



# Change Agents





# It Takes Many Agents to Advance Change



If we would sum up 2015 in several words, we would gladly say that it was the year of 'change through collaboration.' We witnessed a profound cultural shift through multiple initiatives taking root in our region – with local agencies and residents collaborating in meaningful ways.

For our part, Stanislaus Community Foundation invested in the capacity of local change agents through the second annual Connecting for Good event in April 2015, drawing a sell-out crowd for a full day of learning. Attendees participated in multiple tracks around mindful leadership, networked organizations and systems transformation.

Along with building up the capacity of our community members to embrace collective

impact, Stanislaus Community Foundation modeled collaborative leadership practice through the Stanislaus READS! campaign, which launched in March 2015.

A multi-sector, multi-year approach to improving literacy among young children, Stanislaus READS! marshalled the resources and aligned the efforts of the Stanislaus County Office of Education, the Stanislaus County Libraries, the Stanislaus Children & Families Commission, and five pilot elementary schools.

Early wins included the adoption of a universal kindergarten readiness assessment and the roll-out of the Imagination Library, a free book distribution program for local families. We ended 2015 with the announcement of major funding commitment from the James Irvine Foundation, which will help expand Stanislaus READS! to more pilot schools and leverage local funds.

In an effort to strengthen the other end of the 'cradle to career' pipeline, we began working in earnest with local K-12 systems, CSU Stanislaus and Modesto Junior College to change the college-going culture in Stanislaus County. Funded by a planning grant from the College Futures Foundation, we are working with our partners to explore and develop a local initiative that provides more needs-based scholarships to students so that they have a clear path to prosperity.

Along with our commitment to shared learning and collaborative initiatives, Stanislaus Community Foundation invested in the region through grants and scholarships, investing more than \$1.4 million in charitable dollars locally. Beyond the actual numbers, we worked hard to connect local donors with area nonprofits to generate conversations around emerging community solutions.

2015 was quite the year – a year of meaningful change and movement towards a shared and hopeful vision for Stanislaus County. We strongly believe our community is well on its way towards creating a prosperous, safe and vibrant home for all who live here. We look forward to working with you to lift up our great community in 2016, and beyond.

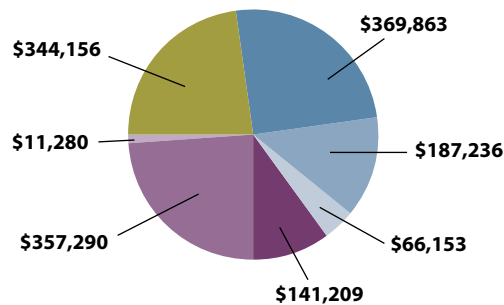
Marian Kaanon,  
President/Chief Executive Officer

Jeff Grover,  
Chairman, Board of Directors

# What does Stanislaus Community Foundation do?

For 13 years, Stanislaus Community Foundation has been a catalyst to transform local resources into common good. Community Foundations are unique in that they are a place-based public charity created by and for a specific region of people. Stanislaus Community Foundation houses over 110 unique charitable funds under our umbrella, comprising more than \$18 million in total assets. These funds are set up by individuals, families, corporations, public and nonprofit agencies - anyone with a charitable goal can achieve it, easily and efficiently, by utilizing our services. Since 2002, Stanislaus Community Foundation has provided close to \$11 million in grants and scholarships throughout our region.

## 2015 Giving by Impact Area

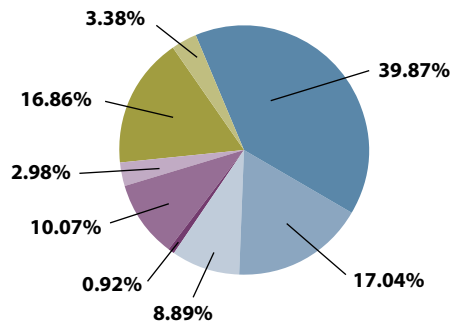


- Academic & Education **25.04%**
- Arts, Culture & History **12.68%**
- Basic Needs **4.48%**
- Children, Youth & Families **9.56%**
- Community Development **24.19%**
- Environmental & Wildlife **0.76%**
- Health & Human Services **23.30%**

# OF GRANTS  
**454**

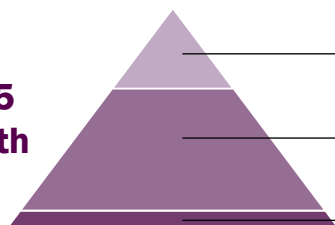
TOTAL GRANTS  
**\$1,477,187**

## Funds by Asset Size



- Donor Advised
- Unrestricted
- Field of Interest
- Fund by Asset Size
- Agency Fund
- Operating Fund
- Scholarship Fund
- Designated Fund

## 2015 Growth



- New Funds  
**\$910,883**
- Contributions to Existing Funds  
**\$1,397,874**
- Investment Returns  
**\$186,009**

# 2015 Grants and Scholarships

- Advancing Vibrant Communities
- Alliance Education Foundation
- ALS Association Golden West Chapter
- Alzheimer's Association of Santa Cruz County
- American Institute for Cancer Research
- Benedictine College
- Bethany Christian Services
- Bethany Home Foundation
- Burlingame High School Excellence Fund
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado
- Blessings In A Backpack
- Boy Scouts of America, Greater Yosemite Council
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus County
- Boys and Girls Club of Tracy
- Burbank Elementary School
- Cal Poly Athletic Advancement
- Cal Poly Foundation
- Cambridge Academies
- Camp Taylor
- Cardozo Middle School
- Carnegie Arts Center
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- Catholic Charities
- Center for Human Services
- Central West Ballet
- Chemo Crew
- Children's Crisis Center
- Christian Public Servants
- City of Modesto Parks and Recreation
- Comforting Kids
- Community Hospice Foundation
- Congregations Building Community
- CSU Stanislaus Warrior Athletics
- Danielle's Gift
- Dartmouth College
- Del Rio CC Foundation
- Downey Faculty Senate
- Education Foundation of Stanislaus County
- Empire Union School District
- Family Promise of Greater Modesto
- Foods Resource Bank
- Fox Road Elementary School
- Friends of the Children
- Gallo Center for the Arts
- GoodCities
- Great Valley Center
- Great Valley Museum Foundation
- Hart - Ransom Baseball Club
- Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus
- Healthy Aging Association
- Hillsdale College
- Howard Training Center
- Hughson Unified School District

- Immaculate Heart Radio
- Impact a Life International
- Interfaith Ministries
- Jessica's House
- Juline Foundation for Children
- Kit Fox Trolley
- KVIE
- Las Palmas School
- Learning Quest/Stanislaus Literacy Center
- Love Modesto
- Make-A-Wish Foundation
- Memorial Hospital Foundation
- Merced Center for the Performing Arts
- Miracle League of Stanislaus County
- Modesto Band of Stanislaus County
- Modesto Baseball for Youth
- Modesto City Schools
- Modesto Empire Little League
- Modesto Gospel Mission
- Modesto Junior College Foundation
- Modesto Police Canine Association
- Modesto Pregnancy Center
- Modesto Rotary Club Foundation
- Modesto Sound
- Modesto Symphony Orchestra Association
- Modesto-Stanislaus Poetry Center
- National Ag Science Center
- Oakdale Educational Foundation
- Oakdale High School
- Okizu Foundation
- Orville Wright Elementary School
- Parent Resource Center
- Patterson Joint Unified School District
- Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation
- Pinnacle Forum America
- Prospect Theater
- Richard M. Moon Primary School
- Salida Union School District
- Salvation Army
- Salvation Army Red Shield Center
- Save Mart Cares
- Second Harvest Food Bank of San Joaquin & Stanislaus County
- SEEDS Diocese of Stockton
- Shadowchase Running Club
- Shelter Cove Community Church
- Shelter Outreach Plus
- Sierra Vista Child & Family Services
- Society for Disabilities
- South Modesto Partnerships
- St. Mary's Dining Room
- St. Vincent De Paul Ministry of St. Stanislaus Catholic Church
- Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission
- Stanislaus County Police Activities League

- Stanislaus Library Foundation
- Stanislaus Partners In Education
- Stanislaus Senior Foundation
- Stanislaus Union School District
- State Theatre of Modesto
- Sylvan Elementary School
- Sylvan Union School District
- The First Tee of Central Valley
- The First Tee TriValley
- The Jack and Buena Foundation
- Townsend Opera
- Tuolumne River Trust
- Turlock Bulldogs Aquatic Boosters
- UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Children's Fund
- Uncle Lonny Presents
- United Samaritans Foundation
- United Way of Stanislaus County
- Valley Recovery Resources
- Viking Athletics
- West Modesto King Kennedy Neighborhood Collaborative
- Without Permission
- Women with Pain Coalition
- Youth for Christ
- Youth With A Mission Modesto

Universities and Colleges for 2015 Scholarship Recipients  
*90 scholarships totaling \$99,739*

- California State University, Los Angeles
- California State University, Fresno
- California State University, Sacramento
- California State University, Sonoma
- California State University, Stanislaus
- Dixie State University
- Merced College
- Modesto Junior College
- Ohio Northern University
- Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology
- San Joaquin Valley College
- San Jose State University
- Santa Clara University
- Southern Oregon University
- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UC Irvine
- UC Merced
- UC Santa Barbara
- UC Santa Cruz
- UC Los Angeles
- University of San Francisco

# Change Through Philanthropy

## Ambeck Mortgage Scholarship and Donor Advised Funds: Giving Back to Your Home Community

Ambeck Mortgage Associates has provided people the opportunity to make Stanislaus County their home for more than 26 years. As a Modesto native, company President Patty Amador is proud of her home and has found a way to say thank you.

"This is the community that has always been my home and has supported me in my business," Patty said. "I am and will always be grateful for that support and to be in a position to donate funds, improve lives, and give back to this community."

In 2003, Patty established the Ambeck Mortgage Scholarship Fund. Since then, she's awarded more than \$25,000 in scholarships to 36 students attending universities around the country, including Sacramento State, UC Berkeley and UCLA.



*Patty Amador with 2013 scholarship recipients*

"By providing financial assistance to those who want to further their education we are ultimately enhancing life for all of us," said Patty. "Assisting individuals to obtain higher education not only benefits the individual, but their community as well, by the contributions they make with their chosen careers."

Patty didn't stop there. She expanded her giving in 2004 by establishing the Ambeck Mortgage Donor Advised Fund which allows her to grant funding to many local nonprofit organizations including Community Hospice, Center for Human Services, Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus and the Stanislaus Family Justice Center.

"By having the fund, these grants can remain consistent instead of dependent on the economic cycles that affect the ability of support from one year to the next," said Patty.

Because of her planned and thoughtful giving, the Ambeck Mortgage funds will continue to impact organizations and students in our community for years to come.

## Christopher P. Walker Foundation Fund: From Private Foundation to Field of Interest Fund

Even as a baby, Christopher Walker was active and gregarious. His parents affectionately nicknamed him "Cricket" since he was their lucky charm and often kicked his feet like the lively creatures.

He grew up in Modesto with his parents and older sister, attended Central Catholic High School and eventually co-owned a timber company called Sylvan Forests.

One of his passions was interacting with children, especially after his niece and nephew were born. As he got more involved in their lives as a young adult, he realized not all children had loving families and the opportunities he and his family had.

"He recognized that some children, unfortunately, did not have the basic needs for survival like shelter, food and a supporting family," said Jean Lowell, Christopher's mother. "He literally hoped to be able to help in some way – even if his efforts only helped one child."

Sadly, Christopher didn't get the chance to carry out his goal. His young life was tragically cut short in a car accident in 2001 at the age



*"Christopher 'Cricket' Walker with his nephew"*

of 29. To honor his dream to help underprivileged children, Christopher's parents and friends formed a foundation to build and support Cricket's House, a safe haven for abused, neglected and at-risk children.

In 2015, the Christopher P. Walker Foundation board of directors decided to transfer the funds from their private foundation to a field of interest fund with Stanislaus Community Foundation that would grant to organizations that provide services and support to young children at risk of abuse or neglect.

"Being able to continue to help the community, carry on Cricket's legacy, and have this occur by handing over the responsibility of running the fund to a third party has been an ideal solution for the Christopher P. Walker Foundation," Jean said. "We were happy to be able to find a partner that could continue to serve Stanislaus County with a similar mission that the Christopher P. Walker Foundation embraced."

With this field of interest fund, Christopher's family and friends can be assured Stanislaus Community Foundation will identify the local organizations capable of making the greatest impact – and that Christopher and those children he sympathized are never forgotten.



## Kayla Bernardi Bee Positive Foundation Fund: Keeping Memories Alive

Spunk, sass and spirit epitomize Kayla Bernardi.

"She had lots of nicknames," said Cathie Bernardi, Kayla's mother. "Busy Bee was one she took on early on in her life because she was very busy."



*Kayla Bernardi*

Kayla was Cathie and Joe Bernardi's oldest child. She was born with Down syndrome, but never let it get in her way. She sang, danced, enjoyed water sports on the lake and graduated from Turlock High School.

"She really fought to overcome her medical challenges to do everything we asked her to do and everything she wanted to do," said Cathie. "She truly lived."

In 2014, Kayla was diagnosed with leukemia and passed away in March of 2015 at twenty years old. The Bernardis turned to Stanislaus Community Foundation to establish the Kayla Bernardi Bee Positive Foundation Fund to keep Kayla's memory alive and support the organizations and causes important to Kayla and their family.

"People who didn't know her will have an opportunity to see things being done in the community in a positive way," Cathie said.

On what would've been the weekend of Kayla's 21st birthday, more than 600 Stanislaus County residents participated in the

first annual Kayla Bernardi Bee Positive 5K Fun Run to raise money for Kayla's fund. The Bernardis granted most of the proceeds to Jessica's House in Turlock, an organization that supports grieving families after losing a loved one.

"That's something we took advantage of so we feel like we should give back to them and help them continue to offer what they give to the community," said Cathie.

The Bernardis will continue to explore ways to spread joy, empathy and gratitude around the community as Kayla did with her spirit.

## Evelyn Hanshaw Scholarship Fund: A Decade of Empowering Students

If you asked long-time educator Evelyn Hanshaw to describe her ideal student, she probably wouldn't just pick someone with straight-As and perfect attendance. Resilience, leadership and perseverance mattered most to her, especially at the middle school named after her in south Modesto.



*Evelyn Hanshaw and Charles Vidal*

"Mrs. Hanshaw was mesmerized by the resilience of the students in her school," said Evelyn Hanshaw Middle School's first principal, Charles Vidal. "It took more than a GPA to break out of the challenges and barriers confronting you each day living in south Modesto. It took character."

Notorious for high crime and poverty, south Modesto can be a difficult environment for children to grow up – a place where they often end up in gangs or dropping out of school. Evelyn Hanshaw Middle School became a haven of safety and hope for many of them. Evelyn Hanshaw herself became their matriarch.

When Evelyn passed away in 2005, Charles – who is also the executor of her estate – established a scholarship fund with money Evelyn had bequeathed to award to deserving graduates of her namesake school to go to college. Since she had no children of her own, these students were her children and her bequest was, in a way, her college savings account for them.

"The students at Hanshaw Middle School are smart – and not just book smart – street smart," Charles said. "They have extracted an intelligence from the challenges and circumstances they were born into and, as Mrs. Hanshaw described to me, with a little financial boost can go the distance."

For the past ten years, that financial boost has added up to more than \$100,000 to 118 students to attend colleges and universities, including Stanislaus State, Modesto Junior College and UC Merced.

The Evelyn Hanshaw Scholarship Fund gives beyond its scholarship dollars. Stanislaus Community Foundation connected Charles to organizations with similar charitable goals, like Center for Human Services and United Way, to build partnerships to support the students.

"Placing candidates in a position to apply and become eligible requires interventions," Charles explained. "On the other end, once a student has received the scholarship, support systems must be in place to stay the course to their degree."

As the Evelyn Hanshaw scholars grow in number and experience, Charles asks for one favor in return – to go back to their alma mater as role models for younger generations living in south Modesto and serve as a reminder that resilience can lead to a boundless future.

# Change Through Community Action



71% of Stanislaus County third grade students do not read at grade-level standards, which is a major predictor of future success." Stanislaus Community Foundation is committed to moving the needle on third grade reading in Stanislaus County and continues to act as a lead backbone organization for Stanislaus READS!, a multi-agency, multi-year effort to help children read at grade-level standards by the end of third grade.

In March 2015, Stanislaus Community Foundation and Stanislaus READS! strategic partners published a report highlighting opportunities around school readiness, chronic absence and summer learning. The campaign began its work by setting goals and strategies for the next five years.

Since the launch, Stanislaus Community Foundation invested in several components of the initiative. Key highlights from 2015 include:



## Expanded Imagination Library

Stanislaus Community Foundation invested over \$10,000 in seed funding to expand the Imagination Library—a national program that distributes free books directly to children's homes every month from birth to age 5.

## Targeted Family Engagement

Stanislaus Community Foundation joined forces with Congregations Building Community and the Stanislaus County Library to pilot an innovative family engagement concept at Frantz Nursery in October 2015. Over 150 ag-based employees learned tips on how to incorporate more reading in the home, received free Spanish children's books, and registered for new library cards.



## Invested in Summer Learning

Stanislaus Community Foundation and E. & J. Gallo Winery co-invested \$30,000 into pilot school summer programs to help improve children's access to learning and enrichment. Each school designed a unique program and tested different strategies over the summer, which included opening school libraries and computer labs, incentivizing student reading over the summer, and engaging families on the importance of early learning and reading to children.

## Raised New Funding

Stanislaus Community Foundation received a significant investment in the Stanislaus READS! campaign thanks to a recent \$300,000 grant from The James Irvine Foundation. With new financial support, the work will scale up to additional school districts in 2016.



Stanislaus Community Foundation is proud to be a lead agency behind Stanislaus READS! and we look forward to growing the movement in 2016.

For more information, visit [StanReads.org](http://StanReads.org).





Stanislaus Community Foundation continued to build local knowledge around systems leadership through the second annual Connecting for Good event on April 9, 2015. Nearly 300 public officials, nonprofit and business executives, faith-based leaders and neighborhood champions joined together to learn how to lead change at the individual, organizational, and systemic levels. Keynote speakers included Lenny Mendonca, Director Emeritus of McKinsey & Company, and Kim Meredith, Executive Director of Stanford Center for Philanthropy & Civil Society.



# Change Through Leadership

Stanislaus Community Foundation 2016 Board of Directors



**Jeff Grover,**  
Board Chairman  
President  
Solecon Industrial  
Contractors, Inc.



**Craig Lewis**  
Vice-Chair  
President/CEO  
Prudential California Realty



**Melanie Chiesa**  
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Optometrist  
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**Randy Clark**  
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Gallo Center for the Arts



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**Judy Sly Herrero**  
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The Modesto Bee



**Bill Jackson**  
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**John Lazar**  
Broker-Associate  
Century 21 M&M Associates



**Daryn Kumar**  
CEO  
Memorial Medical Center



**Marian Martino**  
Co-Founder  
Martino Graphic Design



**Evan Porges**  
President/Co-Owner,  
Prime Shine Car Wash



**Chris Tyler**  
Portfolio Manager/  
Equity Research Analyst  
Great Gable Partners

# Our Funds

## Agency

Center for Human Services  
Central CA Art Association Fund  
Central Valley Foods Resources Bank Fund  
Central Valley Professional Exchange Fund  
Central West Ballet Fund  
Dependency Legal Fund  
Education Foundation of Stanislaus County  
Great Valley Center Fund  
Modesto Band of Stanislaus County Fund  
Modesto Firefighters EMS Fund  
Modesto Firefighters Training Symposium Fund  
Modesto Gateway Rotary Club Foundation Fund  
Modesto Lions Club Fund  
Modesto Police Historical Society Fund  
Modesto Police Memorial Fund  
National Ag Science Center  
Sierra Vista Child and Family Fund  
Sunrise Rotary Foundation Fund  
Wellspring Foundation of Stanislaus County Fund

## Designated

Donovan & Alberta Bodes Fund  
Lloyd S. & Virginia M. Parks Memorial Fund  
Lo Conte Fund  
Nick Chipponeri Family Fund

## Fiscal Sponsorship

Friends of the Empire Community Pool Fund  
Friends of the Modesto Dog Park Fund  
Friends of Wesson Ranch Fund  
George A. Rogers Neighborhood Park Fund  
Hughson Sports and Fitness Complex Fund  
Imagination Library Turlock - ABC Project Fund  
Partners in Paint Fund

## Donor Advised

A Book of Dreams Fund  
Abigail Colby Floyd Memorial Fund  
Ambeck Mortgage Fund  
Augusta Fund  
Boyett Family Foundation Fund  
Boyett Petroleum "B Green Project" Fund  
Boyett Petroleum "Make Dreams Real" Fund  
Cardoza Family Fund  
Carroll Family Fund  
Ciara Chiesa's Circle of Hope Fund  
Clark Family Fund  
Credit Bureau Foundation Fund  
Datapath Fund  
Eric and Carol Benson Charitable Fund  
Evans Family Fund  
Florence Caruso Family Fund  
Friedman Family Fund  
Garton Tractor Family Fund  
Gianelli Family Fund  
Grover Family Fund  
Gulvin Family Fund  
John and Diane Bellizzi Fund  
Johnny Etchebarne's Nugget Fund  
Kayla Bernardi Bee Positive Foundation Fund  
Maya Rose Children's Fund  
Prime Shine/Porges Family Foundation Fund  
Raspo Family Fund  
Robert Woolley Fund  
Van Overbeek Family Fund

## Field of Interest

Christopher P. Walker Foundation Fund  
Community Transitional Resources Fund  
Gervasoni Family Fund  
Greater Modesto Area Churches Fund  
John and Cheri Phillips Fund  
McClatchy Disadvantaged Youth Endowment Fund  
Memorial Hospital Foundation/Recreational Opportunities for Cancer Kids (ROCK) Fund  
Robert E. Perry Memorial Fund  
Stanislaus Heart Rescue Fund  
William T. Turner & Doris L. Turner Fund

## Scholarships

Ambeck Mortgage Scholarship  
Arthur R. & Corinne K. Shields Scholarship  
Beyer High School Athletic Scholarship  
Camp Jack Hazard – "Bart Bennett" Scholarship  
Camp Jack Hazard – "Robert Babington" Scholarship  
Chiton Society Scholarship  
Club of Hearts Scholarship  
Diane Bava Amador Scholarship  
Don Hendricks Memorial Scholarship  
Dr. Grant E. and Colleen S. Bare Scholarship  
Dr. Larry Cooke Memorial Scholarship  
Dr. William C. Parker Memorial Scholarship  
Edward T. Taylor Jr. Perpetual Memorial Scholarship  
Evelyn Hanshaw Scholarship  
The First Tee of Central Valley Scholarship  
Gemperle Family Farms Scholarship  
George Rogers Scholarship  
James McClatchy Scholarship  
Jane Wynne Woolley Memorial  
Judy Wiegman Scholarship  
Latino Business Association Scholarship  
Martella Family Scholarship  
Mary Grogan Scholarship  
Melinda Nielsen Family Scholarship  
Modesto Chamber of Commerce Scholarship  
Oakdale Riverbank Escalon (AAUW) Scholarship  
Pat Maciel Lubeck Scholarship  
Ryan Dickerson Scholarship  
Sammy Jenkins Math Scholarship  
Stanislaus County Workforce Alliance Scholarship  
Trinitas Farming Community Scholarship  
Trinitas Farming Scholarship  
Tuolumne Scholarship  
Virginia Azevedo Scholarship  
Youngheim Family Scholarship

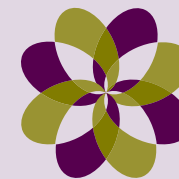
## Endowed General

Bette Belle & Jean Smith Memorial Fund  
James McClatchy Endowment Fund

# You Can Give to a Fund or Establish Your Own

## TYPES OF FUNDS:

- **Agency Funds** are either endowed or expendable, and are developed by agencies that see the wisdom of ensuring long-term investment growth in working with Stanislaus Community Foundation.
- **Designated and Field-of-Interest Funds** are more specific and support certain philanthropic interests or are designated to fund specific nonprofit agencies and programs.
- **Donor Advised Funds** are initiated by individuals, families and corporations. These funds are broad in their charitable interest and impact a wide scope of local needs based on the donor's choice of nonprofit organizations.
- **Scholarship Funds** are set up by various donors; including booster clubs, professional groups, families, churches and companies; to invest in local students. The criteria vary for each of our scholarships. Stanislaus Community Foundation manages the online application process and our scholarship committee evaluates applications and selects final recipients per the criteria established by donors.
- **Endowed General Funds** allow Stanislaus Community Foundation to respond to the community's changing needs over time with responsive grant programs developed by our Board of Directors, Grants Committee and staff members.



Stanislaus  
Community  
Foundation

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Photos by: William Harris,