

## Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation 2016 Applications – Evaluation Summaries

*Where possible, excerpts from the grantee’s own comments are provided (edited for clarity).  
Evaluations not received yet will be due in November unless otherwise noted.*

*Organizations in **Red** have applied to the current cycle*

**Action Council** — \$10,000 — FBO Greenfield Community Science Workshop — “This FY 2016-2017, surveys will be administered to forty (40) randomly selected youth as well as ten (10) randomly selected parents. Twenty (20) students and five (5) parents were surveyed this winter (middle of the fiscal year) and twenty (20) more students and five (5) additional parents will be surveyed in late spring (towards the end of the fiscal year).

We obtained the following information from students surveyed this winter:

- 76% of students have increased ability to learn new things solve problems
- 86% of students have increased ability to use tool, build and make things
- 84% of students report that their comfort level with science has increased”

**Action Council** — \$10,000 — FBO Palenke Arts — In Palenke Arts’ first year of operation, they secured a facility through an MOU with a Seaside elementary school, offered several arts courses (Children’s Chorus, Dance, Jazz, Mariachi, Visual Arts, percussion and digital audio production classes) to more than 80 students and held six concerts/events and five school assembly performances. “The changes that we have seen as a result of our work fall in different areas. The



first and most evident area is the mere existence of Palenke Arts. Whereas the city of Seaside now has for the first time a safe, inviting and professionally-run facility that offers multicultural arts classes and events on a low or no-cost basis, which they lacked before we opened our doors in October 2016. This is, of course measurable by observation and attendance at our events, facilities and classes. The second area of change is the perceived value that our participants and their families have placed on Palenke Arts. Our CSUMB Service Learning students conducted student and parent surveys at the end of the year that gave unanimous high marks for our programs and classes. These surveys mentioned that teachers are caring and knowledgeable, classes present a great alternative to other after-school offerings, the facilities are inviting, and that they feel welcome here. The main suggestions for improvement are to publicize better our programs, be open more days of the week and add other artistic disciplines and offerings.”

**Action Council** — \$5,000 — Salinas Valley Math Initiative —

**Alisal Center for the Fine Arts** — \$10,000 — Operating support — “The artistic, educational, and personal achievements of our students have demonstrated a high level of positive impact that ACFA has on its youth. Not only have our students continued to improve their proficiency as artists and educators, but several members of our programs have obtained leadership and teaching roles of their own, here at ACFA and elsewhere. Examples include, but are not limited to, staff members and students joining the jazz and orchestra ensemble at Hartnell College, students starting their own band, teachers and students starting their own semi-professional for hire rondalla ensemble, being one of the top players in their school music program, helping local high school music programs like North Monterey County High School, getting hired as full time music teachers in neighboring districts, creating artist portfolios, participating in and winning awards at music competitions and playing in their church worship team. The list of notable accomplishments grows every year!

In efforts to measure the impact of ACFA programs, the organization has implemented a survey system that periodically follows up with students to analyze how ACFA may impact their life. Future activities will then adapt based on the feedback that we have received from our students and their families. We have been steadily increasing the quality, quantity and effectiveness of our programs based on input from our students. In addition, we have continued to monitor class attendance and commitment and will continue to do so by various means.”

**All Saints’ Day School** — \$10,000 — Financial Aid — “The School is co-educational, Preschool to eighth grade, and students come to All Saints’ Day School from communities throughout Monterey County. The Nancy Buck Ransom Grant is directed, as stipulated, to our Preschool students. Our Preschool follows California State guidelines and regulations. We were able to give two Tuition Assistance Awards thanks to the Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation. These two students may not have been able to attend our preschool program without your support.”

**ARIEL Theatrical, Inc.** — \$15,000 — Operating support — “As a result of our work, we have seen more new and younger participants as evidenced by information gathered from registration forms. As the more experienced youth graduate from high school and participate in fewer programs to pursue college and career, becoming ARIEL Alumni, it is essential to attract greater numbers of new participants to take their place. With a younger demographic we have an opportunity to shape our programs to better meet their needs as they learn and grow, on stage and off. We will continue to monitor the population that we serve in an effort to maximize effectiveness and positive impact.

**Art in Action** — \$10,000 — Creating Educational Equity — “All staff members were required to attend the hands-on training, and did, which ensured the success of the program. Having buy-in and enthusiasm from the staff at the onset of the year helped tremendously which was captured both verbally at the training and through the survey at the completion of the training. The teachers are just now returning to school and Kristi has advised me that all but 5 of them have returned. The post-survey will be administered shortly and we will make that data available once it is received and analyzed. This data will also be shared with Kristi and guide us in making any changes to the program this year.”

**Arts Council Santa Cruz County**



— \$8,000 — Mariposa’s Art — “We delivered teaching, classroom management and art training to 28 high school youth who, together with professional artists, shared their talents by co-teaching hundreds of elementary school students in after-school art enrichment programs. We served 600 students at Hall District and Ohlone Elementary Schools, exceeding our goal of 450. Data from pre and post surveys at Ohlone in spring 2016 showed that only 10 students (13%) could name a type of drum during the pre-survey, whereas 64 students (88%) were able to correctly answer this question at the completion of the program. No students could play a drum pattern with a group at pre-survey, whereas 71 children (97%) displayed that ability at

the program's conclusion.”

**Big Sur Land Trust** — \$30,000 — Glen Deven Summer Camps — “Throughout June and July of 2016, Big Sur Land Trust (BSLT) organized and carried out seven 3-day camp experiences with 83 youth at Glen Deven Ranch. Due to the Soberanes Fire on July 22, the camp season was cut short as the fire came dangerously close to the Glen Deven Ranch property. Glen Deven Ranch continued to serve as a staging area for firefighters throughout the rest of the summer and BSLT was forced to cancel the remaining camps.” They had some funds remaining in their NBRF grant due to the fire which was approved to cover some equipment that was lost in the fire. They also launched the Marks Ranch Day Camp program to build off the lessons learned at the Ranch which served youth during the year. Post-camp evaluation results: 85% of the camp participants note that their comfort in nature increased a lot. 88% expressed that their motivation to try new things increased significantly. Participants understanding of the natural world also increased with

56% increasing their knowledge of local plants significantly and 66% noting their knowledge of wild animals improved.

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County** — \$60,000 — Operating support — “The general operating support received and utilized during the grant period, contributed to our mission as we served over 4,300 youth and provided 128,000 meals in 2016. As part of our request to NBR we successfully matched \$25,000 of the grant award through the Summer Success campaign, raising \$43,490.

Outcome #1: ACADEMIC SUCCESS: a) increased educational commitment; b) engagement in pro-social, high yield learning activities resulting increased knowledge, understanding &/or skill; and c) satisfactory progress towards on-time grade progression.

- 98% of members are on grade level for age
- 85% of youth expect they will complete college
- 86% of members believe school to be important
- 75% of members did not have an unexcused absence
- Read Naturally participants completed 309 stories and improved on average 27 words correct per minute between the fall and winter testing

Outcome #2: HEALTHY LIFESTYLES: a) increased physical activity; and b) increased ability to make healthy choices, demonstrates positive resistance and decision-making skills.

- 69% of members engage in physical activity 5-7 days/week
- 94% of teen members abstained from drinking
- 96% of teen members abstained from cigarette use
- 97% of teen members abstained from sexual activity

Outcome #3: GOOD CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP: a) increased self-efficacy, leadership skills and community participation; and b) avoidance of risky behaviors.

- 88% of members believe the Club provides them with a sense of belonging
- 85% of members believe the Club provides them with a sense of emotional stability
- 93% of members believe Club staff have high expectations of them
- 92% of Gang Prevention Summit youth attendees said they are less likely to join a gang.

**California Missions Foundation** — \$5,000 — All Aboard The Bus — “We provided funding otherwise not available for field trip bus transportation for a variety of fourth grade schools from throughout Monterey County to one of the local Missions so that the students could see and experience first-hand early California history. As part of the program, teachers provide a report including a trip summary and quotes from both students and teachers about their field trip experience, which allows us to measure the benefits of the All Aboard the Bus program. Frequently these reports indicate that being able to take a field trip enriches the overall education experience of the students. This year we awarded a grant to 23 schools, CMF issued grant checks ranging in amount from \$424.50 to \$1,000.00, for a total of \$18,070.66. Overall, this total funding allowed approximately 2,405 students, and roughly 369 teachers and chaperones, to benefit from field trips to Missions San Juan Bautista, San Antonio de Padua, and Carmel. Both of these numbers are increases over the prior year.”

**Carl Cherry Center for the Arts** — \$8,000 — High School Poetry Awards — “Changes as a result of the program include an increased exposure of poetry in Monterey County high schools; an increase of attendance in poetry workshops by students; an increase in the number of poems submitted and the increase of attendance at the Poetry Reading. These results are measured through tracking of attendance for all classes, workshops, readings, the number of students submitting poetry and the numbers in attendance. Tracking of the program is being accomplished through direct and indirect assessments. Direct assessment includes tracking of the program through participation, demographics, surveys and focus group discussions. As in past years, we make assessments of the program and its impact through surveys and informal evaluation meetings. Students and teachers are provided a pre-workshop and post-workshop attitude surveys which gauge impressions, responses, interests regarding poetry, teaching assignments,



enjoyment and aversion levels, interests in poetic forms, and preferences over other forms of writing and overall assessment of poetry and the program. Evaluation questions are meant to guide the structure and goals of the poetry program for next year and accurately measure the strengths and weaknesses--making students partners in the process. Informal meetings proceeding and following workshops allow our instructors to get a sense and feeling for how students are responding to the form, content and scope of the writing workshops. Feedback from the teachers also provides valuable insights into the program, curriculum and teaching methods.”

**Carmel Bach Festival** — \$8,000 — Seaside concerts — “In July of 2016 we gave a free community concert in Seaside and had the largest attendance to date, just over 350 people. In addition we performed an interactive Family Concert on November 5th at St. Francis Xavier Church, translated and narrated in Spanish by retired bi-lingual educator Bob Gomez. This concert featured Grade 5 classrooms from Ord Terrace and the International School of Monterey singing "Yo quiero amigos," and the Seaside HS Pep Band, performing Colonel Bogey alongside our professional musicians.”

**Central Coast YMCA** — \$30,000 — After School program — “In 2016 Central Coast YMCA received a generous program grant from the Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation to support the YMCA's After School Program, which served 500 school-aged children at thirteen locations throughout Monterey County including at schools, Y branches and public housing facilities, providing them with a safe, supervised and enriching environment after school. According to the most recent parent surveys for the After School Program, 99% of parents reported high levels of satisfaction with the program; 97% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that interactions between staff and students are caring, respectful and open; and 99% agreed or strongly agreed that Y staff demonstrate the values of honesty, respect and responsibility in dealings with students and other adults.”

**Chartwell** — \$5,000 — Financial Aid — “During the 2016-2017 academic year, 52% of our students received some amount of financial aid. The total awarded was \$393,363 which was distributed across all grade levels. Our students come from a five-county area with 48% coming from Monterey County alone. The grant from NBRF made it possible for a young student (grade 3) from Monterey County to attend our full year program. He had enrolled in our Core Summer Program and, for the first time, enjoyed going to school. With your generous assistance, he was able to continue when school started in August and has shown tremendous improvement in both skills and confidence as the year has progressed.”

**Christine Marie's Star Riders** — \$20,000 — Riding Stars — “The Riding Stars were involved in all CMSR program activities including EXPO, horsemanship, marketing, nonprofit management, entrepreneurial projects, design and publication. Riding Stars also lead Summer Experiences such as summer riding camp for special needs preschoolers, Riding Stars older members actively worked at team building with the new members. They showed them how to work with each horse; for several weeks or a month and they change horses and learn to work with a horse that is different, maybe moving a little faster horse that would be changing their abilities and their skills. Working with other riders developments their skills through and hands on experiences working with a horse from the ground up. At one point they are able come and get on a horse saddled up and ride that is so amazing to see. With the knowledge they gain thru their experiences they in turn are able to provide their skill knowledge other riding Stars.”

**Coast Property Owners Association** — \$7,500 — Emergency Assistance for children and families with children affected by the Soberanes Fire — N/A

**Coastal Kids Home Care** — \$15,000 — Clinic on Wheels — From November 1, 2016 through July 31, 2016 Coastal Kids Home Care conducted 324 skilled nursing visits for 77 children with short-term medical conditions through the Fitness In-home Treatment (FIT) program. Home visits for the FIT program provided IV antibiotics, teaching parents how to administer breathing treatments, medications or monitoring weight gain. Through FIT we also provided in-home nursing care for premature infants and supported parents in caring for these fragile little ones at home. Coastal Kids nurses also provided 183 skilled nursing visits to infants discharged from community hospital NICUs through the Vulnerable Infant Program (VIP). Our pediatric Physical Therapist

provided 81 visits to nine toddlers and young children coping with developmental disabilities through our TOP Challenges Program. These children worked toward developmental milestones including learning to sit, crawl and walk independently.”

**Community Foundation for Monterey County** — \$20,000 — Theater in the Schools — “With the help of DanceKids, Paper Wing Theatre, and Ariel Theatrical we offered performing arts instruction at 10 sites. We produced a musical at eight elementary schools, had a dance performance at one and held during the day Drama classes with a showcase assembly at another. There was an increase in schools participating, in performances offered and thus in children and families’ exposure to the performing arts.”

**Community Foundation for Monterey County** — \$20,000 — FBO Girls’ Health in Girls’ Hands —

**Community Hospital Foundation** — \$10,000 — Kids Eat Right —

- 2016-2017 Number of schools 36, sessions 108, students 3,240
- Number of Parent workshops 2016-2017 total 16
- Total number of parents 1,250
- Number of health fairs 2016-2017 total 4, 1,200 participants
- Number of Farm Day 2016-2017 total 3, 969 participants.

“Monterey County fourth graders are increasing their nutrition knowledge by an average of 35% thereby helping them form a strong nutrition knowledge to allow them to make healthy life style choices. This percentage tells us that the program is working and the more classes we see, the better. We are currently developing a 5th grade curriculum to be used with classes we saw the year before to test how much was retained and implemented.”

**Community Human Services** — \$30,000 — Safe Place — “We transitioned from a Winter Warming Shelter to a full-time, 12 bed, Emergency Shelter in November of 2016. Since January of 2017 we have been averaging close to 10 youth per night at the shelter. Safe Place staff also distributed food vouchers, snack bags, hygiene products, shoes, clothing, and first-aid items and provided crisis resolution, information and referral to other community resources, and informal counseling to assess and meet the youths’ immediate needs and move them toward safety.”

**Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula** — \$15,000 — Operating support — Report submitted. The organization has merged with CPY, who has taken over their programming. CCMP no longer functions as an independent nonprofit.

**Community Partnership for Youth** — \$40,000 — Operating support — “In the 2016-2017 school year to date, CPY has served 732 individuals, an average of 375 daily. Roughly one hour per day was devoted to homework each day; another 20 to 30 minutes were spent on reading activities. Additionally, CPY continues to have a close relationship with parents as well as teachers to better support individual academic needs.”

During the 2016 Summer Intersession, a survey was conducted. The results:

- 94.9% of students reported CPY helped them to feel better about themselves
- 96.2% of students reported CPY helped them to be more confident.
- 98.1% of students reported CPY helped them to be respectful to others.
- 96.8% of students reported CPY helped them to finish homework every day.
- 95.6% of students reported CPY helped them to read better.
- 96.8% of students reported CPY helped them to write better.
- 89.2% of students reported CPY helped them to understand math better.
- 77.8% of CPY students showed an increase in math scores.
- 76.2% of CPY students showed an increase in reading scores.
- 70.3% of CPY students (5th grade) showed an increase in language usage scores.

CPY also absorbed the programs formally associated with Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula.

**Crivitz Youth, Inc.** — \$670,000 — Operating Support —

**Door to Hope** — \$10,000 — Occupational Therapy —

**Eastman, Devin** — \$500 — Philanthropic Youth — N/A

**El Sistema USA / Salinas dba YoSal** — \$30,000 — Operating support — “Grades K-2 came two hours a week. Grades 3-12 [had] a three hour program for snack, homework help and music instruction. In the summer we had six weeks of music instruction. Each group held two concerts [plus] a joint Summer Concert. Students were invited to play at Farmers' Markets, First Friday in Oldtown, for the Rodeo Poetry Contest, at Kinship Center, at the Rancho Cielo Fun Day, at Villa Serra, and with Youth Music Monterey at Sunset Center. [Some] students also attended [BSLT's] Glen Deven camp and a 3.5 day camp with musicians from the Bach Festival. Coaches from the Jazz Festival and the Symphony also provided guidance. We have experienced great growth in our students. We sent 8 qualifying students to Youth Music Monterey and 4 to the national El Sistema Camp in Aspen for a week in the summer. We have added two members to our board who have excellent IT and Media [skills].” Challenges have included space issues, now resolved.

**Elkhorn Slough Foundation** — \$5,000 — Slough Crew — “Students, teachers, staff, and administrators at NMHS are increasingly aware of their environment and the actions they can take to improve it. This is confirmed by a pre-and post-survey taken by the students who attended our 4-day camping trip. They reported a 47% improvement in their knowledge of their local environment and more than 90% of students experienced their local environment in a new way. Another example of increased student involvement is that students decided to make their annual Earth Day celebration into an Earth Week celebration with a variety of engaging programs and a lot of student involvement. Last year 30 students participated. This year nearly 50 students and faculty participated with several students involved in more than one event. The presentations were attended by approximately 90% of the entire student body of the school. Each year there are more students interested in participating in the Slough Crew and its activities. The overnight camping trip (which is designed to share different habitats with the students) attracted 9 students last year and this year the overnight camping was at capacity with 13 students.”

**Epicenter of Monterey** — \$25,000 — Operating support — “Funding from Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation contributed to The Epicenter developing comprehensive programming, built the capacity of youth leaders, established a core group of youth members, expanded our "Summer Scholars" program (a week long camp in collaboration with CSUMB which hosted 15 Foster Youth and gave them the opportunity to experience campus life) and has launched a pilot program for LGBTQ support in South County. The Epicenter created partnerships with 20+ agencies, creating interdependent partnerships with each agency. Partners engaged in developing the Center's programming and offering resources and connections. The program has tracked initial outcomes, which point towards the program's positive impact on program participants. Specific outcomes included: 83% of youth have made progress towards employment, education, housing or wellness goals; 86% of youth reported feeling more valued and understood by peers and adults as a result of their participation; and 89% of youth leaders have demonstrated gains in Developmental Assets.”

**Everyone's Harvest** — \$5,000 — Edible Education — “In 2016, Everyone's Harvest (EH) conducted 15 Edible Education workshops that reached 350 community members, many of them in low-income areas with limited access to fresh fruits and vegetables. The workshops were between 30 and 45 minutes long, with an average of 23 participants per workshop. Additionally, EH conducted 22 Community Presentations that reached over 850 community members at local partner organizations including Headstart, Los Arboles Middle School, and Marina Junior Giants. These presentations were half an hour each and averaged 39 participants per workshop. Of the hundreds of families reached by the 2016-2017 Edible Education Cooking Workshops, 72% reported they were very likely to prepare the healthy dish at home after learning how to make it at the farmers' market kitchen.



Furthermore, 78% of participating families stated they were 'very likely to utilize more fresh fruits and vegetables' at home as a result of the workshop.



**First Night Monterey** — \$4,000 — Greenfield Community Cultural Arts Center programs — “We have seen changes in the youth! Maturity- emotionally being able to manage situations which might of beffled them or they could not of handled. Parents have told us, and art teachers have witnessed growth and maturity. Attendance is taken at each class, we speak to the parents and have them filled out a surveys.”

**Foundation for Monterey County Free Libraries** — \$13,000 — Learning to Read into Reading to Learn — “We conducted two surveys, one of Homework Center users/students, and one of parents. Student respondents reported that they know how to ask for help (84%), check out a book (89%), and find information for school reports at the library (53%). They further reported that they get the help they need at the Homework Center all or most of the time (85%), and they finish their homework all or most of the time (84%). 88% report that coming to the Homework Center has helped them in school, and 94% said they know when to ask for help. Parents reported that using the Homework Center has helped their child develop confidence in doing homework (100%), helped their child develop study skills (100%), and helped their child in school (100%). 57% reported that there child reads at the Homework Center.”

**Friends of Monterey Academy of Oceanographic Science** — \$7,000 — Operating support — “The generous funding from the Nancy Buck Ransom foundation helped MAOS to offer a rigorous, college preparatory curriculum, field trips and college campus visits, guest speakers, and the MAOS Internship Program, for motivated students from all walks of life. Last year, all of the Top Ten Seniors at Monterey High School were MAOS students. MAOS students are encouraged to be leaders, and support each other in their academics. This year, all of the ASB (Associated Student Body) were MAOS students. This includes President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Activities Leader. Over 95% of students go on to college after graduation.”

**Friends of the Salinas Public Libraries** — \$5,000 — Summer Reading and Activities — “275 children completed Reading Logs and received books as incentives for their reading efforts. Many children attended activities. Attendance was 5,151 children from all three libraries. Six children were rewarded with bikes, locks and helmets. 1,482 hours of reading time was logged for children 0 through 2nd grade and 4,698 hours [in] grades 3-12. Challenges were at the library: The leader for the Summer Reading Program left the library in early June; a new Manager of Community Education is in place and will keep good track of all aspects of the program and budget.” It was difficult for the proposal writer to account for the funds, and many conversations were needed to obtain this evaluation, which still “accounts” for \$40 more than the grant itself. Nevertheless it appears the grant was spent for the specified program.

**Gil Basketball Academy** — \$5,000 — Youth Development Basketball — “The GBA League and Academy continue to be the heart of our program. We have always surpassed our goal of attracting youth to both programs. We currently have 354 youth in our academy, surpassing our goal of 300 enrollees. In the league this past year, we had 120 youth participated fully, again exceeding our goal of 100 recruits and participants. The need for such programs in East Salinas is strong and continues to grow; the more people learn about the academy, the more students want to participate (and their parents encourage them to). All of our coaches are volunteers and are invaluable to the success of this program; we currently have 55 coaches participating overall. The youth receive specialized training and attention because of our highly dedicated volunteers.”

**Girl Scouts of California’s Central Coast** — \$25,000 — Leadership Experience — “830 at-risk, underserved Latina girls have received leadership-focused, confidence-building, and critical skill-building programs and activities: Soccer Program received soccer instruction, practice, and Games; Alisal Program Center after school program and summer day camp; character-building Girl Scout Journeys; homework assistance; life-skills development; summer literacy program; daily fitness activities; and weekly scientific-inquiry related activities. The program has successfully met or exceeded all of its objectives.” There have been upper management changes, successfully implemented, and a new development plan is being implemented. Staffing remains a challenge, as the work is part-time.

**Girls Incorporated of the Central Coast** — \$25,000 — Youth Leaders — “We hired and trained 25 Youth Leaders to facilitate programs for middle and high school girls in Monterey County. They

received training in public speaking, facilitation, [our] programs' curricula, classroom management, working as a team, and how to be a mandated reporter. Youth Leaders have served 441 girls at 17 school sites in Salinas, Seaside, Marina, Soledad, Greenfield, King City and Castroville. Youth Leaders have learned, practiced and successfully demonstrated facilitation and classroom management skills; worked as members of a team, and in ECHO with adults. They have learned the information contained in each of the programs they facilitate, which includes media and financial literacy, increased knowledge of the effects of substances on the body, increased knowledge of the issues that affect women and girls in their communities, the importance of voting and the role women play in politics.”

- 90% of the Youth Leaders feel like they can communicate clearly and effectively (For example: Communicating with others, public speaking, and facilitating)
- 100% of the Youth Leaders have the ability to make good choices for themselves
- 100% of the Youth Leaders facilitation skills have improved and are more confident public speaking
- 100% of the Youth Leaders feel comfortable expressing their opinion and giving input regarding activities in partnership with their adult mentors.
- 100% of the Youth leaders are overall more confident.
- 75% of the Youth Leaders made presentations to their school board or city Council members on their work in the programs they are working in.

**HARA Motion Picture Conservatory** — \$10,000 — Operating support — ““War of the Limelight” is completed and had a public screening on April 15, 2017. This year it will have public screenings at high schools and film festivals. The film has received overwhelming positive response from audiences. In addition, one of the students has already been able to use an acting reel sourced from the film to be cast in a role in a TV pilot titled “Gone.” He has boasted that he is now “living his dream” as a working actor. Other students have been able to use this project on their portfolio/resume to secure crew jobs on other film projects and also in their college applications. These results has inspired our organization to focus our programs and services in 2018 to provide certification training with industry professionals, and greater access to paid internships/jobs with production companies.”

**Harmony at Home** — \$20,000 — Olweus Bullying Prevention — “According to Surveys: Fear of bullying among 3rd thru 5th grade girls and boys has decreased by 10%, verbal bullying has decreased by 16%, exclusion has decreased by 9%

- Student reporting to teachers has increased by 60%
- Student reports of teacher response to bullying has increased by 8%
- Student reports that peers are intervening has increased by 21%
- Student reports of themselves intervening has increased by 6%
- Counselors who saw individual students for bullying related issues reported 67% improvement in overall functioning.”

**Hartnell College Foundation** — \$30,000 — Young STEM Talent —

**Hope, Horses & Kids** — \$5,000 — Operating support — “Forty individual clients participated in a total of 380 mounted lessons over the course of the past year, and they each progressed toward personal developmental milestones. And, eleven community organizations brought 217 individuals to participate in a total of 141 group groundwork lessons last year, gaining essential life skills. CSUMB Service Learners assisted HHK in creating a more meaningful way to track levels of participation: ‘Life Touches’ is defined as the number of times individual participants were engaged in either private or group session programming. For 2015, HHK provided a total of 1,306 Life Touches and in 2016 that number grew to 2,449.”





**International School of Monterey Foundation** — \$10,000 — Family Share —

- 90.0% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders rated themselves as likely or very likely to attend college, while the number for all middle years' students exceeded the target at 91.05%.
- 39.58% started the year in a high school mathematics course covering material beyond Algebra or Mathematics 1, falling short of the goal. ISM's leadership believes this reflects the struggle for math curriculum planners to articulate courses from the old approach of discrete subjects such as Algebra and Geometry to the integrated courses of the new Common Core.
- Reports for all 48 2016 graduates indicated that 97.92% enrolled in a high school second language course at the start of the year, well above the goal. The reports further indicated that 60.53% of the 38 students taking Spanish in high school started the year in Spanish 2 or higher, falling short of the 70% goal.
- In reports from 169 of 235 2006-2012 ISM graduates, all but 9, or 94.67%, have started college or military service by autumn immediately following their high school graduation, significantly exceeding the 90% target.

**Jacob's Heart Children's Cancer Support Services** — \$10,000 — Teen Support — “During this grant period, Jacob's Heart provided services for 90 families of teens (403 family members). Of these, 18 families (93 family members) are high need (in treatment, transitioning off treatment or recently bereaved). The direct support provided to these families included home and hospital visits, case management, support groups, peer support, direct financial assistance, grocery deliveries, meals and care packages, transportation assistance, and funeral/memorial assistance. Our Teen Support and Peer mentorship program hosted eight support groups for teens and siblings and three teen events in 2016. Attendance at the support groups increased this year, with 12-15 teens and siblings attending each group session. Mariela Medina, Teen Support Specialist, reports that, as the group gains momentum, she has seen a deeper level of sharing among participants. There is a real sense of anticipation for upcoming events, and strong friendships have formed among the teens and siblings. The feedback we receive from the teens is unequivocally positive. They have shared that this program gives them the space to speak and act freely, to share without judgement, and to be heard by someone who has empathy and deep understanding.”

**Johns Hopkins University** — \$10,000 — CTY Summer session — “CTY received a grant of \$10,000 to support scholarships for up to three high-achieving students from low-income Monterey County families at CTY's challenging academic summer programs in 2016. CTY was unable to spend-out the \$10,000 grant on scholarships in 2016, and received an extension from the Foundation in February 2017. In 2016, the grant funded two 9th grade students from Salinas to attend CTY, with scholarship awards of \$4,365 and \$4,388.63. Both students traveled to UC Santa Cruz, where they studied mathematical modeling and logic at CTY's three week residential summer programs. The remaining \$1,246.37 provided a partial scholarship for a 10th grader from Salinas to study astronomy at CTY's summer program site at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island.”

**Josephine Kernes Memorial Pool** — \$10,000 — Adaptive Aquatics for Children with Disabilities “26 children and youth, ages three to 17 years, received personalized, one-to-one adaptive aquatic instruction by trained staff in Kernes' 92 degree pool. With each child attending 1 - 2 times per week, more than 1,000 sessions were made available with the help of this grant. Aquatic activities addressed each child's specific needs, including water safety and swimming, building physical strength and coordination, and enhancing cognitive and communication skills. To measure the effectiveness of our children's program, we ask parents to complete an evaluation survey. All parents tell us that Kernes has a positive effect on their child's life. 100% report improvement in fitness (overall health, strength, cardio). 99% improved, and one child maintained, function (mobility, balance, motor control, coordination). 100% improved skills (water safety, ability to focus or follow directions, increased confidence). 100% say that their child's participation improves their sense of well-being and quality of life (feeling relaxed, happy, comfortable, improved appetite, better sleep, pain management).”

**Junior Achievement Of Northern California** — \$10,000 — High School Youth Empowerment Program — “Your gift of \$10,000 directly funded ten (10) classes of JA programming to high school students at North Monterey County High School, Monterey High School, Seaside High School and Marina High School. Your support contributed to JA’s ability to positively impact 967 Monterey County high school students, with financial literacy, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship education.”

**Legal Services for Seniors** — \$5,000 — Guardianships — “We provided (as of February 6, 2017) counsel and advice services to 48 clients (grandparents, older relatives and caring family friends) regarding the guardianship process. From these cases, 6 resulted in court proceedings; 4 with the awarding of guardianship petitions in Superior Court and 2 dealing with other guardianship issues. These children will no longer be denied necessary medical care because a parent can’t be found to consent to treatment, left out from another school field trip because their parents aren’t able to sign the permission slip from prison or prevented from fully participating in the normal activities of childhood.”

**Life is For Everyone, Inc.** — \$10,000 — Operating support — “Baseline reading assessments were performed at the start and end of the academic year. Seven out of eight (88%) of LIFE third-grade students were reading at or above grade level. The one exception was a non-English speaking student and she has dropped from the program due to transportation challenges (her mother is a single working parent). Six out of eight (75%) of LIFE third grade students scored above 50% on comprehension. One exception was the above referenced non-English student. The other student scored below 50% on comprehension and reading fluency was above fall expectations for her grade level. We expect she has maintained progress with tutoring, vocabulary building exercises and daily reading encouragement with a reading log. 38 out of the remaining 40 students (95%) were already reading at or above grade level. The two students not reading at grade level had individualized tutoring, with special emphasis placed on reading and vocabulary.

Upon observation, 100% of students are engaged and enjoying LIFE activities. In an independent program evaluation conducted by Karina Lehrner of Capacity Consulting, 100% of students participating were able to articulate what they liked about LIFE; all also shared “a word that describes how they feel about LIFE.” The words used: “good,” “awesome,” “amazing,” “cool,” “happy,” “artistic,” and “excellent.”

**Loaves, Fishes & Computers, Inc.** — \$12,000 — Americorps volunteer — “Having a volunteer coordinator is crucial for LFC to fulfill its mission. An AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator is an affordable way for LFC to obtain a full-time staff position that manages all volunteer activity including recruitment, training, orientation, scheduling, hour tracking, in addition to providing ongoing enhancement to our volunteer infrastructure—a requirement by AmeriCorps. 70% of all of LFC's services to the community are fulfilled by our volunteers who refurbish & repair computers, perform administrative duties, teach digital literacy skills, and provide customer service. Salvador Jimenez was LFC’s third AmeriCorps in 2016-2017, funded by NBRF. Under his management (9/13/16 - 8/8/17) 183 volunteers contributed 17,380 hours for a total worth of \$254,505 (valued @ \$15/hour)- this is more than our current 2017 budget; 111 new volunteers signed up & 44 of those were youth. A total of 55 youth volunteered 3,760 hours. For 2017-2018, LFC will continue to work with MCOE’s Alternative Education Program 3/days/week at LFC’s office-teaching, training and giving 20 Alt. Ed. High School students 2 hours/day of training, tasks, responsibility and real world experience-some will be paid to work beyond the two hours. The AmeriCorps Volunteer is the leader of this project.”

**Lyceum of Monterey County** — \$15,000 — Operating support — Lyceum used NBRF funding for operating support and held a number of programs with the funding. “The primary changes we note are commonly related to how much the class or event has changed levels of interest, attitudes, and an increased desire to go into more depth in the subject areas. Our academic events have been credited with motivation to attend law school, delve into the sciences, and pursue creative and problem solving careers.” Follow up via email for more direct measurable outcomes along with more information on succession planning.

**MEarth** — \$20,000 — Nutrition for at-risk youth — “With \$9,000 of the grant award, MEarth provided six, two-hour FoodConnect field trips for youth from the following schools/districts: Alisal Union School District: Virginia Rocca Barton Elementary; Chualar Elementary School District: Chualar Elementary; North Monterey County School District: Elkhorn Elementary (2 different classes), Prunedale Elementary; and Salinas City Elementary School District: Loma Vista Elementary. In total, 157 students attended these programs, with an average of 26 kids per class. The grant funding covered staffing, materials, tools/equipment, transportation, property stewardship and volunteer expenses related to these specific programs... During FoodConnect programs, our instructors regularly prompt students to share personal reflections on what they learned and their experiences at MEarth. At the end of every program, when participants are asked if they tasted something new/different during their visit, nearly 100% of kids report trying healthy foods they have not tried before. Based on instructor feedback, at least 80% of participants express interest in sharing and cooking the recipes they learn at MEarth with their families. As part of our standardized post-program follow up, we verbally survey participating program facilitators to gather feedback on the quality and impact of our programs. Additionally, we began utilizing a customized teacher evaluation tool, created in SurveyMonkey, to gather postprogram influence on longer-term behavior changes observed in the classroom.”

**Monterey Bay Aquarium Foundation** — \$10,000 — Young Women in Science — “Aquarium educators reviewed 159 applications, prioritizing students entering 8th grade and who are monolingual Spanish speakers. We [accepted] 102 young women who attended one of three week-long camps: Otter Mystery (2 sessions) or Ocean Guardians. Female scientists and professionals from the Aquarium, Moss Landing Marine Labs, MBARI and Hopkins Marine Station served as role models and mentors. 85 to 93% of the young women are very happy with the program. Results indicate that the program helped improve the young women's attitudes toward the ocean and science, increased their ocean literacy and made them more confident about taking action to protect the ocean. Based on these results and our commitment to develop young women who are inspired, confident, ocean literate and ready to act, we will continue to offer the Young Women in Science program in the future. A major challenge is that demand outpaces the number of spots we have available. [So] we are building the new Center for Ocean Education and Leadership with interactive technology and tools that emphasize collaboration and facilitate learning.” →



### **Monterey County Agricultural & Rural Life Museum**

— \$10,000 — Intern program — “The yearlong High School Internship included 4 Junior and Senior high school students, all of which rank at the top of their classes, one of which ended her high school career as the class Valedictorian. Through the course of the year, the students worked as tour guides, providing in-depth personal tours to visitors of all ages, cared for museum artifacts, researched, created and installed exhibit elements, worked with area youth in educational programs, utilized bi-lingual skills to upgrade museum promotional information and gained communication skills as well as gaining personal knowledge about the rich history of the Salinas Valley.

The museum benefitted greatly through the energy, ideas and enthusiasm that the youth of the interns brought. The growth that they experienced as young adults, professionals and active community members was evident as the year progressed and they opened up and became more informed, were more adept at giving tours and working with area youth during programming.

As the interns finished up the first cycle of the program, they participated in exit interview to evaluate their progress, and the program from their perspective. They also were required to write a report on the experience, 2 of which were included in the July 2017 newsletter. The exit interview and article provided valuable information for evaluating the success of the program and the future needs of it. Some responses from the interns were, "I really enjoyed being able to spend time in the Archive Room", "The more time I spent working at the museum, the more people I met and the



better I became at social interactions and communication ... ", " .. .I learned valuable skills that can be applied in college and in life."

**Monterey County Rape Crisis Center** — \$25,000 — Sexual violence prevention clubs — “In our clubs at Salinas High School, Everett Alvarez High School and North Monterey County High School, 47 members participated in at least 75% of club sessions. In addition 84% of the club members participated in at least one campus activity and 34% participated in two or more events that engaged the campus. At the post-test conducted of club members last June, there was a 15.8% increase of club members who reported proactively intervening in situations of potential sexual violence (e.g. decreasing use of demeaning language, challenging friends who express sexist attitudes). We anticipated that 30% of students would do so, but 40% reported that they would intervene by doing such things as telling the peer causing harm to stop the behavior. Students were also less likely to ignore the behavior and more likely to tell an adult or get help from others. For the current school year we are still planning awareness activities for April and will not be conducting the post-tests until the end of the school year.”

**Monterey County Symphony Association** — \$10,000 — Musician Mentoring — “These partnerships with our fellow music organizations strengthen our commitment to mentoring and education and inspire us to find new ways to align our missions. We realize that this is a program that can continue to grow, much in the same way our school visits are - the more coaches we can send, the greater impact we can have.” “During the past two school years (2015/16 and 2016/17), the Monterey Symphony performed 20 free-of-charge Youth Concerts for students from all over Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz counties, drawing 13,651 attendees from 98 area schools.

Data from 223 Teacher Evaluations of these concerts shows a 9.2 out of 10 rating for Educational Impact and a 99% desire to bring future classes to a Monterey Symphony Youth Concert.”

**Monterey Institute for Research in Astronomy (MIRA)** — \$5,000 — Internships — “Interns worked one-on-one with MIRA scientists, learning scientific and computer programming techniques, and worked at the MIRA research telescope and the Weaver Student Observatory telescope. The students made high resolution measurements with the new Baches Echelle Spectrograph at the WSO telescope and worked with the European Southern Observatory software MIDAS for reducing these complicated data; calibrated the main spectrograph CCD with narrow-band filters and reduced those data; assisted in telescope and instrument development for the 36-inch telescope at the Oliver Observing Station; analyzed data for measurements of gravitational lenses, star formation regions, and MIRA infrared satellite observations of comet debris trails. We continue to have visits or other communications from former interns praising the impact their experiences in the MIRA intern program had on their college experience.” *Update, Feb 2017:* “The grants \ have had a significant impact on our intern program. We’ve been told that our recommendations have been major factor in distinguishing our interns from other applicants at colleges like MIT, Cal Tech, & UC Berkeley.”



**Monterey Jazz Festival** — \$20,000 — Summer Jazz Camp — “With the support from the Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation, Monterey Jazz Festival was able to provide subsidized camp tuition to 98 of the 106 camp attendees, totaling over \$34,500 in scholarship money. Pre-and post- surveys were administered to all students in order to gauge their learning and measure their engagement over the course of the two-week summer camp, and to measure whether their interest in jazz increased due to their participation in camp. Generally, students showed an increased interest in jazz music, and in motivation to practice their

instrument after the two-week camp. This year’s post-camp surveys show that 93% of students agree that “As a result of attending camp, I am more excited to play and learn about jazz”

**Monterey Museum of Art** — \$6,000 — School Visits — “Throughout the 2016-2017 school year, the School Visit Program served 2,315 K-12 students, and each student was provided with opportunities to exercise observation skills, analytical skills, and presentation skills through peer discussions in the galleries, as well as hands-on art making activities in the Museum’s education center. Each classroom was divided into two groups, and one group would participate in discussions in the galleries, while the second group would participate in the hands-on art activities in the Museum’s education center. After one hour, the two groups alternated activities.

Teachers continue to give positive feedback--through surveys and testimonials--explaining the ways in which the program positively affected their students, and expressing their desire to bring their classroom the following year. As attendance has expanded, the Museum also decided to expand the days that the program is offered--in order to meet increased demand. For these reasons, the Education team is also expanding the program curriculum and will be offering visits based on "Contemporary Art" in addition to "California Landscapes" and "Photography 101" beginning in 2018.”

**Monterey Peninsula College Foundation** — \$20,000 — Evans College Incentive Program — “As a result of the financial assistance and personal mentorship that students received through the College Incentive Program, 82% (56 students) of cohort number one were able to complete their first semester at MPC. This is particularly impressive given that the average MPC student fall-to-spring persistence is only 50.7% and that these are students who were not on track to attend college and who faced major obstacles to remaining enrolled. Among those students, 100% who enrolled in Spring 2016 completed the semester and 77% went on to enroll in their third college semester in Fall 2016. Six students from cohort one (9%) successfully transferred within two years of initial enrollment compared to the overall MPC transfer (within two years) rate of 3.4%. A number of students from cohort one are also on track to transfer by the end of the 2017-18 academic year. Among the second cohort of College Incentive Program participants, 95% (62 students) completed their first semester in college. In addition to the notable college persistence rate, the College Incentive Program has successfully positioned MPC to reach underrepresented students as indicated below.

1. State Board Of Governors (BOG) fee waiver recipients:

College Incentive Program Students = 53%

Overall MPC Student Population = 29%

2. First-generation college students:

College Incentive Program Students = 58%

Overall MPC Student Population = 7%

3. Ethnicity - Hispanic and other non-white race/ethnicities

College Incentive Program Students = 88%

Overall MPC Student Population = 57%

4. Foster Care Youth:

College Incentive Program Students = 8%

Overall MPC Student Population = .006%”

**Monterey State Historic Park Association** — \$5,000 — Registration & transportation —

**MY Museum (Monterey County Youth Museum)** — \$10,000 — Baby Jam Music classes — “With your support MYM was able to provide free weekly music classes to thousands of children and their caretakers. The music series consisted of a few different genres of music, all of which were a hit! We saw class sizes increase and had a lot of positive feedback from attendees. We are thanked from many parents who are grateful for the opportunity to be able to participate in enriching classes with their little one(s).”

**National Steinbeck Center** — \$5,000 — Steinbeck Young Authors Middle School Literacy — “We collected written surveys from the students, coaches, and teachers at the conclusion of the program as a means of tracking the quantity of participants and the quality of the program. The

NSC Director of Finance and Executive Director compiled survey results, statistics, and financials to present to the Board of Directors.

Students confirmed that the program did help to increase their confidence in their writing skills. In order to continue this trend, this year we revived our SYA Summer Writing Camps, offering a waiver for the registration fee to recognized students at the SYA Days of Writing. We did receive a number of students at the Summer Writing Camps who were able to attend using these waivers, indicating an increased interest in writing among Day of Writing attendees.”

**O'Neill Sea Odyssey** — \$5,000 — Monterey County Ocean Education — “During the school year ended June 30, 2017, 59 Monterey County classes, containing 1,533 students, were served. Community Service Projects done by students participating in Monterey County Ocean Education included: a storm drain stenciling program at Hall District School in Las Lomas, a school-wide education program on the environmental benefit of keeping the campus clean at King City Arts Magnet School, a restoration of native vegetation at the Fort Ord National Monument by Los Arboles Middle School in Marina, and a campaign to discourage single-use plastic bottles by students at Santa Lucia School in King City. The Student Survey results for Year End 2016, the latest for which we have a full analysis, showed that the program was effective in promoting increases in students’ environmental awareness. Before participating, an average of 73% of students agreed with the survey questions overall. After attending, this percentage increased to 95%.”

**Orchestra in the Schools** — \$15,000 — Operating support — “As students gain knowledge through the training they receive in the first two levels of their instruction, they’re prepared to audition for the top level. by that time, the students are fully prepared to play more complicated music compositions. Youth Music Monterey obtains many of their musicians from OITS; this serves as empirical evidence of our program's effectiveness. Students demonstrate increased musical development by creating an environment where they can grow and expand expertise of their instrument and apply that knowledge to higher levels of performances. As a result of this development, we are able to share these quality performances with the community. The response has been extremely positive and we are able to measure the impact we have on these children and the surrounding community by the enthusiasm and joy the students express in performances and the positive appreciation expressed by the parents and community. This increased musical development will contribute to help us maintain and expand in our excellence of musical performances, creating a more desirable musically challenging program to excite and entice future students.”

**Pacific Grove Art Center Association** — \$7,000 — Summer Classes — “We successfully enrolled a full 11 weeks of 1-week long Summer Camps for youth from the ages of 7-15. Most weeks the classes were at capacity. We served 40% more youth than the previous year. The challenge for any of our programs is enrollment. To encourage enrollment we marketed through fliers, Facebook posts, website updates, community calendars, community activities - Good Old Days booth. We would have also liked to use paid advertising. This funding allowed us to purchase all supplies, materials, compensate our instructors and help cover the overhead expenses of our facility.”

**Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History** — \$8,000 — Leg Up with Science — “To begin with, we focused on 3 school districts: Gonzales Unified, North Monterey County, and Alisal Union. We chose Title One schools and grades 3 and/ or 4. The next step was to reach out to the relevant teachers to describe the program and determine interest: what they and their students would gain and to set expectations for their Museum Experience. A 30-minute pre-visit was then scheduled to cover what the lesson would be (NGSS and grade appropriate), a fun scavenger hunt in their classroom (a similar, abbreviated version of what they would enjoy at the Museum) , and Museum etiquette. They were even showed a map of the location of the Museum relative to their hometowns. When it came to the actual field trip, students were well-prepared, comfortable, and many came excited thanks to their in-class experience! Thanks to the NBR grant, bus scholarships were provided for these trips. The final activity was to engage the students' families in one of the Museum's Science Saturdays, which was encouraged by providing bussing to the event. Finally, the students were given the time to convey their experiences to the school through



various activities. We were able to measure our results in number of students who were able to take part in this in-depth series of science education modules (300+). As well as the number of students who wanted to return with their families (25) though that number was affected by our challenges, to be discussed below.”

**Pacific Repertory Theatre** — \$30,000 — SoDA — “All SoDA classes and camps were able to return to the Indoor Forest Theater after a two-year absence due to major repairs and remodeling. The summer musical, "The Wizard of Oz," featured over 100 in the cast, the majority being "Munchkins" played by young people, many of whom participated in the past through SoDA classes or SoDAonStage. Every child who auditioned was cast in the show, [which] played to 8,665 theatre-goers, including 1,976 children, with revenue of \$147,000, which had a significant impact on the financial success of our 2016 season. Our board of directors remains strong and focused. We face challenges for greater involvement by youth-serving nonprofits in our "Tix4Kids" program. Transportation continues to be an issue. We have implemented a policy of providing one adult ticket for every five children's tickets; It is too early to tell if this will be successful.”

**Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc.** — \$20,000 — Pajaro Family Resource Center —

**Partners for Peace** — \$8,500 — STEP UP: Group mentoring for at-risk youth — “STEP UP mentoring conducted a weekly, 2.5 hour, 9 month program. Two orientations for parents and youth were conducted and the weekly program began in March, 2016. Homework tutoring was available prior to the weekly program, conducted by Hartnell volunteers and CSUMB interns. After a light dinner, STEP UP program focused on the Life Skills curriculum and team building activities.

- Increase in protective factors: 71% of youth graduates reported an increase in the number and depth of adults kids can count on in their lives as measured on the pre/post Anchors and Depths (ICAR-US), the youth improved by 44% on pre-post
- 65%% of youth increased their CPS's based on report cards or progress reports in the beginning, mid and end of the program
- 15 youth graduated in December, 2016. Of the youth who graduated none had new violations, or violation of probation.

**Partnership for Children** — \$10,000 — Operating support —

**Peacock Acres** — \$15,000 — Therapeutic Learning Center — Peacock Acres completed their final report and spent NBRF funds on the TLC but have since closed the program. They made arrangements with the schools for afterschool tutoring that did not come to fruition and they felt they were duplicating services. They came and met with me in person to discuss this. They are hoping to use their space from the TLC to create a more vocational training center for foster youth. They had no details at the time and seemed hesitant to do additional research or planning to create a strong program. Also, their development director has resigned leaving me with serious concerns about the leadership of the organization.

**Positive Discipline Community Resources** — \$10,000 — Parenting for Strong Communities — “Activities conducted:

- A 2-day Teaching Parents with PD certification training in English attended by 22 practitioners October 28 & 29 at Hartnell College, Salinas.
- A 2-day day Teaching Parents with PD certification training in Spanish attended by 28 practitioners, same dates/location.
- 200 hours of PDCR coordination, coaching, and technical assistance to trainees and their organizations in the five months that followed the training.
- Five mentor group sessions in Spanish at Mexican American Opportunity Foundation and the Castroville Public Library November-February, engaging 22 practitioners with integration of PD skills and insights with one special coaching Mujeres en Acción session in Greenfield.

From Pre- and Post- self-assessment, we found

English responses show:

- 77% increased knowledge of teaching children social and life skills instead of punishing them
- 77% increased knowledge of how to focus on problem-solving (vs. punishing or lecturing)
- 73% felt more confident in their ability to support parents

Spanish responses show:

- 77% increased their consideration about different parenting styles insofar as Permissiveness, Authoritarianism, and Authoritative parenting elicit different responses
- 71% increased understanding the difference between encouragement and praise
- 68% felt more confident in their ability to support parents”

**Raising a Reader** — \$10,000 — I Am Raising A Reader — “I Am Raising A Reader launched on June 19, 2017 during the out-of-school summer break in Monterey County. Funding from the Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation allowed 196 Head Start children and their families from the Monterey County Office of Education and 49 library playgroup participants and their families from Salina Public Library to participate in the I Am Raising A Reader program. Twice a week, enrolled families received an email, text, or both featuring a quick reading tip and link to a 60-90 second video vignette modeling shared reading strategies for families to practice during the week. Videos were made available in both English and Spanish and accessible on most devices (i.e. computer, mobile phone, tablet, etc.).

Children received an activity card in their first mailing with questions pertaining to the weekly videos. This allowed the child to drive the process and ask their parent to share the videos in order to complete the weekly question.

I Am Raising A Reader concluded on August 7, 2017. Families were delivered a survey electronically and in the mail with an addressed envelope to Raising A Reader. Children are to send in their completed activity card to receive a prize.”

**Rancho Cielo Youth Campus** — \$20,000 — Operating support — Some results from last year’s grant include: 100% (8) of Silver Star community day school seniors graduated. 90% (18) of Drummond Culinary Academy senior’s graduated. 93% (27) of Construction Academy senior’s graduated. 17 Youth Corps students are in full-time employment (14 in construction industry).

**Read-To-Me Project** — \$15,000 — Operating support — “Funding provided by Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation enabled an increase of program implementation from 70 classrooms in 2015/2016 to the current 96 classrooms. There are 400 underperforming 4th, 5th and 6th grade classrooms in Monterey County. Read to Me Project's track record for building infrastructure and funding support for increased capacity since inception in 2011 has led to strategic growth year over year. At year-end 2015/2016, 25% of students read 100 or more times to their young sibling; 67% of students reported Read to Me Project has helped them "a lot" to become a better reader. 64% reported Read to Me Project has helped their sibling to learn "a lot" more. 69% said they would like to participate again next year. 95% of participating teachers signed up again and 26 teachers are new to the program this year.”

**Restorative Justice Partners, Inc.** — \$13,500 — Restorative Justice in the Schools —

“Due to the funding support of the Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation, RJP, Inc.'s RJ Schools program has been able to bring staff support to school districts throughout Monterey County assisting the goal of transforming school climate and culture toward a system based in accountability, empathy, and restoration.

Actual results:

1. 86.22% of responding participants rated the RJ Schools workshop/training as useful or very useful.
2. Of those surveyed, about 43% of respondents state that the current implementation of restorative justice at their school site is at a “development” stage. This would be a 2 out of a 4-point scale, which unfolds as follows: 1 – awareness, 2 – development, 3 – accomplished, 4 – exemplary.

3. 3. 177 adults have received training regarding restorative justice tools and practices to date; peer mediation training has had 113 participants so far this academic year; and we have served about 65 students through classroom circles.”

**Salinas Area RIF Program (Reading Is Fundamental)** — \$3,000 — Operating support — “We distributed 3 books [each] to 16,000 plus children, for a bit over 48,000 books. We find that children enjoy choosing books. We take surveys about if they read them at home or school (93%), whether they enjoy choosing a book (98%), if they are in K-3 we ask if they shared the book with their families (75%), and in older students, if they would like to read a book by the same author or on the same subject (68%). The challenges we have had is asking for each teacher to submit a survey. So, this fall, we sent a letter for the principals to sign, stating they will send all surveys, or jeopardize their continuing in the program. This seems to be working.”

**Salinas Area Youth Drug Information/Crisis Center dba Sunrise House** — \$10,000 — Youth Alternative to Violence — Final report submitted but organization has closed.

**Salvation Army - Salinas** — \$10,000 — Kids Cafe Tech expansion —

**Sol Treasures** — \$7,000 — SOL-O orchestra — “Sol Treasures provided a year-round program of youth strings orchestra and instruction with homework support to 25 - 30 children, ages 7 - 17. The strings instructor submits monthly reports with attendance records and progress.” Through teacher surveys, they documented the following results:

- 56% of teachers reported improvements in students behavior
- 89% of teachers reported improvements in student academic performance
- 90% of teachers reported improvements in student concentration
- 66% of teachers reported improvements in student confidence/attitude
- 56% of teachers reported improvements in student organizational skills

**SPCA for Monterey County** — \$15,000 — Take the Lead — The ended the program early but did account for all the funding. “We have been consistently evaluating the success of Take the Lead and after much thought and careful consideration, The SPCA decided to end the program this spring. Due to the logistics of the program including transportation, school schedules, etc. we have had to limit the number of dogs participating in the program. With the ages and maturity of the youth in the program, we also had to restrict the severity of behavior issues in the program to dogs only needing very minor behavior training. With two behavior trainers committed to Take the Lead, we have been severely limited as to the resources we are able to give to other shelter dogs needing training and behavioral help. As an organization we want to help as many animals as possible and have moved these two staff members into our Treatment, Learning and Compassion (TLC) program where they able to have a larger impact on the animals in our care. We also struggled to get any sort of measurable feedback from the schools and organizations we partnered with. While our staff were able to observe smiles, more engagement, etc. among the youth, their expertise is in canine behavior and they could only provide anecdotal feedback. We will continue to engage with the youth in our community through our Community Education programs which include a partnership with First Tee, Paws to Read, SPCA Animal Clubs, school tours and presentations, and more.”

**Special Kids Crusade** — \$15,000 — OBO Interagency Autism Consortium —

**Special Kids Crusade** — \$10,000 — REACH Theatre In the Schools —

**Sun Street Centers** — \$20,000 — bullying, alcohol & drug prevention — “From our work with youth across different ages, demographics and locations within Monterey County we have seen that the greatest impact is achieved when the information in question is presented by their peers. Youth are much more prone to believe and listen to individuals that are of the same age and tend to resist information that comes from adults or individuals that are seen as authoritative figures. A great part of Sun Street Centers' success lies in our peer mentor approach where we train students to present the information and have prevention staff just be the guide and facilitator instead of the presenter. For instance, the Seaside prevention program works with the Seaside Youth Resource Center and have provided for their youth, Gateway Drug Trainings, Life skills



Training and Anti-Bully Training peer to peer. Additionally, recorded rates of usage are changing amongst teens in Salinas, as recorded by the California Health Kids Survey.”

**Sunset Cultural Center** — \$20,000 — Arts-in-Education — “As a direct result of the Classroom Connections programs, we anticipated the following increases in our key result areas on the program-end teacher and student surveys.

1. Twyla Tharp Dance Company:

- 1) 40% of students will indicate an increased level of interest in particular art forms by one ranking level – ACTUAL RESULTS OF TWYLA THARP DANCE COMPANY PROGRAM: 81%
- 2) 75% of teachers will report students' class participation increased as a result of the program - ACTUAL RESULTS OF TWYLA THARP DANCE COMPANY PROGRAM: 84%
- 3) 80% of students will report they are interested in learning more about particular art forms and seeing additional live performances - ACTUAL RESULTS OF TWYLA THARP DANCE COMPANY PROGRAM: 65%

2. Shaolin Warriors:

- 1) 40% of students will indicate an increased level of interest in particular art forms by one ranking level - ACTUAL RESULTS OF SHAOLIN WARRIORS PROGRAM: 93%
- 2) 75% of teachers will report students' class participation increased as a result of the program - ACTUAL RESULTS OF SHAOLIN WARRIORS PROGRAM: 98%
- 3) 80% of students will report they are interested in learning more about particular art forms and seeing additional live performances - ACTUAL RESULTS OF SHAOLIN WARRIORS PROGRAM: 90%”

**Tandy Beal & Company** — \$7,500 — Dance Around the World — “In coordination with the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD), we conducted 9-15 week creative movement-based residencies in all of the thirty-two 3rd-grade classrooms in all eleven elementary schools in MPUSD. Our program teaches creativity, dance, and problem-solving movement exercises connected to curriculum, world geography, cultures and PE. Children learn better with a multifaceted approach to education. Dance enables children to kinesthetically explore and connect with their environment. Mirroring and flocking exercises build relationship and interpersonal skills. Cross lateral movements help the brain establish pathways from one hemisphere to the other, increasing creativity and learning retention. The evaluation responses (verbal, observational and online forms) conducted upon completion of the program, indicated growth in the students’ knowledge of the larger world and ability to work with others. There were also improvements in VAPA, Common Core, and PE Standards scoring.

**The Parenting Connection** — \$30,000 — Operating support — “Measured by the Parenting Ladder assessment tool, Play and Learn (PAL) core classes are designed to increase parental resilience, build social connections, share knowledge of parenting and child development, provide concrete support in times of need, and support the development of social and emotional competence in children. Parents who attend these programs report feeling more informed, supported, and capable in their role. Specifically the Parenting Ladder results from the Marina Play and Learn Classes showed a significant overall improvement of in Parenting Skills. 100% of parents recommended the PAL program. We are incredibly proud of our work, building community-based parent education programs that have had 900 attendees from July -December 2016 alone!”

**UnChained** — \$5,000 — Canines Teaching Compassion —

**Ventana Wildlife Society** — \$25,000 — Natural Science Discovery Camps — “Survey results from our Discovery Camp participants show that on average there is a 21% increase in correct answers pertaining to knowledge of the environment. A less than impressive 3% change in attitude was recorded; however it is important to note that youth came to our programs with a largely positive attitude to begin with. An increase in nature awareness and knowledge was noted by instructors in student journal entries as well as opening circle nature story details and observations. In late July, the Soberanes Fire impacted all of our Big Sur programming. While the fire made it

necessary to reroute many of our programs, no free programs were canceled. We did however see a sharp increase in concern from parents with many opting to not send their children despite reassurances that we moved programming out of Big Sur and away from the fire, as well as areas with smoke.”

**Village Project** — \$15,000 — Mae Johnson Academy — “Activities included local leaders in business, education, community service and politics advising and inspiring the students to have high expectations of themselves, and the Urban Kids Coding Program, part of the Afterschool Academy's STEAM Project. Seven of our former students [were] accepted at some of the most prestigious historically Black universities and colleges. We currently have two of our students enrolled at York. [They] were barely able to read when they first entered our program five years ago. They made honor roll at York. Students [in] the next cohort for York are African American, Latino and Native American. These accomplishments are having a strong impact on the younger students, who now desire to follow in these students' footsteps. Enrichment activities included trips to museums, children's plays at PacRep, visits to local colleges and universities, the "Read with Pride" program that paired older students with younger, and the ongoing maintenance of the community garden. The Parents Advisory Council adopted a "Time and Talent" volunteer requirement for parents of forty hours per school year.”

**York School** — \$10,000 — Financial Aid — “Funds from the Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation allowed York to directly support 41% of our student population. Providing financial support to families with demonstrated need is one of York School's founding principles. Each year, our fundraising efforts are largely focused on our financial aid program.

**Youth Arts Collective, Inc.** — \$30,000 — Operating support — “Our membership continues to expand and we have had several new young artists apply each month. They are enthusiastic to be working one on one with our professional artist mentors and excited to attend the workshops. Your funds help support extra hours of mentorship and to bring in professional artists. All YACsters are valued by our mentors and their peers for their differences and for their characters - for exactly who they are. They are encouraged to become their best selves. All this, and more, happens while they make fabulous art in this studio in downtown Monterey. Once again all of our seniors graduated from high school and went on to college, but more importantly we stay connected and support each other long after graduation.”

**Youth Music Monterey** — \$15,000 — Operating support — “In YMM's South County Strings program, we have seen our partner school districts endeavor to bring music to students in all grade levels. The administrators and principals at our partner schools were impressed by the numbers of students interested in joining our string classes. In fall 2015, YMM received over 415 applications from students desiring to enroll in our strings program. We could only accommodate 192 of these, primarily because the school schedules could not spare more classroom space or instruction hours at that time.”

**YWCA Monterey County** — \$20,000 — Youth Education & Advocacy — “Quantitative behavior evaluations and surveys on advocacy skills are administered to youth participants, based on point systems where high scores reflect an increase in knowledge and promoting non-violent, positive behavior and advocacy. By the end of the school year, all youth had responded to feeling positively empowered by adults in their lives (versus starting the year with a small lack). Our youth were also able to identify more organizational groups and club leaders that have contributed to their empowerment. Skills in that youth felt more confident by the end of the school year with YEA included public speaking, critical thinking, and problem solving.”