

# NAPA VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## NEWS RELEASE

June 26, 2018

Contact: Terence Mulligan, President, Napa Valley Community Foundation  
707.254.9565

### **Napa Valley Community Foundation Awards \$330,650 to Support Education and Students in Napa County**

**Napa, CA – June 26, 2018** – Napa Valley Community Foundation (NVCF) today announced education grants and scholarships totaling \$330,650 for the 2018-2019 academic year. These investments include \$180,000 to support nonprofits, schools and school districts who work with local children and youth; and \$150,650 in direct scholarship awards to Napa County students.

The grants are from the In School & Out of School Fund, which focuses on programs and targeted academic interventions that close the achievement gap for students ages 3-24 in Napa County, and the Gordon F. & Marion J. Davies Endowment Fund, which was established through a donor's trust to help at-risk Napa County high school students graduate from high school and pursue post-secondary education or vocational training. Since inception in 2007, the In School & Out of School Fund has distributed more than \$1 million in grants, and since 2015, the Davies Fund has distributed more than \$315,000.

Grants for the 2018-2019 academic year have been made to 14 nonprofit and school-based programs that help kids from American Canyon to Calistoga succeed in the classroom and improve their chances of becoming confident and contributing adults. The funded projects include academic, career and leadership development, with an emphasis on college readiness; innovative education models, with a focus on preschool and elementary school-aged populations; professional development for teachers; and parent engagement. Grantees include: 10,000 Degrees; Aim High for High School; Calistoga Joint Unified School District; Community Resources for Children; Hearts & Hands Preschool; Napa County Office of Education; Napa Valley Farmworker Foundation; Napa Valley Unified School District; Napalearns; On the Move; St. Helena Preschool for All; St. John the Baptist Catholic School; Summer Search; and Up Valley Family Centers of Napa County.

The Foundation also awarded \$150,650 from six Scholarship Funds to 58 local students, four of whom received more than one scholarship award. Among this year's scholarship recipients: local military veterans who are receiving financial support thanks to The George and Gwendolyn Goodin Scholarship Fund, a permanent endowment that was established at NVCF with a gift from the estate of George and Gwendolyn Goodin, longtime residents of Yountville; and, recent graduates from local public high schools, and transfer students from Napa Valley College, many of whom are the first in their families to pursue a four-year college education, courtesy of The Fruit of the Vine Scholarship Fund, which was established by an anonymous Napa Valley winegrower. Also included are scholarship recipients from the following Funds: The Edward W. Solomon and the Judith B. Cutcomb Scholarship Funds for teachers throughout the Valley; The Ted Kohler Music Scholarship Fund for Calistoga students studying music; and, The Lenore Hirsch-Jay Falk Scholarship Fund for Napa County students who have worked hard to overcome academic challenges, and will attend a two or four-year college program in general education.

Scholarship awards ranged from \$300 to \$6,000 per student, and the average amount awarded was \$2,400. Approximately 43 percent of scholarship recipients have enrolled (or are planning to enroll) at University of California campuses or private universities; 25 percent have enrolled in the California State University system; and four percent are attending Napa Valley College.

“In a perfect world, financial resources wouldn’t be a barrier to success in school and a chance to earn a college degree,” said NVCF President Terence Mulligan. “Too often, a lack of resources limits opportunities – so we use our education grants and scholarships to address this gap head-on.”

“Our family has deep roots in the Valley, and we’ve seen many families – who also have deep roots here – struggle to send their incredibly promising children to college,” said the anonymous founding donor to the Fruit of the Vine Scholarship. “It’s the mission of The Fruit of the Vine Scholarship Fund to help as many students as we can overcome financial barriers to their education, and we are proud to have supported 78 deserving local students with more than \$250,000 since we started our Scholarship Fund in 2015.”

If you’d like to learn more about setting up, or contributing to, a Scholarship Fund at NVCF, please contact Terence Mulligan, President, at 707.254.9565 x 11.

#### **About Napa Valley Community Foundation**

Napa Valley Community Foundation helps donors transform their passion for giving into greater impact. Now celebrating nearly 25 years of service to Napa Valley, NVCF has served as a bridge between philanthropic families and hard-working nonprofit agencies since 1994, bringing people, ideas and resources together to enhance the quality of life in our community. From American Canyon to Calistoga, NVCF has distributed more than \$50 million in grants since it was founded, and currently serves as the philanthropic partner to 100 individuals, families, nonprofit agencies and corporations in Napa Valley.

More information: [www.napavalleycf.org](http://www.napavalleycf.org)

###