

APRIL 2021

Message from our ED, Donna Pray

It's been a very busy time of year of us! We just completed our 2021 Grant Cycle. We will be distributing a total of \$327,323 to nonprofits who are running programs to benefit our Gilroy community.

Of that amount, \$85,430 will be awarded to organizations that applied to our Competitive Grants Program. In addition to that, \$57,800 will be going to various programs that our Donor-Advised Fund donors have chosen to support this year. And, we have Funds that are designated to give an annual grant to particular organizations for their operating needs; that amount is \$182,293. And, our Youth Board awarded a \$1,000 grant to Gilroy Compassion Center and \$800 to DreamPower Horsemanship.

Unfortunately, once again, we will not be able to gather for our Annual Meeting and Charitable Giving Presentation, but checks will be going out in early May.

The other thing that is keeping us very busy is our Annual Scholarship Program. We have received 803 applications for the 30 scholarships we offer. Many of those scholarships award multiple awards, so we will be giving 86 students help with the financial part of the college experience. We are grateful to our donors for giving us the opportunity to award \$501,500 this year.

Happy Spring to all, and everyone take care!



Meals for Heroes, Revenue for Restaurants

“Meals for Heroes, Revenue for Restaurants” was a wonderful success!

Started as a pilot program by the Morgan Hill Downtown Association to help struggling restaurants by collecting donations and buying meals for healthcare workers at St. Louise Hospital and DePaul Health Center, Gilroy Foundation wanted to do the same for Gilroy restaurants. A collaboration was formed to include Morgan Hill Community Foundation and Gilroy Downtown Business Association.

The Gilroy program ran successfully from March 6 through April 21, Monday-Wednesday. We reached out to non-chain restaurants in our area and 17 restaurants enthusiastically responded that they wanted to take part.

With the \$20,640 raised specifically for this program through generous donations to support restaurants struggling during the pandemic, 1,032 lunches were served to the healthcare workers at both facilities, delivered by 5 faithful volunteers.

When our community comes up with a great idea, we all manage to come together and bring that idea to life. “Meals for Heroes, Revenue for Restaurants” was a successful collaboration with a very happy ending.

Thank you to the generous donors who helped to make this program possible.



National Volunteer Week was an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world.

Each year, this week shines a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent and voice to make a difference in their communities.

Gilroy Foundation says "Thank You" to all who volunteer on our Boards and at our events and to ALL volunteers who serve to make our community a better place to live.

*A heartfelt
thank
you!
to our
volunteers!*

And it's a wrap for Gilroy Foundation's Youth Board 2020-21! Board Liaison Sal Tomasello, with an able assist by our own Deb Sanchez, led the students through the year with style and grace in spite of some Zoom challenges and the students' own very busy schedules--not to mention a global pandemic!

Over the year, GF Youth Board students led a community Canned Food Drive for St. Joseph's Family Center, a Men's Pants Drive for Gilroy Compassion Center and a Toy Drive through Amazon for Rebekah Children's Center--all challenging, yet successful during the pandemic. They were also able to award two scholarships to Gilroy Compassion Center and DreamPower Horsemanship.

At Monday's final meeting, Gilroy Foundation ED Donna Pray and Board President Joel Goldsmith thanked the youth for their service after which Mr. Tomasello (virtually) awarded the students their Certificates of Participation. Certificates will be in the mail.

In a survey sent to the Youth Board, some comments summarized their year: "This year, I enjoyed being able to continue to collaborate with other members in the midst of quarantine. The discussions that were held revolving around the grant candidates were very lively, and they helped me to feel more connected to other members. Even though a lot of opportunities with the Youth Board were taken away from us, I'm glad that we were still able to collectively give a grant."

"I look forward to a collaboration with other youth groups."

"Thank you to all the wonderful mentors who have worked so hard planning meetings and who have provided us with so many educational opportunities within the youth board."

Youth Board will resume activities in August. Have a great summer, Students!



News from the Gilroy Hot Springs Conservancy

A former Fiscal Sponsorship of Gilroy Foundation, the Gilroy Hot Springs Conservancy has now received its own tax exempt status and has a goal to reopen the Springs in Fall 2021, one weekend per month for soaking, camping, restored cabin rentals and day use of the 280 acre property.

But, they need help in order to obtain final approval from California State Parks--the remaining total cost for the first phase reopening is \$90k.

To learn more about how you can help once again make Gilroy Hot Springs a community center and a destination point for healing of all kinds, visit

<https://www.gilroyhotspringsconserva>

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Thank you to our Sustaining Sponsors

We are proud that five local businesses continue to support Gilroy's community foundation as a Sustaining Sponsor. Thank you to Christopher Ranch, Pinnacle Bank, Gilroy Toyota, Recology South Valley, and RAC Services LLC for your commitment to our community and the programs of Gilroy Foundation.

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