5 year report

creating

a legacy

of service

to southern oregonians
GORDON ELWOOD DOES NOT FIT THE PROFILE OF A PHILANTHROPIST. Rather, he was a
quirky and hard-working man who deprived himself and his family of most of life's comforts.
Although he loved cars and talked shop with car salesmen, he rarely drove his old Mercedes
because he didn't like to buy gasoline. Instead of bedding, he and his family slept in sleeping
bags, and they wore stocking caps to stay warm in an unheated house that had no telephone.
Curiously, it is his own deprivation that allowed him to eventually help others in need.

When Gordon was thirteen, he had his first job
delivering papers on a 13-mile route. As soon as
he began to make money his father expected him
to be responsible, productive and frugal.

Gordon built his fortune with his hands, his
intelligence and his economy. Doreen Keener
said her brother’s frugality and talent for saving
was inspired by their father giving them money
to invest in a grade school savings plan.

During World War II, Gordon’s father taught him how to repair clocks and radios. As television
grew in popularity, Gordon figured out how to repair them and for the next 40 years he
worked as a television repairman. He was proud that he could fix “almost anything.” After he
retired, Gordon made money scavenging for cans and bottles for their deposit. He lived on
that money and invested his social security checks.

[My parents] had me pay room and board as
soon as I got out to work. I had to help buy
my own food at home and my own bicycle for
the paper route. I also sold Liberty Magazines
right from the start — and I’ve been kind of a
workaholic ever since.

– Gordon Elwood
Concerned about preserving his savings from taxes, Gordon sought financial counsel. Bob Hutchins, Medford financial consultant, recalled his first meeting with Gordon. Among the usual brokerage clientele, Gordon was a conspicuous figure: tall, thin, usually sockless, dressed in dirty second-hand clothes with a bungee cord as a belt. His appearance alienated those around him. Hutchins, however, was not put off by this and invited him to come in and sit down. That encounter marked the beginning of a professional relationship and a friendship that spanned the rest of Gordon’s life.

Gordon’s daily routine during his last two years of life was to ride around Medford on a perfectly maintained 12-speed bicycle with his cat, Badger. They collected bottles and cans and occasionally stopped to buy day-old bread or pickup free, outdated milk from the dairy. He also enjoyed dropping by the bank for cookies. He was often seen feeding stray cats at the shopping center. Many people presumed Gordon was homeless.

His appearance affected the way Gordon was treated. Hutchins felt that peoples’ reaction to Gordon’s appearance and demeanor might have shortened his life. According to Hutchins, when Gordon sought medical care “he was treated like a bum.” Gordon didn’t get treatment early enough for what turned out to be prostate cancer. “My secretary and others took him to treatments and tried to help [but] it was too late.”

I think Gordon understood the incongruity in his life. Underneath, his whole life was a paradox. He was bright, and I think he was caring... His relationship to his kids wasn’t great. In Gordon’s own words he was a miser and that greatly affected his family. The dollars didn’t do them any good. But I know he was excited about the possibilities of doing some good in other peoples lives.

– Robert Hutchins

Jackson, Josephine, Klamath and Curry counties are home to successful youth and individuals, thriving families and communities. We leverage and invest talent and resources in southern Oregonians.
Prior to his diagnosis and just months before his death, Gordon asked Hutchins what he should do with all his money to avoid estate “death taxes.” After discussion, they initiated the Foundation that now bears his name. Gordon Elwood left behind a trust fund to assist his family and approximately $9 million dollars to benefit the community. At the first meeting of the Foundation Trustees, Gordon remarked:

It makes me feel good that I can help do something. I never really did anything for myself. Everyone is put on this earth to accomplish something, not just for their own self. I just seem to have a purpose — I guess maybe this must be it. Through this Foundation I feel like I have made my life worthwhile to others.

His generosity to those who will never be able to thank him is the impressive legacy of an eccentric man who lived in the margins. In its first five years, the Gordon Elwood Foundation has distributed over $1,000,000, creating opportunities for hundreds of people to help themselves.

**OUR VISION:**

**Youth and individuals thrive**

in school and in life.

**Individuals and families live**

independently and interdependently with dignity and respect.

**Communities evolve** as the situation of the people who live, work and play in these communities change over time.

**Youth, individuals, families**

and the organizations that serve them are connected creating a unique and sustainable community fabric.
Creating Gordon’s Legacy:  
THE LEADERSHIP JOURNEY

The Gordon Elwood Foundation began with one man’s desire to leave a legacy of hope to the community. During his last year of life, he formed a foundation and instructed his financial advisor to select a group of trustees. Bob Hutchins assembled a dynamic group of individuals, including business associates, community leaders and fellow Rotarians. Their diverse experiences, interests, expertise and strong opinions were the key ingredients needed to bring about and steward a new philanthropic foundation in southern Oregon. By the close of 1999, John Harmon, John Duke, Daniel Kosmatka, Jan Murphy, Stephanie Johnson, Burke Raymond and Mike Heverly had been appointed to create Gordon’s legacy.

Hutchins brought together a group of leaders who had a clear appreciation and respect for each other as well as the flexibility to learn a new way of working together.

Shortly before his death on October 8, 1999, Gordon met with his trustees. He knew that things were always evolving and he had the faith and respect in the people creating the Foundation to let them make decisions about the future. His philosophy was “things change and you have to go with that.” His expectation was simple, “do good.”

I was looking for people that were leaders and would say what they wanted to say, but would also listen.

– Robert Hutchins

Our Values:

We are inspired to demonstrate…

Financial Stewardship by creating from Gordon’s financial legacy a Foundation Vision and Mission supported by prudent investment and thoughtful disbursement of funds.

Social Stewardship by touching lives in a proactive and interactive manner.

Integrity by living the mission through employing strategies of patience, learning, teaching, compassion, caring, and love.

Investment in the Journey by thinking, acting, and committing resources to creating and sustaining the Gordon Elwood Foundation Values, Mission and Vision.

Individuality by being innovative.
The articles of incorporation outlined the geographic focus of the Foundation. Grant monies would be restricted to Jackson, Josephine, Curry and Klamath counties. During the first year the trustees solicited applications resulting in the disbursement of $60,000. James Maddux, a financial advisor and long time community leader, and Bob Hutchins, Gordon’s closest associate, were asked by trustees to serve on the Grants Committee and assist in funding recommendations. Even though Gordon died before the first awards were granted, his legacy was in the making.

With the first required allocations behind them, the trustees’ attention turned toward becoming an active community organization. They first hired a part-time manager to expedite procedures.

On October 18, 2000, a year after Gordon Elwood’s death, the Board hired Kathy Bryon. As part-time manager of the Foundation, she was charged with establishing procedures and guiding the education of the board. Bryon had a strong academic and experiential background in public education and public health, with emphasis on cultural diversity and organizational change. She brought 25 years of experience in non-profit leadership to the Foundation. Bryon set a tone of safety and open-mindedness that has always permeated the internal and external workings of the Foundation.

While we could bring our ideas and opinions to the table, we learned that they were not valid in philanthropy. They were valid in the business world, but not here. Making money is one thing, giving it away another. So we embarked on a process of learning.

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— John Harmon

Our program goals:

**Youth and Individuals**

Support children and individuals by providing access to the education and life skills they need to be successful in life.

Reduce obstacles to success in the classroom.

Reduce economic and cultural barriers to educational and training opportunities.

Create incentives for staying in school and achieving personal potential.

Increase youth and individual engagement with and sense of responsibility to the larger community.

Under Kathy’s guidance, there is no fear of judgment… In our meetings she brings out the intangible — things that quietly encourage us to speak our minds without any fear. When you leave you feel good about what you have done and you are never wondering if someone is second-guessing you.

— John Harmon
From the beginning, Bryon guided board meetings and committee meetings to focus on developing an atmosphere of trust and inquiry, allowing for possibilities to be openly discussed.

Bryon’s interest in creating collaborative processes and teams extended beyond board meetings. With the encouragement of the board she formed many alliances that continue to benefit the Foundation and community. One such relationship was forged with the Cow Creek Umpqua Indian Foundation (CCUIF). Executive director Martha Young shared CCUIF’s application form and Bryon and Young continued to work together coordinating the grant process. They used the same submission dates and combined site visits, streamlining the application process for all.

Through a series of planning retreats, the board agreed on shared values for the organization and clarified how these shared values would be demonstrated by the Foundation in the community. The mission statement and vision for southern Oregon followed.

At our planning retreats we do a lot of talking, trying to scout out things like values. We come to clarity partly because of Kathy’s ability to bring people together, to re-phrase, to work the group until there is consensus. We all agree that it is an incredible responsibility we have — to do the most with what we have.

— Jan Murphy

With this board, people can go into a meeting completely opposed to something and come out having voted for it with enthusiasm. They are willing to be open to new ideas.

— Bob Hutchins

Our Program Goals:

Individuals and Families

Provide access for adults and families to education, training and life skills they need to be successful in life.

Reduce obstacles to succeeding in the workplace or in higher education and training.

Reduce economic barriers to educational opportunities and training for self and family.
OUR PROGRAM GOALS:

COMMUNITY

Leverage resources to bring attention to community health & vitalization opportunities

Create opportunities for new thinking and innovative approaches on community issues

Partner with public and private funders for learning and achieving greater impact on community and regional issues.

Act as convener to surface underlying causes of community issues and the opportunity for creative resolution.

Trustees met each year in a different county to learn about the communities served by the Gordon Elwood Foundation. Interaction with grantees and community leaders brought the mission to life. In 2002, the meeting was held in Klamath County; in 2003 trustees met in Curry County, where twelve community leaders were invited to join in a lunch conversation with the board; and in 2004 they met in Josephine County.

The trustees also focused on community partnerships with the goal of leveraging resources and creating positive change and empowerment within the community. More time was designated for presentations from grantees and recipients at quarterly meetings to achieve these goals.

As the Foundation began to expand its reach throughout four counties in southern Oregon, the trustees grew and strengthened their intentions.

Over $1,000,000 has been awarded from the savings of a man who no one suspected would become a philanthropist. The Gordon Elwood Foundation has a seat on the Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Washington board of directors and is the convener of the Southern Oregon Grant Makers Affinity Group to leverage learning and giving in southern Oregon. The Foundation has been instrumental in bringing large groups of leaders together in Jackson and Curry counties to talk about healthcare, community assets and needs, as well as new methods of addressing complex community issues.

Part of what the trip to Curry County did was teach us that you need to take an integrated approach to meet real needs — You have to see what you are doing and how it fits into the whole. We all heard different things and through our discussions we realized that the problem wasn’t just one thing, there were multiple, ranked problems. It was the mix of listening and dialoguing that taught us.

– John Harmon
Sometimes it is overwhelming, knowing the need, wanting to make a positive difference. I know that if we make a difference in the life of one child, we have accomplished something...I still think about Gordon and what he believed in.

– Jan Murphy

As the Gordon Elwood Foundation evolves, the trustees remain committed to Gordon’s single request that they “do good.” The trustees keep the Foundation’s core values front-and-center at all times and require that their executive director challenge them to grow. They form a unique leadership group that uses a blend of compassion, humor, tenacity and demonstrated ability to successfully bring people and communities together for the common good.

The legacy of Gordon Elwood, a man so eccentric and scorned that he could not find adequate medical care or the respect of fellow citizens to look him in the eye, is perhaps a legacy of broadening awareness and understanding of those different from ourselves. It serves to inspire southern Oregonians to look deeper and try to do good for others. We are envisioning the community we want to live in.

Encouraging people to think in new ways is sometimes more important than money, so it is appropriate for the Gordon Elwood Foundation to support new thinking. We help to convene the Southern Oregon Grantmakers Affinity Group for funding organizations and we support the Building a Learning Community for southern Oregon’s leaders. Facilitating sessions among leaders to expand their thinking we feel is more effective, in the long run, than monetary contributions.

– Mike Heverly

HIS STORY is so educational — we go by homeless people every day and don’t even look at them.

For me, my connection to the family comes from my heart — children of poverty are my life’s work.

Gordon’s story tells us that it’s never too late — that we need to live every day the best that we can.

– Stephanie Johnson
The Subtle Radical

Tempered radicals bear no banners — they sound no trumpets.
 Their ends are sweeping — their means are mundane.
 They are firm in their commitments — flexible in ways they fulfill them.

Their actions may be small but they spread like a virus.
 They yearn for rapid change but trust in patience.
 They work individually yet they pull people together.

Instead of pressing agendas — they start conversations.
 Rather than battling powerful foes — they seek powerful friends.
 In the face of setbacks — they keep going.

For the tempered radical, revolutionary change
 Is a phenomenon that might occur suddenly
 But more often than not

It requires time, commitment and patience to endure.

— John Harmon, 2001
Youth

They inspired me to go to college and showed me it was possible.

– Danielle

College Dreams

“I'M AN ORIGINAL DREAMER. I have been [in the program] since College Dreams started and I think it's an awesome program,” says Danielle, a senior at North Valley High School in Josephine County. “They inspired me to go to college and showed me it was possible.”

In 1998, College Dreams was established through Josephine County Mental Health as a graduation incentive program for students with high academic potential and dropout risk factors. That first year 33 sixth grade students, including Danielle, were accepted into the program.

Our goals for the program are to identify bright middle school students who have multiple life challenges and then work with them to increase their chances of staying in school. These students drop out and are arrested at 3 to 10 times the rate of low risk teens. It is not a level playing field for these students.

– Judie Drummond, co-director

Most participants accepted into College Dreams have two or more failing grades and are at extremely high risk of dropping out of school. Many come from unstable homes; some have been homeless, and others have behavioral problems. College Dreams steps in to provide support in a variety of ways and encourages academic excellence as well as community service. Currently, 434 students in middle and high school are enrolled in the program.
“Almost 80 percent of the 92 Dreamers who started in middle school or 9th grade are still active,” says Judie Drummond, co-director. “We’re very excited with our continuing results. We project that 75 percent will graduate or get a GED, and 60 percent will go to a college or post-high school vocational training.”

Grants from the Gordon Elwood Foundation are awarded to high achieving students each year who are chosen as Gordon Elwood Scholars. They receive cash and money for their scholarship account.

For Danielle, the program has changed her future. “My mentor is like my big sister. She loves us kids and offers so much support,” she says. “It’s a really weird feeling to think that I’m going to college. My parents never went and I need to set an example for my little brother.” Danielle has just been accepted by two universities.
PROJECT DOVE is an intervention and prevention program designed to keep at-risk boys in school and out of the juvenile justice system. The program targets boys in elementary, middle, and high school, who come from homes with domestic violence. According to the Bureau of Juvenile Justice, violent juvenile delinquents are four times more likely than nonviolent juveniles to come from homes where there is domestic abuse. Most of the boys in the program have been suspended or expelled for aggressive, violent acts at school.

"Project Dove equips Medford’s most at-risk boys with emotional and intellectual tools to break the cycle of violence," says Frances Brandt, program coordinator. "It is so important because intervention is prevention. We’re seeing students with such extreme problems at such an early age that it’s important to start as early as possible."

Project Dove works with these boys in a variety of ways to help them address their behavior and to move forward in their lives. The boys attend weekly support groups, individual counseling, and a mentor program. One such participant, Andrew, shared his story:

I had a bad year last year. My father had almost died of a heart attack and I think I may have done something. Think I might have killed myself and the group was just there for me. The mentor program helped stabilize my life and the camp I went to made the year the best year of my life and this program just made an entirely different spin on my life and I actually see myself as an adult when before I was just seeing myself as dead.

"Behind every hard shell of a person, there is a soft and gentle flower."

– Andrew
Project Dove participant

I am not as angry anymore so I am more social and have more friends.”
– Project Dove participant

Youth

"I am not as angry anymore so I am more social and have more friends.”
– Project Dove participant

Behind every hard shell of a person, there is a soft and gentle flower.”
– SOASTC participant
“Keeps me out of trouble and helps with friends.” “I’m still alive.” “I can get all my worst things off my chest.” “I’m not the only one with problems.” “It helped me not to be mean to my dad when he has a bad day and when he is mean to me I know what to do.” “I have been getting along with other people.” “I do not start fights anymore.” “Keep my cool.” “It helps me participate in outdoor activities, work with a mentor, and become involved in community service. The boys, who voluntarily participate in the program, respond with improved attendance at school, stabilized grades, and drastically reduced disciplinary referrals.

“The problems are increasing in part because methamphetamine use is destroying many families,” says Frances. “It’s extreme; 85 percent of the students in child welfare are due to parents being addicted to meth. Many of these parents are in prison or drug treatment or they just leave the area.”

Of the students participating in Project Dove, an average of 85 percent stay in school and 92 percent stay out of the juvenile justice system. About 35 students remain on a waiting list for the program.

Funds from the Gordon Elwood Foundation help Project Dove to serve at-risk boys in three elementary, two middle, and two high schools in Medford School District 549C.

GORDON WAS ABLE to see that the way he lived did not serve his family well. His legacy began when he understood that and decided to be part of changing others’ lives.

– John Duke
“**I just think Academia Latina is a great opportunity** for kids, and I think it really does help to give people an idea of what college is,” says Maria, a 10th grade student at Phoenix High School. “It was a fun experience because we got to go to different classes and get an idea of what [college] would be like.”

Maria is like many Latino students. She is bright and eager to learn. Maria is also an excellent candidate for higher education. However, the dropout rate for Latino students is high, more than double the overall statewide average. Jackson County ranks seventh among Oregon’s 36 counties. Barriers to education include low-income; lack of confidence; lack of positive role models and mentoring; and early routing into non-college tracks.

Academia Latina, part of Southern Oregon University Youth Programs, is a one-week summer academic program for southern Oregon Latino youth in grades 6-8. It immerses students in a university setting, nourishing their enthusiasm for education and for college within an atmosphere of cultural pride and integrity. In 2001, 26 youth participated in the pilot program. In 2005, close to 60 are expected to attend the weeklong camp.

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Youth

I learned that it is possible for me to make it into college. So now I’m looking forward to college.

– Academia Latina student

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Academia Latina

So now I’m looking forward to college.

– Academia Latina student
Carol Jensen, SOU Youth Programs director, says Academia Latina has been well received. “Academia Latina is needed very much and it’s definitely the wave of the future,” says Carol Jensen. “With Latino population growth projections high in our valley, we need Latino youth to finish school and to accomplish their dreams. It’s a wonderful opportunity and a program that is very timely.”

Tuition per student is $500. Funds provided by the Gordon Elwood Foundation underwrite the tuition for Latino students to attend.

“My personal favorite was math class,” says Maria. “I want to go to college and [going to Academia Latina] makes it easier to see that people do get there.” Maria has applied to be a mentor at the camp this year and says her brother will be attending for the first time.

What we do is all about love and our hearts.
We serve an audience that is not in the room, and we can go to where people are and touch their lives without being there.
That is the best and highest use of stewardship.

– Richard Woo
Russell Family Foundation
AlphaSmart

“I DON’T HAVE A COMPUTER AT HOME so I check out an AlphaSmart computer to use for my reports for school,” says Danielle, a 6th grade student at Washington Elementary School in Medford. “It really helps to make my schoolwork better because I have more time to think and make the stories longer.”

AlphaSmart is a computer system designed to help students improve their written and verbal communication skills. Portable keyboard units, which dock at an AlphaHub at school, are available for students to use in class or take home to do their schoolwork.

Washington Elementary School is a National Blue Ribbon School. It is located in West Medford, a neighborhood identified by the Children First for Oregon study as one of twelve “severely distressed” neighborhoods in Oregon. Over 90 percent of the approximately 500 students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

“The AlphaSmart computers are making a big difference for our students,” says teacher Terri Dahl. “Attendance at school has improved and written and verbal skill scores improved by 60 percent from fall 2003 to spring 2004.”

AlphaSmart computers have a small screen, keyboard, eight files, and include an AlphaWord program and a calculator. Some AlphaSmart units also help students learn English as a second language. These units are a low cost, easy-to-learn solution for expanding computer capability.

Gordon Elwood Foundation grants have helped the program to grow over the last two years. The school now has 55 AlphaSmart computers and there is always a waiting list.
THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT AT RILEY CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL in Gold Beach was born of a desire to find a new way of connecting with underachieving, disengaged and at-risk youth. In this geographically isolated community, enrichment activities are scarce. The local economy is depressed, and in 2000, 42 percent of the students qualified for federally funded free and reduced meals.

In 2001, science teachers wanted to bridge traditional classroom learning with practical life skills and decision-making. Land across from the school was donated for the project and a grant from the Gordon Elwood Foundation enabled the project to go forward.

“We now have two greenhouses and a whole garden area,” says teacher Chris Vorster. “The students are learning basic gardening techniques and they are eating things they had never tasted before.”

The project has also been embraced by local Master Gardeners. In 2004, Riley Creek School sold $55 worth of peas to a local restaurant; plans for 2005 are ambitious. Master Gardeners will oversee the planting of over 500 flowers and vegetables. Students are also harvesting and packaging seeds.

“The biggest change is in the students’ excitement level,” says Chris. “All you have to say is let’s get this done so we can go to the garden, and they are motivated.”
Rogue Community College Foundation Workforce Training Scholarships

“THE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP THAT I RECEIVED from the Gordon Elwood Foundation enabled me to get back into the workforce in a job that I love,” says Heidi Corbin, a single mother and catering supervisor at the Rogue Valley Manor. “I was at a pretty low point in my life. The commercial kitchen class that I took gave me so much confidence that the Manor asked me to apply for a job.”

Heidi Corbin was not your typical student. After a divorce, Heidi needed a job that would provide her a living wage and benefits. Many adults like Heidi are nontraditional students with great desire and limited resources. They don’t qualify for public assistance or financial aid. They are often caught between dire life circumstances and the rigidity of the system.

The trustees of the Gordon Elwood Foundation wanted to establish a program that would provide financial assistance to these students. They approached the Rogue Community College Foundation executive director, Kathie Olsen, to explore options.

At present, Jeanne Howell, Rogue Community College associate dean, administers RCCF Workforce scholarships. “We started this program four years ago with a grant from the Gordon Elwood Foundation with the goal of providing scholarships for people whom we can’t find funding for in the system,” says Jeanne. “This money goes for fast-track training which provides the tools needed for a good job and stable existence. That’s the best thing you can do in the whole world.”
Scholarships from the Gordon Elwood Foundation allow approximately 25 students a year to begin the training they need to fulfill their goals. An unexpected benefit of the Gordon Elwood Foundation Scholarship has been the opportunity to leverage tuition dollars from other sources. Through January 2005, scholarships have been awarded to 78 students.

For Heidi, the scholarship gave her the opportunity for a new start on life. “I get a lot of personal satisfaction out of what I do. It was scary making the change, but I am so happy now.”

Heidi Corbin
Catering Supervisor
Rogue Valley Manor

Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you.

– Mother Teresa
Curry Prevention Services/Community Safety Net

“WENDY IS MY ANGEL IN DISGUISE,” says Mary, a mother of four. “My 15-year-old son has had problems since he was five and it wasn’t until I got help from Community Safety Net that he was diagnosed ADD/ADHD. Now he’s on medication and the change amazes me.”

For Mary and her son, life had been going downhill. He was having problems in school and violent outbursts at home. When he landed in the court system, his family was referred to Curry Prevention Services and the Community Safety Net program. That’s when their lives began to change.

“The people in the program helped me to fill out papers, move through the court system, and get my son the help that he needed,” says Mary. “Since he’s been on medication he has really changed. His grades are improving, his attitude is better and he’s getting along with his peers.”

Community Safety Net focuses on preventing and identifying at-risk situations. Program coordinator Wendy Lang tries to fill gaps in the system, especially with teenagers. She works with approximately 40 people a month providing help with problem solving and parenting, as well as basic needs.
“There are very few resources in this area for teens. We don’t have shelters for kids or treatment facilities, so there is really no place to send them,” says Wendy. “By the time we see people they are in a very bad situation. We work hard to keep families out of the child welfare system and to help teens find the support they need.”

Community Safety Net has teams in Port Orford, Gold Beach and Brookings. The money from the Gordon Elwood Foundation pays a portion of the Safety Net coordinator’s salary and travel expenses.

“I now know it’s not a bad thing to ask for help. It was hard at first but now I can’t tell you in words how much the program has done for us,” says Mary. “I actually feel it has changed our lives.”

As stewards of Gordon’s Foundation we have the opportunity to carry out his interest in giving people a hand up, not just a hand out.

– Dan Kosmatka
Oregon Health Sciences University Nursing Program at Southern Oregon University

“I THOUGHT THE OHSU NURSING PROGRAM WOULD BE CHALLENGING, and it has been,” says Natalie Smith, a Gordon Elwood Scholar. “But it’s also the most exciting thing I’ve ever done.”

Natalie Smith embodies all the characteristics of an excellent nurse. She’s warm, caring, and passionate about her work. Her decision to pursue a nursing career, however, was born out of personal crisis. Not long before returning to school she was living out of her car with her teenage daughter. She had fled an abusive relationship and her wages didn’t cover housing, food or basic needs.

Soul searching led her to nursing, a profession that she had always admired. When she was seven she almost died of kidney failure, and it was the nurses, her “angels,” who kept her alive. The possibilities for a new career and a new start in life led her to the Ashland campus of Oregon Health Sciences University (OHSU). In 2003, Natalie was awarded a Gordon Elwood Foundation scholarship.
OHSU School of Nursing is dedicated to providing continued excellence in nursing education, holistic and compassionate patient care and advocacy. It is consistently recognized in the top 10 of America’s nursing schools by *U.S. News and World Report*. In 1994, the demand for quality nursing education led OHSU to collaborate with Southern Oregon University to set up a nursing program. It is estimated that the nursing shortage will continue to worsen over the next 10 years.

A $10,000 scholarship provided by the Gordon Elwood Foundation is spread over two years and covers approximately half of the student's annual tuition.

“OHSU teaches us to treat the whole person,” says Natalie. “While I draw on what I have lived, caring for patients means not imposing my experience on them but listening to their needs. Nursing is not about me. It’s about them.”

To reach the port of heaven, we must sail, sometimes with the wind and sometimes against it — but we must sail and not drift nor live at anchor.

— Oliver Wendell Holmes
“SO MANY INCREDIBLE THINGS HAVE HAPPENED and are happening in this community as a result of the Learning Community,” says Dee Anne Everson, executive director of United Way of Jackson County and co-convener of Building a Learning Community. “There is a ripple effect that happens when people come together and it’s being felt across the whole community.”

In 2001, Gordon Elwood Foundation executive director Kathy Bryon introduced the idea of bringing a broad spectrum of community leaders together for an intensive training in Peter Senge’s “Building a Learning Organization.” Peter Senge, Ph.D., is the author of the widely acclaimed book *The Fifth Discipline: The Art and Practice of The Learning Organization*. In 2004, after extensive planning with other for-profit and not-for-profit leaders in Jackson County, Kathy’s vision was realized. Beth Jandernoa and Rick Karash, colleagues of Senge’s, designed the “Building a Learning Community” course specifically for this endeavor. Beth, a resident of Ashland, and Rick, from the East Coast, facilitated the course. It was held over a five-day period in January and April and drew 138 participants. Peter Senge joined the training for a day during the January session.
“The Learning Community is an effort to create the kind of community we want to live in, with all its complex issues using a creative rather than reactive orientation,” says Kathy. “We wanted to bring that learning to all sectors of our community.”

Since the “Building a Learning Community” course positive changes have occurred, including a methamphetamine summit that convened in January 2005. The summit brought together law enforcement, county public health, state department of health services, nonprofit treatment programs and concerned citizens to address this rapidly growing local problem. People are looking at community issues in new ways. Participants continue to organize and attend subsequent trainings to strengthen their new skills.

THE TRUSTEES agreed to invest in giving leadership, time and talent along with Gordon’s treasure to build strong communities.

– John Duke

Sometimes you have to make the choice between a food box and investing in community capacity, and if you’re the Gordon Elwood Foundation, sometimes you get to do both. It could not have been a more worthwhile endeavor.

– Dee Anne Everson, United Way
Mills Elementary School/ New Playground

“WE WERE THE ONLY CITY SCHOOL WITHOUT A REAL PLAYGROUND and last year we were also the poorest elementary school in Oregon,” says Barbara Headden, former principal. “It took three years to raise the money, but it has lifted the morale of the entire community.”

When Barbara Headden became principal of Mills Elementary School, her mission was to build a playground. She didn’t want just any playground. She wanted one that would help instill a sense of pride in the neighborhood and in the students. She envisioned a structure that would provide challenging activities for kindergartners as well as sixth graders. She wanted it designed to improve physical fitness and help with social development. That was a tall order.

“We started raising money slowly, and we involved the children in the process. They raised about $20,000 selling candy and raffle tickets,” says Principal Headden. “Consequently, it is something that is now very much a source of pride for the school.”

I like the climbing wall and the monkey bars. In the spring and summer I go over there and play almost all the time with my friends. It’s really, really neat.

– Angel, age 8

Communities

I like to hang on the monkey bars and go up on top after school and watch the birds.
I live across the street and it’s very exciting to get a new playground.
– Brooke, age 7
A grant from the Gordon Elwood Foundation helped make this dream a reality. The result is a state-of-the-art playground that’s highly functional and attractive. It not only has cheered up students, it has become a gathering place for the entire community. Since opening in the summer of 2004, the playground has been pulling people together.

“Every time I went to the school last summer there were kids always on the playground and families sitting on the grass,” says Principal Headden. “We got the best of anything we could have hoped for.”

It’s a really good place to play. I like the bubble. I can sit there if I don’t want to play and I can hang out with my friends. I like where you climb up to get to the rope; it’s challenging. This playground rates a 10.

— Natasha, age 12

THE FIVE VALUES are right on and the board has done an exceptional job of living up to them.

Most exciting to me of all we’ve done is being flexible and creative wherever possible or needed. No matter how strong a position/rule/idea we’ve had, we’ve been willing to explore anything that we’ve deemed worthy of consideration.

We’ve refused to be “bound up” or traditional.

I really believe Gordon would be excited about this unconventional body of work that has evolved, all based on our values and vision, which he would have embraced.

— Burke Raymond
“I THINK THIS PROGRAM IS GREAT. It has enabled me to finally get my dentures,” says Jayne, a 54-year-old resident of Klamath Falls. “This is very important. No one else was willing to help me.” Jayne has suffered with dental problems all her life. She lived with pain and discomfort for many years until the Klamath Health Partnership agreed to help.

Klamath Health Partnership, Inc. is a non-profit community health center providing primary medical care, dental and mental health services to the underserved and uninsured in Klamath County. A grant from the Gordon Elwood Foundation targeted equipment for the dental unit.

Nearly 50 percent of the county’s population does not have dental insurance. After cuts to the Oregon Health Plan in 2004, the clinic’s uninsured dental patients increased from 41 percent to 65 percent. They now have a staff of three dentists and with the Gordon Elwood Foundation grant have purchased four new dental chairs, additional X-ray units, and hand instruments. A new building has enabled them to increase patient visits to 55 a day and decrease wait time from three months to two weeks or less.
Bob Marsalli, executive director, says the need is great and the changes have been exciting. “We have averaged 110 new patients each month for the past six months and reduced our no show rate to 15-20 percent, the national average for comparable dental practices,” says Bob. “This dramatic growth in our ability to meet the enormous need for dental care in our area is because of the contributions of benefactors like the Gordon Elwood Foundation.”

On January 3, 2005, Jayne’s remaining teeth were pulled. “This has been a painful process; my mouth hurt all the time,” she says. “I’m looking forward to the new dentures. The end result will be I’ll have a really nice pair of teeth and I’ll really be able to enjoy eating. I wish there were more facilities like this.”

THE CAPACITY to serve individuals in need and the community as a whole is increased by the careful analysis that the trustees carry out for each funding request.

– John Duke
Southern Oregon Grant Makers Affinity Group

In January 2002, the Gordon Elwood and the Stern Family Foundations brought together private and public funders to dialogue. The underlying inquiry for the group of 25 participants, representing over $11 million in private regional funding a year, was to decide if there was value in meeting regularly to discuss issues affecting southern Oregonians. The first meeting was such a success that it has grown into a vibrant and enthusiastic learning community of funders that is now being duplicated around the state. Southern Oregon Grant Makers Affinity Group meets six times a year and serves the southern Oregon community under the umbrella of Grant Makers of Oregon and Southwest Washington for the purpose of:

- Building leadership, resources and capacity to support the nonprofit sector.
- Providing information and perspectives on local philanthropy and the intersection with public funding streams.
- Cooperatively exploring and developing comprehensive and effective approaches to funding viable community programs and projects.
- Sharing experiences and leveraging impact on the communities we represent and support.
- Bringing together representation from all aspects of philanthropy for the purpose of communicating needs, and bringing about change and shared responsibility in and for our community.
Members of the Affinity Group have taken on projects in the areas of technical assistance for nonprofits and building capacity for nonprofits, as well as helping to convene a methamphetamine summit, poverty summit, and the 2004 Building a Learning Community core course in Jackson County.

Many funders from outside the area who give money in southern Oregon stay informed through email and minutes from the meeting. The Gordon Elwood Foundation continues as the point of contact for the group.

I’m very appreciative to the Gordon Elwood Foundation for the infrastructure to make the Affinity Group happen. There is no other place for us to get together and figure out a joint agenda.

– Carin Niebuhr, Jackson County Health and Human Services and Trustee of the Anna May Foundation

It provides a rare opportunity to hear perspectives on social issues that we all grapple with.

– Dee Anne Everson
United Way of Jackson County

The Affinity Group is very beneficial to us at Ford Family Foundation. It gives us an opportunity to visit with a diversity of funders and to understand issues in southwest Oregon.

– Tom Thorburn
The Ford Family Foundation

When we dream alone, it is only a dream, but when we dream together, it is the beginning of reality.

– Unknown
The Challenge of Change

It’s not so much that we’re afraid of change, or so in love with the old ways, but it’s the place in between that we fear… It’s like being between trapezes. There’s nothing to hold on to…

– M. Ferguson

$1,031,576
134 Grants

Community
22 Grants
$175,017

Families
23 Grants
$170,600

Individuals
11 Grants
$123,400

Youth
78 Grants
$52,559

Grant Awards by Mission Focus
Commitment to TRUTH is key to a vision coming together.

– Peter Senge

The 2004 audit report & financial statements are available at www.gordonelwoodfoundation.org
# Awards 2000-2004

## 2000

### Youth

**YMCA of Josephine County**  
Purchase Teen Center equipment.  
Josephine County  
$7,000

**YMCA Medford**  
Re-roof 12 residence cabins and kitchen area.  
Jackson County  
$17,000

**YMCA Klamath Falls**  
Scholarships for summer day camp programs.  
Klamath County  
$8,100

### Families

**Salvation Army, Medford**  
Infant supplies.  
Jackson County  
$12,500

### Communities

**American Red Cross**  
Purchase of cots, radio and training materials.  
Jackson County  
$3,400

**American Red Cross Klamath and Lake**  
Purchase of communication equipment.  
Klamath County  
$1,500

**SNYP**  
Purchase of supplies and surgical packs for spay and neuter procedures.  
Jackson County  
$10,500
Youth

YMCA Klamath
Scholarships for summer day camp program.

Klamath County $8,100

Klamath Falls Schools
Print costs for the Youth Yellow Pages in English and Spanish.

Klamath County $1,000

Phoenix Schools Summer Program
Six-week summer school program targeting Spanish speaking and at risk students who have not achieved sufficient literacy skills.

Jackson County $7,922

Academia Latina, Southern Oregon University
Scholarships for Hispanic youth grades 6-8 to participate in a one-week University residential program.

Jackson County $5,000

Kids Unlimited Summer
Summer program expansion for children living in West Medford.

Jackson County $10,000

Bull Dog Boxing
Purchase new equipment.

Jackson County $4,000

Curry School District — Peer Helpers Program
Peer helper and education training for 6th-12th grade students to reduce fights on school property and boyfriend/girlfriend abuse.

Curry County $5,500

Wilderness Trails
Summer camp support for struggling boys identified by county youth agencies ages 13-14.

Regional $3,000

Mediation Works
Expansion of Talk It Out curriculum for 850 students, certified teachers and classified staff.

Jackson County $7,800

SMART
Expand the Start Making A Reader Today program.

Josephine County $10,000

Gold Beach High School
Support micro-business project for job training and life skills development among special education students.

Curry County $10,000

Rogue River Middle School
Reduce the current 60 percent dropout rate among students with learning disabilities.

Jackson County $4,000

Kennedy Elementary
Increase success of 60 students with learning challenges, through use of AlphaSmart technology.

Jackson County $6,778

Children’s Advocacy Center
Child abuse intervention and support services.

Jackson County $5,538
Youth

Jefferson Elementary School
Optimize the bilingual/bicultural students’ sense of being a part of the larger community they live in.

Riley Creek School
Construct two green houses for rural kindergarten through middle school campus.

Individuals

Rogue Community College Foundation
Pilot scholarship project to provide resources for students pursuing workforce and short-term training and do not qualify for traditional financial aid.

Families

Rogue Community College Foundation
Childcare scholarships for low income working Rogue Community College students.

Communities

Salvation Army
Funding purchase of washer/dryers for Homeless Transitional Shelter.

SNYP
Spay/neuter services targeting feral and stray cats.

Rogue Valley Humane Society, Josephine County
Spay/neuter program for 150 spay and neuter operations.

Rogue Valley Boys & Girls Clubs
Reopening the White City club to serve approximately 500 low-income children after school and during the summer.

YMCA Josephine County
Construction costs of new facilities for families and children.
2002

Youth

Klamath YMCA
Summer day camp scholarships for low-income children.
Klamath County $8,100

Academia Latina, Southern Oregon University
Scholarships for Hispanic youth grades 6-8 to participate in a one-week University residential program.
Jackson County $5,000

Wilderness Trails
Transportation and coordination costs for summer program.
Regional $7,000

Kids Unlimited
Summer daycare and enrichment program for children from West Medford.
Jackson County $10,000

Wolf Creek/Oregon Parent Info
Summer daycare and enrichment program for 130 children 6-18 years of age.
Josephine County $9,500

Junior Achievement (ACCESS)
Purchase program materials for 16 Junior Achievement programs serving 450 students from schools with significant numbers of children identified at risk of underachieving.
Jackson County $5,000

Rogue Valley YMCA
YMCA residential camp scholarships.
Jackson County $7,500

Central Point Schools
Reading skill development of identified students in Central Point Station 78 alternative middle school.
Jackson County $2,000

Project DOVE
Supports a school based intervention program for at-risk teen boys from violent homes.
Jackson County $10,000

College Dreams
Support incentive program to encourage identified sixth and middle school age students not only to stay in school, but also reach their potential through active mentoring and academic achievement.
Josephine County $3,800

SOASTC
Supports summer vocational training stipends as incentive for behavior modification to emotionally and behaviorally disturbed adolescents currently in a residential treatment facility.
Josephine County $6,540

Rogue Valley Boys and Girls Club
Scholarships for low-income youth in Jackson and Josephine counties.
Regional $5,000

Klamath County SMART
Support SMART reading enhancement program for Mills Elementary School.
Klamath County $7,500

To create is to bring something into reality.
– Unknown
Youth (cont.)

**Medford District 549C**  
Jackson County  
$15,300  
Purchase AlphaSmart keyboards and software serving 263 high school English as a Second Language students.

**Rogue Valley SMART**  
Jackson County  
$10,000  
Purchase 4,830 books for 345 K-3rd grade school children from six west Medford elementary schools.

**Hope Equestrian Center**  
Jackson County  
$10,000  
Equestrian intervention program for identified young people to overcome personal challenges.

**Curry Child Advocacy, Gold Beach**  
Curry County  
$10,000  
Child abuse investigations, assessment and advocacy for approximately 40 children annually.

**WinterSpring**  
Jackson County  
$5,000  
Grief counseling for children ages 6-12.

**Community Health Center**  
Jackson County  
$10,000  
Healthcare visits for 100 non-insured low-income children.

**Campus Life-HATS**  
Jackson County  
$10,000  
Supports mentoring costs for 75 identified teens at risk for underachievement over the 2002-2003 school year.

**St Vincent de Paul**  
Jackson County  
$5,000  
School supply kits for 250 low-income school children.

Individuals

**Rogue Community College Foundation**  
Regional  
$19,000  
Pilot scholarship project to provide resources for students pursuing workforce and short term training and do not qualify for traditional financial aid.

**SPARC**  
Josephine County  
$10,000  
Purchase of new recycling equipment needed to meet state requirement of reducing county waste, providing employment and training for developmentally disabled individuals.

Families

**Job Council-Teen Parents**  
Jackson County  
$10,000  
Funds stipends to 17 teen mothers in part-time work experience positions as part of their summer school commitment.
Families (cont.)

Faith House
Provides financial support to remodel a storage building for furniture and household items donated to women and their children who are creating a new life through this transitional residence program.

Legal Services
Legal assistance to obtain work permits for Hispanic families.

Salvation Army, Medford
Afterschool drop-in program for school children from the Liberty Park/Beatty/Manzanita area.

Washington Elementary School, Medford
Support family literacy program for English Language Learners.

Easter Seals, Medford
Scholarship support for participation of low-income families in an Easter Seals after-school program.

Living Opportunities, Medford
Support for collaborative venture of four local agencies assisting families who need respite care.

Communities

CASA
Recruit, train and coordinate five new volunteers and develop a volunteer office.

Curry Prevention Services
Safety Net program supports families at risk for hunger, homelessness, child abuse and substance abuse.

SNYP
Support collaboration among existing shelter programs to spay and neuter feral and stray cats.

Rogue Community College Electronics Department
Purchase industry standard electronics equipment.

Sugarloaf Community Center
Applied science program for William’s community school.

Prospect School District 59
Purchase music and sound equipment for K-12 rural community school.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Youth</strong></th>
<th><strong>Jackson County</strong></th>
<th><strong>Regional</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academia Latina, Southern Oregon University</strong></td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships for Hispanic youth grades 6-8 to participate in a one-week University residential program.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wilderness Trails</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$9,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports transportation and coordination costs of summer program.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Central Point Schools</strong></td>
<td>$2,700</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Purchase materials for science program and field trip for students in alternative middle school.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jackson County STARS</strong></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support costs for middle school peer-generated pregnancy prevention program.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kids Health Connection</strong></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purchase equipment and supplies for new school-based health facility at Oak Grove Elementary in West Medford.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Multicultural Association</strong></td>
<td>$1,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships for 10 selected Kids Unlimited youth to attend Multicultural Association’s residence camp.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Washington Elementary, Medford</strong></td>
<td>$13,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purchase AlphaSmart computers for use with English Language Learners and learning-challenged students.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Klamath Hospice</strong></td>
<td>$6,845</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support costs for one-week camp for grieving children.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YMCA of Klamath County</strong></td>
<td>$8,100</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships for 10-week summer day camp.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>College Dreams</strong></td>
<td>$5,200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support incentive program to encourage identified sixth and middle school age students not only to stay in school, but also reach their potential through active mentoring and academic achievement.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CASA of Curry County</strong></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expands Curry County CASA to serve approximately 45 abused children in need of a court appointed advocate.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Boy Scouts of America</strong></td>
<td>$6,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pilot project to recruit and train a minimum of 14 Hispanic adult leaders in basic scout leadership serving 100 boys and families.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Community Health Center</strong></td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>School based health-screening services in Eagle Point School District.</td>
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### 2003 (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Organization</strong></th>
<th><strong>County</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children's Dental Clinic</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expands dental assistance time to see 300-500 uninsured children for critical dental care.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mediation Works</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports conflict resolution training in Phoenix Elementary School.</td>
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</table>

### Individuals

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<tr>
<th><strong>Organization</strong></th>
<th><strong>County</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Johnson-O'Connor Research Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aptitude testing for identified high risk youth and young adults.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rogue Community College Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilot scholarship project to provide resources for students pursuing workforce and short-term training and do not qualify for traditional financial aid.</td>
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</table>

### Families

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Organization</strong></th>
<th><strong>County</strong></th>
<th><strong>Amount</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ashland Family YMCA</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After-school and summer scholarships for low-income children and families.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St. Vincent de Paul Society</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide school supply kits for 1,200 low-income children.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Riley Creek School, Gold Beach</strong></td>
<td>Curry County</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports after-school academic and social support program.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Center for Nonprofit Legal Services</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal assistance to obtain work permits for Hispanic families.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Easter Seals, Medford</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship support for children with disabilities to participate in after-school programs.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Southern Oregon Goodwill</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports job coach position for 100 families enrolled in the Welfare to Work program.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Disability Advocacy Social Independent Living</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports case management and a safe daytime drop-in center for persons with disabilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rogue Valley YMCA</strong></td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$7,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides memberships for families actively participating in Working Ways, Family-to-Family Mentoring Project and the Family Drug Court program.</td>
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</tbody>
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We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.

– Winston Churchill
### Families (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lovejoy Hospice</td>
<td>Josephine</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports teens bereavement program for teens and their families.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women's Crisis Support</td>
<td>Josephine</td>
<td>$14,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports 90 women and their 120 children to reduce their probability of returning to abusive situations.</td>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Clinica del Valle</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports West Medford facility offering affordable comprehensive medical and dental services to uninsured/underinsured residents.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spay Neuter Your Pet (SNYP)</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports Stray Cat FixIt Ticket project to sterilize over 833 strays in Jackson County.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Klamath Health Partnership</td>
<td>Klamath</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of portable dental equipment to be used in the renovated facility as well as for rural access points.</td>
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### Communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>County</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Care Coalition of Southern Oregon</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports essential medications for low-income, chronically ill patients who have lost Oregon Health Plan medication assistance.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NetCorps</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support implementation of technology program serving rural nonprofit agencies in southwestern Oregon.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building a Learning Community</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>$8,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship funds for training selected leaders to explore new ways of addressing community issues.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OHSU School of Nursing</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarships for nursing students intending to practice in southern Oregon.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>CASA of Jackson County</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recruit, train and coordinate new volunteer court-appointed advocates for abused children.</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mills Elementary, Klamath Falls</td>
<td>Klamath</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide support for purchase and installation of playground equipment.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>Amount</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Point Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer camp scholarships for gifted low-income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>students at risk for falling behind in school.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academia Latina, Southern Oregon University</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships for Hispanic youth grades 6-8 to</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>participate in a one-week University residential</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>program.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Children’s Advocacy Center</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis counseling for abused children ages 3-18.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Dove</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports a school based intervention program for</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>at-risk teen boys from violent homes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>College Dreams</td>
<td>Josephine County</td>
<td>$6,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support incentive program to encourage identified</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sixth, middle school age, and high school</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>students not only to stay in school, but also</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>reach their potential through active mentoring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and academic achievement.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Beach High School, Project ASPIRE</td>
<td>Curry County</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports Americorp volunteer to develop the</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ASPIRE program in Gold Beach High School.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson Elementary School</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$10,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchases AlphaSmart computers and additional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>equipment necessary to improve the writing,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>spelling and vocabulary skills of students in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>the 5th and 6th grades.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon Technology Access Program</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improve the reading and writing skills of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>students identified with learning disabilities</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>using technology that can help them overcome</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>their disability.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Rogue Community Center</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expands summer camp program for elementary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>students in Upper Rogue area.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth for Christ</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports mentoring program for youth who are in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>the Juvenile Justice System and County youth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>shelter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crater Lake National Park Trust</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports science inquiry program for elementary</td>
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<tr>
<td>students at Crater Lake National Park.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Oregon Humane Society</td>
<td>Jackson County</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports Teaching Love and Compassion violence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prevention program for youth from Central Point</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and Talent alternative schools.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2004 (cont.)

Youth (cont.)

Elk Trail and Shady Cove Schools
Supports after school drama program for youth from Upper Rogue community.

College Dreams
Supports incentive program to encourage identified sixth and middle school age students not only to stay in school, but also reach their potential through active mentoring and academic achievement.

STARS
Youth facilitated pregnancy prevention and life skills development program for 2,100 middle school students in the school district.

College Dreams

Supports after school drama program for youth from Upper Rogue community.

Josephine County $10,000

College Dreams
Supports incentive program to encourage identified sixth and middle school age students not only to stay in school, but also reach their potential through active mentoring and academic achievement.

Josephine County $10,000

STARS
Youth facilitated pregnancy prevention and life skills development program for 2,100 middle school students in the school district.

Jackson County $5,000

Individuals

Rogue Community College Foundation
Pilot scholarship project to provide resources for students pursuing workforce and short term training and do not qualify for financial aid.

Regional $10,000

St Vincent de Paul Society
Assisting 250 individuals seeking employment to purchase photo IDs with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Jackson County $6,000

The ARC of Jackson County
Purchase recycling containers, uniforms and a canvas shelter for paper recycling project that employs five adults with development disabilities.

Jackson County $3,400

Families

Grants Pass YMCA
Scholarships for youth and family membership.

Josephine County $5,000

WinterSpring
Supports family bereavement program for Jackson County.

Jackson County $5,000

Center for Non-Profit Legal Services
Legal assistance to obtain work permits for Hispanic families.

Jackson County $3,000

North Curry Families’ and Children’s Center
Expands parent education program in Port Orford.

Curry County $5,000

Trinity Respite Center
Day respite scholarships for individuals suffering from Alzheimer’s.

Jackson County $8,000
Communities

Curry Prevention Services
Supports Safety Net program assisting families struggling with hunger, homelessness, child abuse and substance abuse.

Prospect School District #59
Supports new music technology for classrooms.

OHSU Nursing Program
Provides nursing scholarships for four OHSU nursing students on the Southern Oregon University campus from families in Curry, Jackson, Josephine and Klamath counties that have demonstrated financial need.

La Clinica del Valle
Supports new facility in West Medford that offers affordable comprehensive medical and dental services to 3,500 uninsured and underinsured residents.

Kids Unlimited
Support costs of professional fund development consultant for $3 million capital campaign.

Jackson County School District #6
Finances remodeling costs for school based health center at Hanby Middle School.

Friends of the Talent Library
Expand meeting room space at new Talent library.

Southern Oregon Adolescent Study and Treatment Center
Initiates the creation of Moving Forward program for youth as they move from correctional facilities and other out-of-home placements to the community at large.

Rogue Community College Workforce Training
Finance costs for medical interpreter certification program at Rogue Community College.

Curry County $10,000
Jackson County $2,686
Regional $10,000
Jackson County $5,000
Jackson County $15,000
Jackson County $8,000
Jackson County $8,000
Josephine County $9,717
Regional $7,500

The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but reveal them to their own.

– Benjamin Disraeli
There are so many great organizations that are helping those in need in our area. Our primary dilemma is having enough money to assist them all. I think we are fortunate to be able to encourage collaborative ways to meet the needs of our community in new ways. Our question is whether there might be a different way to ensure that people’s needs and the community’s needs are met.

– Dan Kosmatka

Acknowledgement of those who assisted us in the initial steps of the journey:

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Board of Trustees 1999-2004
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- Dan Kosmatka
- Jan Murphy
- Burke Raymond

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Members at Large
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- Jim Maddux 1999-2003

Executive Director
Kathy Bryon
The highest level of giving is doing so in order to strengthen another human being until he needs to ask help of no one.

– Maimonides
Jewish philosopher, jurist and scientist
OUR MISSION:
Investing in Southern Oregon’s youth, individuals, families and communities

creating a legacy of service to southern oregonians