



**embracing change**

**annual report**

**2022**

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Winter 2023

Dear Friend of the Foundation,

As you may have guessed from the report's title, "Embracing Change," the fiscal year ending in 2022\* felt transformative for our organization!

After nearly a quarter-century of existence as the Olympia School District Education Foundation, the Board of Trustees and I felt it was time for a bit of a refresh. This resulted in a rebrand that includes:

- **A new name**, the Olympia Education Foundation, which we believe provides an important distinction between our nonprofit organization and the school district that we were created to support. It's also much easier to say!
- **A new logo**, which beautifully encapsulates both our mission to empower every student, and our core values of access, community, compassion, equity, inclusion, kindness, support, and wellness. Thank you to the brilliant Katy Keeslar for creating it!
- **A new website**, [www.olyedfoundation.org](http://www.olyedfoundation.org), which we hope makes clear that even if our look is different, our mission-driven work is not: Our commitment to the Principal's Emergency Fund, Teaching & Learning Grants and Mental Health Initiative continues.

All of the above is the result of nearly two years of work, which included extensive stakeholder outreach. To learn more about the rebrand, as well as the Foundation's history, I invite you to enjoy this short video: [www.olyedfoundation.org/brand-reveal](http://www.olyedfoundation.org/brand-reveal)

The content of this report reflects the profound impact that community support has on our ability to assist students, families and school staff. I want to sincerely thank you for the support you have provided our organization – whether we were the Olympia School District Education Foundation or the Olympia Education Foundation – when you offered it.

Again, the words "school" and "district" may be absent from our name now. But our dedication to our mission to empower every student remains.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katy Johansson".

Katy Johansson

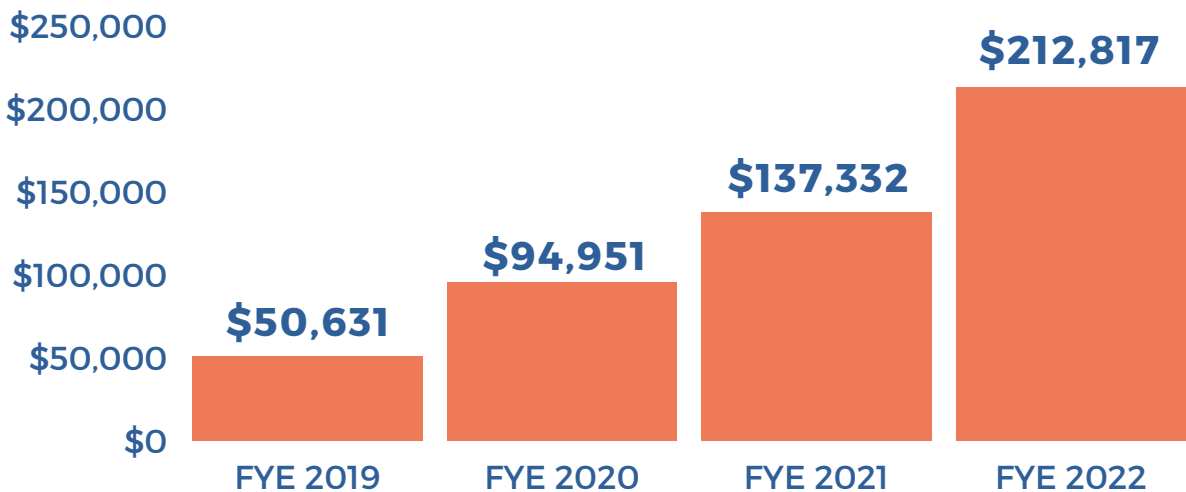
Executive Director | Olympia Education Foundation

\*Our fiscal year runs Sept. 1 through Aug. 31. This report covers the period from Sept. 1, 2021, through Aug. 31, 2022.

## Demand on Principal's Emergency Fund Resources Continues to Grow

It's not an exaggeration to say that the PEF can be "... the difference between that kid being here (in school) and dropping out," shared Capital High School Dean of Students Daniel Grimm.

### PEF SPENDING GROWTH



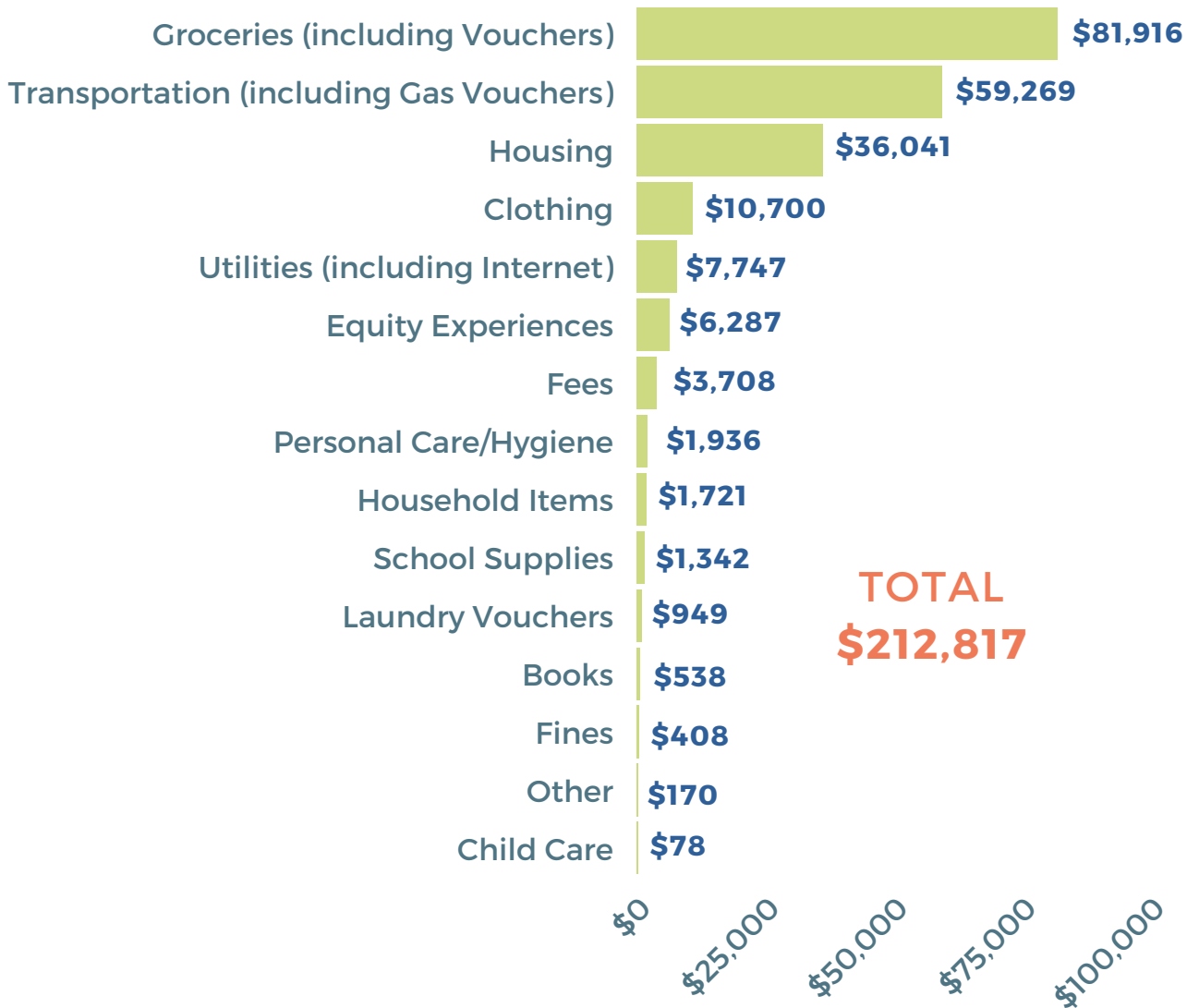
As evidenced in the chart above that tracks PEF spending during the past four years, the need for this critical aid continues to grow. The increase in spending in 2021-2022 also reflects the district's hiring of additional school staff whose job it is to help connect students and families to resources available through our organization and others. We are grateful to the amazing social workers and family liaisons who are helping principals and counselors identify students in all of our schools who have urgent basic needs!



The Principal's Emergency Fund "is literally putting food in people's bellies, and keeping roofs over heads and kids warm, and putting smiles on faces where they otherwise would not be ... there would be hopelessness."

- Daniel Grimm, Capital High School, dean of students

## 2021-2022 SPENDING



## Hecks' Heroes

For their extraordinary efforts to assist students who have urgent basic needs, in 2022 we honored:



**Mo El-Sokkary (left),** Garfield Elementary family liaison, for his role in expanding our grocery voucher program so that it can assist more students.

**Mae (right) and Al Respicio (not pictured),** owners of the Olympia Grocery Outlet, who, without hesitation, agreed to accept our grocery vouchers at their westside store.

This award is named for Lt. Gov. Denny Heck and retired principal Paula Heck, who, along with other community leaders, created the Principal's Emergency Fund in 2008.

## Record-setting Year for Olympia Education Foundation Grants

Teaching & Learning Grants have been available through an easy application since we were founded in 1998. Our grants allow staff who work directly with students to enhance student learning, close opportunity gaps, and meet needs that the district, individual school-buildings, and/or PTA/PTO funds cannot.

Requests can be made for up to \$2,000 and are reviewed by our Grants Committee, which then makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees, up to four times throughout the year.

**2021-2022 was a record-setting year – in terms of the number of requests received, the number of grants funded, and total funding awarded.**

**83** Total number of requests received

**93%** Percentage of requests that were fully or partially funded

**\$105,545.64** Total amount awarded

**\$1,371** Average amount awarded per request

## Elementary Schools



A handful of grants awarded to elementaries is highlighted below. (A link to a full list can be found on page 21.)

### Musical Instruments

Providing: ukuleles at McKenny, Madison and Boston Harbor; hand drums at McLane; and xylophones at Centennial, Hansen and Roosevelt.

**Readers' Theater Multilingual Thespians** at Roosevelt, using rich, culturally responsive scripts, some that are bilingual, to engage Multilingual Learners in reading, build confidence and demonstrate use of their native language to classmates, teachers and families, culminating in an end-of-year act for the school talent show.

”

“Two very shy students worked hard to be performance-ready, and their success will have a lasting impact on their confidence as students. ‘I’m proud of myself!’ and ‘I can’t wait to perform next year!’ Younger students in the audiences responded with exuberance to hearing Spanish performed in their classrooms, and immediately stood up to applaud at the end of the performance.”

- *Christine Kaufman, Roosevelt Elementary, teacher*



## Middle Schools

A handful of grants awarded to middle schools is highlighted on the next two pages. (A link to a full list can be found on page 21.)

**Adaptive Tricycle for Developmental Learning Classroom (SpEd) Students** at Washington, ensuring an often-overlooked population of students benefits from physical activity, access and inclusion. This video highlights what a difference this same trike is making for students at Olympia High School: [www.olyedfoundation.org/adaptive-tricycle-grant](http://www.olyedfoundation.org/adaptive-tricycle-grant). It was funded by a Foundation grant the previous school year.



“This bike is providing a different opportunity for this subset of students to access their school and participate in PE and recess with peers. The students are learning to ask for use of the trike and enjoy being out and about on the trike in their school.”

*- Marnie Prandi, Olympia School District, physical therapist*

**Afterschool Homework Club** at Thurgood Marshall, providing a safe, focused place supervised by a teacher from whom students can get academic support – an environment that many students lack at home.

**A Woodshop Class for Math Support** at Jefferson, providing students an opportunity to learn career-readiness skills and help students struggling in math to connect with it in a new way.

## Middle Schools

Initiating and Sustaining an Outdoor Garden at Reeves, allowing outdoor, hands-on environmental education opportunities, engaging all students, including those who may not thrive in a traditional classroom setting.



”

“The garden group engaged so many students who otherwise tend to be unengaged with school and classwork. We also were able to foster a budding partnership with the Freedom Farm program [at Olympia High School] to help students who may benefit from participation in that program. The garden group and work in the courtyard was some of the most fulfilling work that my students were able to participate in this year. Seeing them in the courtyard doing hands-on learning was inspiring.”

- Lucas Claussen, Reeves Middle School, teacher

## High Schools

A handful of grants awarded to high schools is highlighted on the next two pages. (A link to a full list can be found on page 21.)

CHS Theatre Club's Weekday Matinee of "Matilda," allowing elementary students to experience their first "field trip" since COVID, a kid-friendly musical performed during the school day by Capital High School students.

"Flea Circus" for a Fabrication Class at Olympia, helping students design, build and program a flea circus show.



"The students grew considerably during the activity ... (and) developed some strong leadership and problem-solving skills. This was most evident in my (student) director. Even though he got COVID during the big push at the end, he still communicated with his groups and kept the project moving ... We had a great event when the fifth-graders came over to visit. In addition to seeing the Flea Circus, they also participated in a STEM day here where they visited a chemistry demo, launched air rockets, made Shrinky dinks, drove our robots and did some coding."

- Andrew Woodbridge, Olympia High School, teacher

## High Schools

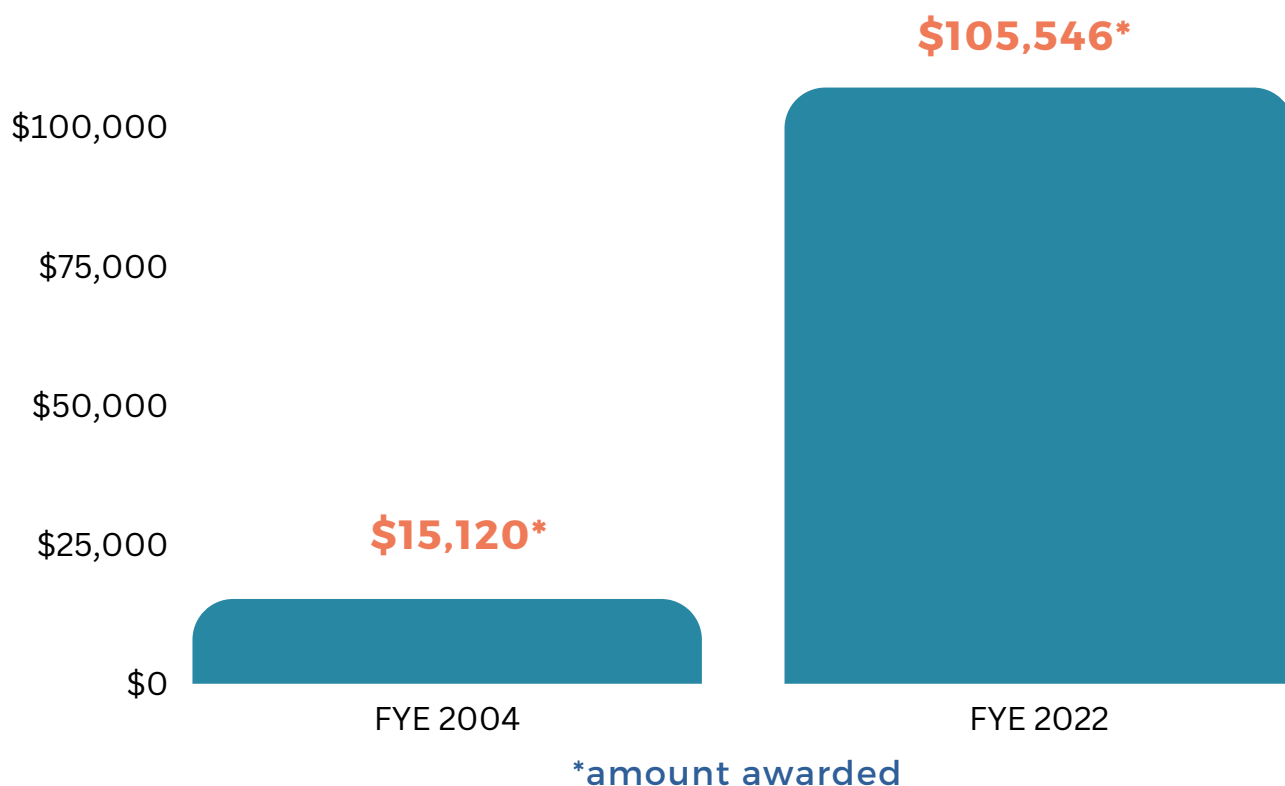
Critical Visual Literacy through “American Born Chinese” at Capital, providing books so students can discuss how the author uses visual and artistic strategies to talk about anti-Chinese racism.

Construction and Arts Integration at Avanti, providing tools to help students learn the construction trade in theater, art, science and elective classes.

“Nina has been inspired to enter a construction trades program through New Market [Skills Center] and will graduate early this year. Her interest began with a carpentry class building small projects and helping to build sets for our annual haunted house. She has now started a business building fences and decks and light construction work. Hope has participated in two carpentry classes and was a cornerstone peer mentor who I relied on to supervise use of tools in our shop area. In these past two years she has collected her own tools. (We have run into each other at Home Depot over the summer and at other times where she shared her home projects at those times!) This coming summer I am hiring Hope to work with me full time as I do my summer building. I had asked her, ‘Would you like to learn how to build decks?’ Her reply, ‘That would be my dream!’ ”

*Chris Sogn, Avanti High School, teacher*

## GRANT FUNDING



The chart above illustrates the growth in grant funding awarded since the Foundation began offering Teaching & Learning Grants.

For a complete list of grants awarded in 2021-2022, visit our website: [www.olyedfoundation.org/grants](http://www.olyedfoundation.org/grants)

Grant amounts awarded and number of students served are listed on page 21 of this report.

### Applying for Olympia Education Foundation Grants

We accept and review grants from staff who work directly with students up to four times throughout the school year – or until the budgeted funding runs out. Applicants must agree to complete and submit a Post-Grant Report upon completion of their project or before the end of the school year during which the grant was awarded.

Learn more here: [www.olyedfoundation.org/grants](http://www.olyedfoundation.org/grants)

## 2022 Students' Champion Award

We created the Students' Champion Award to recognize an employee in our schools who furthers the Foundation's mission to empower every student and whose work reflects our core values of access, community, compassion, equity, inclusion, kindness, support and wellness.

### Antonio McClinon (left)

For creating and leading the Student Mentor Program, with its focus on building community and making connections for, as well as increasing the confidence of, BIPOC and underrepresented students, the inaugural Students' Champion Award – which comes with a \$2,000 grant – was presented to Antonio McClinon.



## Student Supports Through Mental Health Initiative More Important Than Ever

The disruption to school – both its academic and social aspects – caused by the pandemic has only amplified the need for additional student mental health supports in our schools. The 2021 Health Youth Survey confirms this: 41 percent of 10th-graders felt so sad or hopeless for two weeks or more that they stopped their usual activities. 22 percent of 10th-graders considered attempting suicide; 9 percent attempted suicide.

**Aware of the need for more mental health and social-emotional learning supports in our schools, in 2021-2022 we shifted our Mental Health Initiative (MHI) focus to grants – budgeting \$2,000 for every school.**

**20** Total number of requests received

**100%** Percentage of requests that were fully or partially funded

**\$30,631.95** Total amount awarded

**\$1,532** Average amount awarded per request

Below are just a few of the MHI projects that were awarded funding in 2021-2022:



Centennial students help construct a sensory walk, a series of guided movements that allow students to work off excess energy and develop gross motor skills.



“Crisis kits” were created – one for every school – as a resource for students who are experiencing trauma and need support during the school day.



A “zone of regulation” at L.P. Brown that helps students center so they can focus on school.



An example of a “calm kit,” which includes various tools that help students at Pioneer to center during the school day.



In 2021-2022, COVID continued to affect fundraisers in our community. Our events were once again a combination of virtual and in person.

### 2021 Principal's Emergency Fund Breakfast

Despite being held virtually for the second year in a row, our breakfast was another huge success. Many thanks to: our incredible emcee, KING-5's Olympia Bureau Chief Drew Mikkelsen; and our special guests: Multicare Capital Medical Center CFO Jennifer Weldon for her impassioned remarks about the Principal's Emergency Fund; OSD Deaf and Hard of Hearing teacher Danni Connor for sharing the story of a student in need of new hearing aids; and to that student, Addi, and her mom Jackie, for helping the community understand how critical the Principal's Emergency Fund is.

### 2021 Wreath Sales

Fifth-grade students were not able to participate in overnight outdoor education for the third spring in a row. However, we sold wreaths, which traditionally have benefited that experience, to keep this tradition alive. Sales instead benefited our other programs. (Good news – if you have not heard – fifth-graders are returning to Cispus in the spring of 2023!)

## 2022 Principal's Emergency Fund Golf Scramble

This fun tournament, held annually in August at the Olympia Country & Golf Club, sold out again this past summer. Several teams represented the district – including those comprised of staff who are responsible for supporting students with the Principal's Emergency Fund – and we were pleased that student athletes volunteered again. We also added a raffle to help increase revenue. Thank you to all who supported and played in the event.



Two of our principal teams take time for a quick photo on Hole 1. From left to right: Shannon Ritter (Centennial), Ja'Wanne Brown (Capital), Anthony Brock (Thurgood Marshall), Billy Harris (Hansen), Sean Shaughnessy (L.P. Brown), Jen Brotherton (Boston Harbor), and Ernie Rascon (Hansen, retired).

## Remembering Carolyn Keck

We were saddened to learn of the loss of former Capital High School counselor Carolyn Keck, who died peacefully in her sleep on Sept. 1, 2022.

In 1997, Carolyn helped lead the effort to create what is now the Olympia Education Foundation.



A quarter of a century later, we have awarded more than \$2.5 million in support of our mission to empower every student in our schools. This would not have been possible without Carolyn's advocacy.

We were honored to learn this past fall that Carolyn bequeathed the Foundation a generous gift in support of our Principal's Emergency Fund.

## Leaving a Legacy

You can leave a legacy, too. In addition to your loved ones, please consider remembering the Olympia Education Foundation in your will or estate plan.

When you do, you are empowering students through all of our work – including our Principal's Emergency Fund, Teaching & Learning Grants and Mental Health Initiative.

All it takes is a quick phone call to your attorney to add a charitable gift.

If you have questions about the kinds of gifts we can accept or have already included us in your will or estate plan, please call 360.596.6110 or email [info@olyedfoundation.org](mailto:info@olyedfoundation.org).

## 2022 Revenue

### Principal's Emergency Fund

Sept. 1, 2021 – Aug. 31, 2022

2021 Breakfast \$ 145,200.41

2022 Golf Tournament \$ 23,425.26

2022 Columbia Bank Warm  
Hearts Fund \$ 15,800.00

Olympia Diamond Backers  
Flower Baskets \$ 4,800.00

West Olympia Rotary Charities \$ 2,000.00

Lutheran Church of the Good  
Shepherd \$ 300.00

Other PEF Donations \$ 22,157.91

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**Total PEF Revenue \$ 213,683.58**

### 2021 Wreath Sales

**Total Wreath Sale  
Revenue \$ 17,872.18**

## Other Revenue

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Dawkins Charitable Trust                                       | \$50,000.00 |
| Thurston County Economic Development /<br>Community Foundation | \$20,000.00 |
| Give Local   | \$12,184.16 |
| Give Big   | \$8,836.70  |
| WSECU (Teaching & Learning Grants Restricted)                  | \$7,500.00  |
| Haggen Foundation  | \$5,000.00  |
| Browsers   | \$5,000.00  |
| Nisqually (MHI Restricted)                                     | \$5,000.00  |
| Giving Tuesday   | \$3,022.33  |
| Squaxin (MHI Restricted)                                       | \$2,500.00  |
| Fiddlehead Marina, Inc   | \$1,000.00  |
| Seattle Foundation   | \$250.00    |
| Other Giving Not Listed Above                                  | \$19,354.46 |

**Total Revenue \$371,203.41**

## Mental Health Initiative Spending

**\$30,631.95** TOTAL SPENDING

**15,036** TOTAL STUDENTS SERVED



## Teaching & Learning Grants Spending

**\$105,545.64** TOTAL SPENDING

**36,760** TOTAL STUDENTS SERVED



For a complete list of grants awarded visit:

[www.olyedfoundation.org/teaching-learning-grants](http://www.olyedfoundation.org/teaching-learning-grants)

## Major Donors

B R O W S E R S



Jonathan, Patricia  
& Cameron Seib



## Community Partners

Columbia Bank Warm Hearts Winter Drive  
Eye Love Olympia  
Left Bank Pastry  
Olympia Diamond Backers  
Olympia Grocery Outlet  
Ralph's and Bayview Thriftway  
Westside Laundry  
76 Station

## Grantors

Dawkins Charitable Trust  
Haggen Foundation  
Nisqually Indian Tribe  
Seattle Foundation  
Squaxin Indian Tribe  
Thurston County Economic Development/  
Community Foundation of South Puget Sound  
West Olympia Rotary Charities

## Event Sponsors

ABC Pediatrics  
Academy Mortgage – The Lacey Team  
Auto Glass Professionals  
Pitman Huff Raedel Magaro: Lifetime Legal, PLLC  
Blue Star Gas  
Bob Heck, MBA, CFP, Kiley Juergens Wealth Management  
Charlie's Bar & Grill  
Christine and Mike Brewer  
Clarus Eye Centre  
Coldwell Banker/Evergreen Olympic Realty  
Commencement Bank  
Complete Hearing & Balance  
Cymbal Public Relations  
Food Service Equipment  
FORMA Construction  
Gombosky Public Affairs  
Grand Mound Liquor  
Harbor Foods  
Jennifer Ziegler Public Affairs  
Jocelyn McCabe Public Relations, LLC  
Jonathan, Patricia and Cameron Seib  
Kaiser Permanente  
Laurie Berryman, McDonald's  
Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel  
Marty & Kate Brown  
McBride Public Affairs  
Mitch Dietz, Coldwell Banker/Evergreen Olympic Realty  
MPH Holdings, LLC  
Multicare Capital Medical Center  
OBee Credit Union  
Olympia Federal Savings  
Olympia Orthopaedic Associates  
Pat and Susan Dunn  
Port Blakely  
Silver City Brewery  
SPSCC Foundation  
StraderHallett PS  
Talking Cedar  
The CoHo Team of Windermere Agents  
Tovani Hart  
TwinStar Credit Union  
U.S. Martial Arts Center  
West Olympia Pediatric Dental



Parfait Bassalé  
Claire Beagle  
Amanda Benjamin  
Mike Bowen, Member at Large  
Marty Brown  
Kelsey Christensen-Abel, President  
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Paul Maloney, Treasurer  
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Wendy Owens, Secretary  
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Julie Sandberg  
Sean Shaughnessy  
Intisar Surur  
Jennifer Whipple

## **Ex-officio**

Susan Gifford, Olympia School District  
Patrick Murphy, Superintendent  
Justin McKaughan, Olympia School Board

## **Foundation Staff**

Katy Johansson, Executive Director



empowering every student through community support.

**access**

**community**

**compassion**

**equity**

**inclusion**

**kindness**

**support**

**wellness**

111 bethel st. n.e.  
olympia, wa 98506

360.596.6110  
[www.olyedfoundation.org](http://www.olyedfoundation.org)  
[info@olyedfoundation.org](mailto:info@olyedfoundation.org)

ein: 91-1914331