since the installation was completed in September 2025, the new system has been used in four productions, and the difference in quality has not gone unnoticed. Patrons have brought the improvement in sound quality to the attention of the Driftwood Players numerous times throughout the current season.

Director, Brad Duffy commented: "The Driftwood Players sound system upgrade project has been completed successfully. The installation was finished in September 2025, on schedule, and the new system has been in continuous use across four productions with a fifth — Matilda — opening in May 2026. The feedback from patrons has been overwhelmingly positive. Audience members have repeatedly commented on the dramatic improvement in sound quality, confirming that this investment has had a meaningful impact on the theatre experience."



Grant Funding in Action

Foundation Awards North River School District \$15,000 Grant For Music Program

Last year, the Foundation awarded North River School District a \$15,000 grant to purchase new instruments for their music program.

North River School, a small preK-12 district with just 52 students, was really looking to spark joy and interest in their students through music, but was unable to expand their instrument selection due to funding. We recently received this update on their program and outlook for the upcoming school year:

"We were able to purchase instruments through the West Music Company. This included many beautiful barred instruments, new Tubano drums, a huge variety of unpitched percussion instruments (that the kids went crazy about!), enough ukuleles that all my students are now able to play, as well as a ukulele rack and covers for my barred instruments to keep them in good shape for years to come. Mallets to play the barred instruments were also a part of my purchase.

Without the Grays Harbor Foundation, my project simply would not have come to be. Because of the Gray Harbor Foundation, the students at North River School, who do not have the opportunities that students at bigger schools have, are able to have a music program that is uniquely their own."

Foundation Provides Grant for Unified Sports Program in Elma

In 2025, the Foundation awarded a grant to Elma School District to replicate a nationwide model here locally for a Unified Sports program. Unified Sports is dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences. Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual or developmental disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding.

Late last year, Elma hosted its first Unified Sports basketball game vs. Hoquiam to a packed gym. Elma High School's Special Education teacher, Crystal Stanley commented of the grant award: "We ordered 100% of the uniforms and sports gear needed for Unified Basketball, so every athlete will be properly outfitted. We are so grateful for the support of the Foundation and hope to grow this program county-wide in the future."

At the Foundation, we love to support projects that bring people together and celebrate pride in our schools and our community. So thank you to Elma School District for bringing this wonderful program to Grays Harbor!



Grant Recipients

1st Cycle Community Building Grants

Summit Pacific Medical Center- MRI Machine
Lake Quinalt School District- School Signage
Montesano Community Center- Building Repairs
Catholic Community Services- Feed the Hungry Program
Master Gardeners of Grays Harbor and Pacific County- Greenhouse Replacement
7th Street Kids- Sound System Upgrade
The Bridge Music Project- Workshops for Grays Harbor Youth
Montesano Little League- Field Upgrades
Driftwood Players- Sound System Upgrades
Elma School District- Empowering Diverse Learners Program
Twin Harbor Skill Center-Industry Upgrades
McCleary School District- Outdoor Facility Upgrades
Beyond Survival- Support Groups
Pacific Education Institute- Lake Quinalt Field STEM Program
Harvest Against Hunger- Supporting Grays Harbor Food Systems
Wishkah Valley School District- After School Program
Pediatric Interim Care Center- Infant Withdrawal Program
7th Street Theatre- Marquee/Ticket Booth Upgrades
Morningside- Pre- Employment Transition Program
North River School District- Music Education Program
Hoquiam Elks- Roof Replacement
Harbor Youth Soccer- Bishop Complex Field Improvements
Olympic Area on Aging- Senior Support Fund

2nd Cycle Community Building Grants

Aberdeen School District- Sensory Spaces for Elementary Schools
Bobcat Booster Club- AHS Sports Medicine Trailer
Elma PTA- Elementary School Basketball Hoops
Elma Wrestling Club- Wrestling Mats
ESD 113- Elma School Based Health Program
City of Ocean Shores- North Bay Park Upgrades
Grays Harbor Conservation District- Student Food Project
Grays Harbor Public Health- Mobile Medical Unit Van
Family Promise of Grays Harbor- Family Support Funding
North Beach School District- Bleacher Project
Montesano Community Center- Senior Meals
Oakville Little League- Backstop and Field Upgrades
Sharon Grange- Building Upgrades
Union Gospel Mission- Friendship House
Ocean Shores Methodist Church- Master Gardeners Food Program
City of Aberdeen- Pioneer Park Turf Project
Hands on Childrens Museum- Field Trips and After School Programming
Adventist Community Services- HVAC System
Montesano School District- ActiveEngage Boards
Hoquiam VFW- Facility Upgrade
Camp Victory- Operational Support for Childhood Survivors
Mayday Foundation- Family Support Fund
Grays Harbor Foursquare Church- Night to Shine Event
Big Brothers Big Sisters- Grays Harbor Youth Mentoring

1st Quarter Impact Grants

Catholic Community Services- Feed the Hungry Program
Camp Victory- Training Resources to Provide Support for Childhood Survivors
Aberdeen School District- Cheer Team Competition Mat
Chehalis Basin Fisheries Taskforce- Educational Field Trips
Aberdeen Rotary Foundation- Log Pavillion Audio/Visual Upgrade
Grays Harbor District Court- Therapeutic Court
Grays Harbor Historical Seaport- Longboat U.S. Coast Guard Certification

2nd Quarter Impact Grants

Saron Lutheran Church- Boots for Bears
Adventist Community Services of Grays Harbor- Building Repairs
Back to School Marketplace- School Supplies for Grays Harbor Children
Hoquiam Food and Clothing Bank- Summer Meals for Children
City of Aberdeen Parks Department- Bishop Complex Scorebooth
City of Ocean Shores- North Bay Park Baseball Field Upgrades
Oakville Little League- Concession Stand Upgrades
Stage West Community Theatre- Theatre Seating Upgrades
Coastal Interpretive Center- New Shed Replacement
Coastal Community Action Program- Critical Medical Incident Response
McCleary School District- Wildcat Care Closet

3rd Quarter Impact Grants

Bobcat Booster Club- AHS Track and Field Warm Ups
Elma Youth Basketball League- Basketball Gear
Hoquiam Beautification Team- Cement Foundation for Play Structure
Montesano School District- Content Rich Acquisition Project
North Beach PAWS- Technology Upgradess
Sharon Grange- Kitchen Repairs
South Beach Parks and Recreation- Community Center Weatherization

4th Quarter Impact Grants

Beyond Survival- Kitchen Repairs
Elma Girls Softball Boosters-Infield Restoration Project
InvestED- Grays Harbor InvestED
Pacific Northwest Music Projecy- Kurt Cobian Tribute Gallery Signage
South Sound Parent to Parent- Support Groups
The ARC of Grays Harbor- Healthy Relationships

After School Grants

YMCA Harbor After School
Montesano School District
Aberdeen School Distrct



Scholarship Program

Scholarship Overview

In 2025, we invested over \$1M in scholarships to students pursuing further education through our scholarship and loan programs. Our criteria to apply is, you need to have either graduated from a Grays Harbor high school or currently reside in Grays Harbor County.



Scholarship Program

Open annually January 1 - March 1. All awards are eligible for an additional three years of renewal, with awards ranging from \$1,000 - \$20,000 per year for students attending both undergraduate and trades programs.



Vocational Program

This program is open March - December annually and is designed for students studying the trades. An average award is \$2,000.



Graduate Loan Program

For students working towards obtaining professional degrees that graduated from a Grays Harbor high school or currently reside in Grays Harbor. Up to \$10,000 per year for a total of 2 years.

Fun Facts



Largest Scholarship Award

\$20,000



Total Graduate Loans in 2025

4



Total Years of Scholarship Eligibility

4



Number of Scholarship Funds

86

2025 SCHOLARSHIPS

\$1,055,750 Awarded
410 Awards



Average Award

\$2,800



New Awards

220



Renewal Awards

190

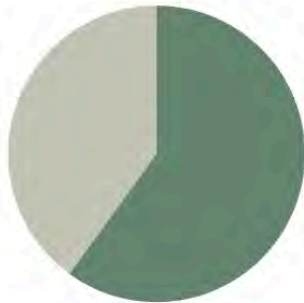


Vocational Studies

25%

of new students

Household Income



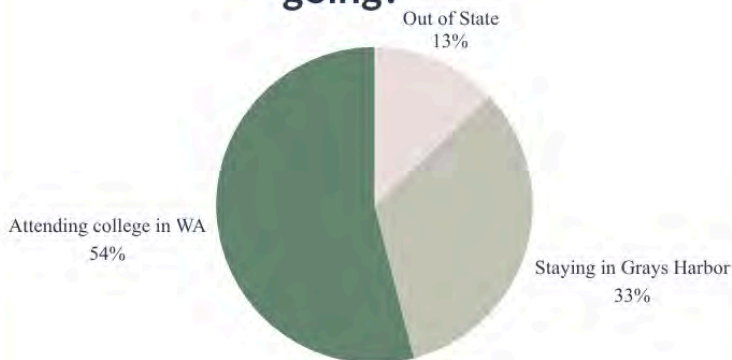
89%

below \$150,000

11%

above \$150,000

Where are students going?

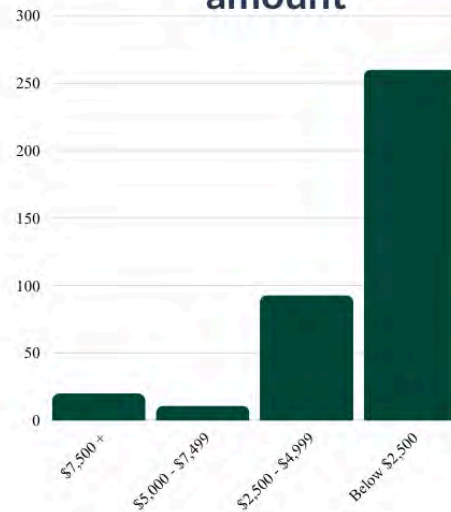


Out of State
13%

Attending college in WA
54%

Staying in Grays Harbor
33%

Scholarship award by amount



Top College Majors

1. Nursing
2. Education
3. Criminal Justice
4. Business
5. Dental Hygiene

Top Schools Attending

1. Grays Harbor College
2. University of Washington
3. Washington State University
4. Central Washington University
5. Western Washington University

A Look At Our Students

Willobelle Valentine Receives \$7,500 A.M. and May Abel Memorial Scholarship from Grays Harbor Community Foundation to pursue Greek and Roman Archaeology Degree

Willobelle Valentine, a Montesano Class of 2025 graduate, set out to embark on a new, exciting chapter in life last fall when she went to study at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa shortly after graduating.

Throughout her high school career Willobelle was on the varsity swim and track and field teams as well as participated in dance and music all while maintaining straight A's throughout her high school career.

She said of her recent award, "I am extremely grateful for the incredible opportunities that the A.M. and May Abel Memorial Scholarship provide to me for my future. Thanks to the Grays Harbor Community Foundation I am able to pursue my career studying Greek and Roman Archaeology in the Mediterranean. I will be studying at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa with the Honors Program to earn my BA and MA in the next three years. All of the educational programs that I may pursue in my future are supported by this incredible scholarship, thank you again to the Grays Harbor Community Foundation."

Congrats, Willobelle! Your community will be cheering you on from afar!



Lake Quinault 2025 Graduate Zachary Leavitt Receives Aaron Thomas Dineen Memorial Scholarship

Aaron Thomas Dineen grew up with a love of the outdoors. During his summers throughout high school Aaron worked at The Cotton Wood Ranch and Rognlin's. After graduating from Hoquiam High School in 2005, Aaron went to Volta lineman school in Warrington, Oregon and was living in Southern California finishing up his apprenticeship.

He was working for Diversified Utility Services, Inc. He had also worked for Mountain Power and PAR Electric and was a member of IBEW #1245 (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers).

He was living out his dreams when an industrial accident took his life at just 21 years old. Aaron was an amazing man who was full of life, inspiration and had many dreams. His family created the Aaron Thomas Dineen Memorial Scholarship to support local students pursuing the trades. This year's recipient is Zachary Leavitt.

Growing up in Lake Quinault, Zach has a love of the outdoors and working with heavy equipment. His grandpa helped shape his current career path of becoming a heavy equipment field mechanic by teaching him a lot about how things work and how to fix things. He said of the award: "I am very appreciative of this award, if I would have not got this it would have been difficult to finish my AT in Diesel Technology. This award will allow me to take my CDL class and my welding class. "

Congrats, Zach! We look forward to following your journey!



Foundation Leadership



Board and Staff

Our Officers

- Molly Bold, Chair, Westport Business Manager, Port of Grays Harbor (Westport)
- Mike Sand, Vice Chair, Retired President & CEO, Timberland Bank (Hoquiam)
- George Donovan, Secretary, Real Estate Developer, Owner, Barrier West (Aberdeen)
- Wes Peterson, Treasurer, Retired Exec Director, Grays Harbor College Foundation (Aberdeen)

Elected Members

- Bill Stewart, Attorney, Stewart & Stewart (Montesano)
- Dr. Donald J. Arima, Retired Dentist (McCleary)
- Dr. Ed Brewster, Retired President, Grays Harbor College (Aberdeen)
- Judith Davis, Retired, League of Women Voters of Washington (Hoquiam)
- Erin DenAdel, CPA, Inspire Advisors (Aberdeen)
- Lynn Green, Superintendent, Aberdeen School District (Aberdeen)
- Tim Martin, President & General Manager, Harbor Pacific (Elma)
- Tom Quigg, Broker, Windermere Realty (Aberdeen)
- Kathryn Skolrood, Retired Finance Director, Grays Harbor PUD (Hoquiam)
- Mark Stensager, Retired Healthcare Executive (Aberdeen)
- Mike Stoney, Easter and Stoney (Elma)
- Rich Vroman, Attorney, Ingram, Zelasko, Goodwin (Aberdeen)
- Maryann Welch, Retired Director, Grays Harbor County Health (Montesano)

Emeritus Members

- Stan Pinnick, Retired Superintendent, North Beach School District (North Beach)
- Todd Lindley, Certified Financial Planner, Pillar Financial Group (Olympia)
- Randy Rust, Retired Owner, Westport Shipyards (Westport/Grayland)

Staff Members

- Eric Potts, Executive Director
- Jessica Hoover, Senior Program Officer
- Valerie Piper, Finance and Accounting Officer
- Lyndsie Winter, Operations and Program Assistant



Donor Stories

Larger Than Life: Eric Snell Vocational Scholarship, Supporting Local Students Going into the Trades

It would be hard to meet a person on the harbor who doesn't recognize the Snell Crane logo. Eric Snell, the founder of Snell Crane was truly larger than life. A hometown guy that built up a family business, knew how to work hard and have fun.

A lifelong Aberdeen resident, Eric started working at Rognlin's the day after graduating from high school, following in his father's footsteps in carpentry and the construction trade. He always had a passion for cranes and purchased a boom truck, from there Snell Crane was born.

Eric took his small-town values and built something big that now gives local individuals a steady career to provide for their families and generations to come. Combined with his likeable demeanor and his loving wife and children by his side, Snell Crane has been in business for 30 years. In addition to Snell Crane, Eric was passionate about his second business, Doc Manufacturing, a patented high-rise material hoisting system that he named after his father, Doc Snell.

His daughter Haley remembers him as a devoted father, husband, son and friend. She said "He never met a stranger, only friends he hadn't gotten to know yet. His phone was always ringing, his calendar full, and his heart wide open."

Eric saw the value in hard work and having the ability and skill set to get the job done. His family created the Eric Snell Vocational Scholarship for local students going into the construction trades.

This scholarship is supported by the International Union of Operating Engineers,, Coastal Steel Inc., Emery + Karrigan, Corona Steel Inc., Rognlins Inc. and other generous supporters.



Peyton Poler Memorial Scholarship: Forever spreading light through her legacy of joy

We all can think of someone that lights up a room, just by being in it. That is what Peyton Poler did everywhere she went. Whether it was into her home, school, fastpitch field or into her beloved second grade classroom at Rainier Elementary, Peyton shined like the star she was.

Growing up in a large and loving family, Peyton fell in love with sports at a young age. Fastpitch was her favorite and you would be hard pressed to find someone in town that doesn't remember her signature braids behind the plate as catcher, leading her team to three state championships throughout her high school years.

She went on to play in college where she developed another love- teaching. Loved by all her second grade students at Rainier Elementary School, her classroom was a haven of patience, curiosity, and respect. She was adored by all her students (22 in her inaugural class and 18 in her second year).

To teach was Peyton's calling in life, and she managed to do that both in the classroom and on the field. While in college, she coached multiple youth soccer and fastpitch teams in the Puget Sound area, and she remained a frequent mainstay in Monte dugouts, instilling a legacy of passion, hard work, and integrity in all who played for her.

Peyton loved others with reckless abandon and to honor her amazing life, her family set up the Peyton Poler Memorial Fund to help Montesano and Rainier graduates achieve their educational and career aspirations.

Peyton's father Steve said of creating the scholarship fund: "Peyton's scholarship fund allows us to support two things Peyton loved. The communities she grew up in and taught in and the students from those communities to support them in chasing their dreams. The fund is a great way for us to honor her legacy in those communities."



Our Funds

DESIGNATED FUNDS

After School Program Fund
Bob and Marilyn Wiggins Fund
Building Community Philanthropy Fund
Camp Bishop Fund
Cancer Care Fund
Community Emergency Fund
Dorothy Hoogeveen Memorial Fund
Elizabeth Passick Fund
Eldon Bargewell Memorial Fund
Elma Graduate Loan Fund
Friends of Highland Park fund
Fund for Public Art
Gladys Phillips Cultural Tours Fund
Grays Harbor Poggie Club Fund
Homeless Youth Education Fund
Dr. John F. and Ella Mae Daly Memorial Fund
John Bickar Hoquiam Youth Sports Memorial Fund
Katherine Sherk Fund
Keith and Carol Krueger Fund for 7th Street Kids
Larner Family Fund
Margaret Cross Murdach Fund
Marjorie Johnson Fund
Marian J. Weatherwax Fund for Aberdeen School District
Marian J. Weatherwax Fund for Aberdeen Timberland Library
Olympic Stadium Endowment Fund
Marian J. Weatherwax Fund for Grays Harbor College Foundation
Marian J. Weatherwax Fund for United Way of Grays Harbor
Marian J. Weatherwax Fund for YMCA of Grays Harbor
Michael McKay Friends of the Aberdeen Public Library
Paul Oskamp Memorial Fund for Ocosta High School
Roger White Hoquiam Band Fund
South Beach Historical Society Education Fund
Ted and Elizabeth Bruener Fund
The Nelson Fund
Warren Food Bank Fund
Wayne D. and Wanda S. Ross Memorial Scholarship Fund
Westport Community Skatepark and Pump Track Fund
YMCA Maintenance Fund
YMCA Scholarship Fund

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Arima Family Fund
Betsy Seidel Volunteer Fund
Donald and Vera McCaw Family Fund
Dorothea and Hervey Lawrence Family Fund
Eric and Mary Nelson Fund
GHCF Staff Fund
Goldberg Family Fund
Harbor Pioneer Fund
John Hasbrouck Memorial Junior Golf Fund
Karen Messmer and Jim Lazar Fund
Kathleen and Patrick Quigg Fund
Lamb Family Fund
Mark and Debbie Stensager Fund
Peyton Poler Sunshine Fund
Tim Quigg Fund

Merc and Nina Boyer Family Fund
Oskamp Family Fund
Dr. Robert Mandich Family Fund

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Aaron Thomas Dineen Memorial Scholarship Fund
Aberdeen JM Weatherwax Alumni Fund
Aberdeen Lions Club Scholarship Fund
Alex Pugh Memorial Scholarship Fund
Alex and Suzanne Rosenkrantz Scholarship fund
American Veterans Home Association Scholarship Fund
Ardine Lewis Scholarship Fund
Arnold and Marianna Perttula Scholarship Fund
Associated Grandmother Clubs of Washington Inc. Scholarship Fund
Bob and Eva Aiken Memorial Scholarship Fund
C.H. Clemons Memorial Scholarship Fund
Dave DuPont Memorial Scholarship
David McKay Memorial Scholarship Fund
David Spanich Memorial Scholarship Fund
Del Giles Memorial Scholarship Fund
Dennis D. Wilson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Dick Tagman Memorial Scholarship Fund
Donald and Edna Wheaton Fund
Dorothea Parker Memorial Scholarship Fund
Dr. Donald Arima Scholarship Fund
Dr. Emmett and Dorothy Calhoun Scholarship Fund
Dr. James and Laura Baker Scholarship Fund
Dr. John C. and Else V. Korvell Memorial Scholarship Fund
Dr. Robert A. Mandich Scholarship Fund
Elizabeth and Stanley Oskamp Memorial Scholarship Fund
Eric Snell Memorial Scholarship Fund
Gary LaMoreaux Memorial Scholarship fund
Gleeson Scholarship Fund
Great Northwest Federal Credit Union Scholarship Fund
Edd and Annie Hodges Memorial Scholarship Fund
Herb Reiter Memorial Scholarship Fund
Hoquiam High School Class of 1965
Hoquiam Rotary Scholarship Fund
HR Wines Scholarship Fund
Irish Heritage Club of Grays Harbor
International Mermaid Museum Scholarship Fund
Jack Prince Memorial Scholarship Fund
Jason Short Memorial Scholarship Fund
Jeanne Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund
Jeanette DeYoung Mowe Scholarship Fund
Jeri Bell Memorial Scholarship Fund
John P. Anderson Memorial Scholarship Fund
John R. James Memorial Scholarship Fund
Julie Daniels Memorial Art Scholarship Fund
Karl M. Koch Memorial Scholarship Fund
Kathryn and George Wandel Memorial Scholarship Fund
Keith and Nancy Rattie Scholarship Fund
Ken Miller Memorial Scholarship Fund
Knight Family Scholarship Fund
L. George Pauze Scholarship Fund
Leon and Winifred Gowan Memorial Scholarship Fund
Lou Messmer Scholarship Fund
Lyle Lancaster Memorial Scholarship Fund
Lyle Laughead Memorial Scholarship Fund
Mark P. Bryan Scholarship Fund

Mary Lou Chalberg Memorial Fund
Merc and Nina Boyer Family Scholarship Fund
Miles Zepp Memorial Scholarship
Montesano High School Class of 2018 Scholarship Fund
North each Youth Education Fund
North River Community Scholarship Fund
Novak Family Scholarship Fund
Officer Donald M. Burke Scholarship Fund
Pennie Coffey Memorial Women's Scholarship
Pauline and John Campbell Engineering Scholarship
Peter and Sally Hegg Memorial Scholatship
Peyton Poler Memorial Scholarship Fund
RYE Youth Scholarship Fund
Richard and Patricia Hole Scholarship Fund
Ron and Andy Holm Memorial Scholarship
Ronni Dhooge Memorial Scholarship Fund
Robert Hood Memorial Scholarship Fund
Roger White Scholarship Fund
Ruth Boeholt Memorial Book Scholarship Fund
Scott A. Ferguson Scholarship Fund
Scott A. Weatherwax Memorial University of Puget Sound Scholarship Fund
Steve Bove Memorial Scholarship Fund
Sue Dixon Memorial Scholarship fund
Sue Hunt Scholarship Fund
Todd J. Lindley Family Scholarship
United Finnish Kaleva Brothers and Sisters Aberdeen Lodge #9 Scholarship Fund
VFW Veterans Heritage Scholarship Fund
Warren Family Scholarship Fund
Westby Family Fund
Westport Shipyard National Scholarship Fund

AGENCY FUNDS

7th Street Kids Scholarship Fund
Camp Victory Fund
Hoquiam Rotary Club
McCleary Historical Society Endowment Fund
Temple Beth Israel Fund
Friends of Lake Sylvia and Shafer State Park Fund

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Abel-Weatherwax Family Fund
Agency Matching Fund
Bob and Marilyn Wiggins Fund
Early Learning Fund
Marian J. Weatherwax Fund
Raymond S. Kauders Memorial Fund
Small Grants Fund
Warren Family Fund
Weatherwax Family Grants Fund
Weatherwax Family Scholarship Fund

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Daly Family Music and Arts Fund
Keith and Carol Krueger Fund

How to get involved

How does a community foundation work?

In general, the concept of a community foundation is as ingenious as it is simple. It is a means to build over time, a substantial amount of endowment funds for a community through contributions both large and small. Specifically, the Grays Harbor Community Foundation has been serving Grays Harbor since 1994. We serve as a means through which those of us who care deeply about our community and have the ability to give, can pool our resources together for the benefit of improving the quality of life in Grays Harbor.

Simplicity



A gift to GHCF will simplify your charitable giving. You can be specific about what causes or charities you would like to give to and we can take care of logistics.



Flexibility

GHCF has the responsibility to be aware of needs in the community. You can create the fund based on your passions and we can seek out the projects in the community that best align with your intentions.

Tax Benefits



GHCF is a public charity under federal tax law. Thus, gifts to us qualify for maximum tax deductibility for income, gift and estate tax purposes.

We encourage all levels of giving

Establishing a fund is quick and easy. You just need to have a minimum contribution of \$5,000 and we can set your fund up to last in perpetuity and grow while being pooled with our over \$80M in assets.

Fund types



Endowment Agency Donor Advised Scholarship Designated

Can others give to my fund?

Of course! We have several funds where multiple family members and/or friends give to the same fund to honor their loved ones annually.

How can you continue to support your fund for the future?

Your fund will be invested with all of our assets and managed professionally. You can also create a legacy gift through designating the Foundation in your will. The value of the bequest will not be subject to estate taxes. Your gift will continue your vital involvement in the future lives of Grays Harbor County citizens while also significantly reducing estate taxes so your heirs benefit.



705 J. Street/ Hoquiam, WA 98550
(360) 532-1600/eric@gh-cf.org
www.gh-cf.org

What happens next?

Discuss your overall philanthropic goals with your family members and legal or tax advisors.

Determine the organization/cause that will use your donation to meet the goals you support.

Decide how much you can afford to give and what way you will choose to give.

Call us at (360) 532-1600 and we will meet with you to discuss the best fund type for your intentions and then prepare a fund agreement for you to review.

Share the fund agreement with your family and your professional advisors, then once comfortable, sign and return to our office.

Your fund is open. You may now begin transferring gifts to us at any time.

We will send you quarterly updates on your fund activity.

If desired, we will create a press release on your new fund to share with our community about your new fund and its intentions.

Qualified Charitable Distribution

How does a Qualified Charitable Distribution work?

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) allow you to instruct your IRA administrator to direct your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) (up to \$108,000 per year) to the Grays Harbor Community Foundation (donor advised funds do not qualify). Since the IRA distribution is sent directly to the charity through your plan administrator, the QCD is not reported as taxable income. This is a win-win option for donors who want to support nonprofits in a tax-advantaged way!

Benefits



Have immediate impact upon the greatest needs of Grays Harbor County, scholarships that serve our youth or any other grant-making initiatives of the Foundation.



Make a tax-free gift from your IRA that counts toward your RMD. Since QCDs reduce taxable income, a QCD can put you at a lower threshold for Medicare premiums.



QCDs allow you to receive a tax benefit regardless of whether you itemize or take the Standard Deduction.

What is the IRA Charitable Distribution and what are the benefits?

If you are age 70 ½ or older, you can transfer up to \$108,000 from your traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) directly to a charity. If you are 73 or older, the transfer counts towards your Required Minimum Distribution and allows you to avoid paying income tax on the distribution, while supporting your favorite charity or any fund at the Community Foundation that is not a Donor Advised Fund. Please consult your tax advisor regarding your specific situation.

What types of accounts require RMDs?

- Traditional IRA
- Simplified Employee Pension (SEP)
- SIMPLE IRA
- Employer-sponsored 401(k), 430(b) or 457

Who should consider an IRA Charitable Distribution?

- Individuals age 70 ½ or older who have more money in their IRA than needed for daily living expense and long-term care.
- Spouses who both have IRA accounts and don't need the income to support daily living expenses and long-term care. Each spouse can transfer up to \$108,000 from their IRA.
- Generous donors who may give more to charity than they can deduct in a tax-year because transfers from an IRA directly to a qualified charity are exempt from federal income taxes.
- Donors who regularly give a portion of their income to charity and do not itemize deductions.
- Individuals whose income from their required minimum distribution (RMD) will adversely affect the amount of Social Security income that is taxable.

What happens next?

Instruct your tax advisor to direct a QCD from your IRA to the Grays Harbor Community Foundation.

To ensure the Community Foundation directs your distribution as you wish, contact us at eric@gh-cf.org to tell us how you would like your gift to support the Community Foundation or other nonprofits of your choice.



Grays Harbor
Community Foundation

10 YEARS AT A GLANCE

2015 ASSETS
\$50 Million

2025 ASSETS
\$118 Million

↑ 136%

Funds Held in 2015

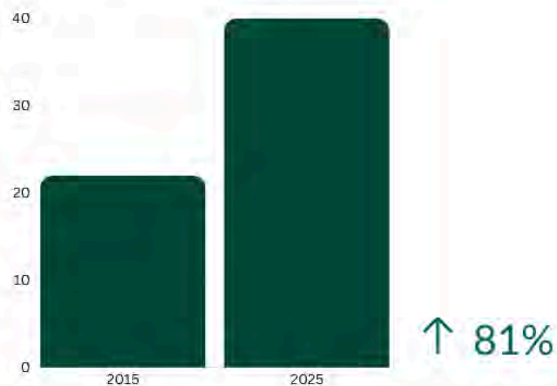
85

**120% increase in new
funds in the last
decade**

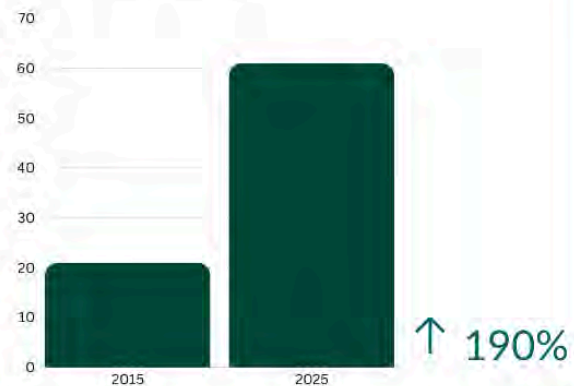
Funds Held in 2025

187

Unrestricted Assets



Designated Assets



New Programs Created Since 2015

- Community Building Grants
- Collaboration Grants
- Endowment Grant Program
- Quarterly Impact Grants
- Youth Philanthropy Project
- Scholarship Matching Program
- Youth Engagement Grants
- Capacity Building Grants
- Early Learning Grants
- Agency Endowment Matching Program
- Holiday Card Design Contest
- Nonprofit Appreciation Grants
- Staff Donor Advised Funds
- Executive Director Fund
- Emergency Grants





2025 Annual Report



Grays Harbor
Community Foundation