



Mission of the Green Fund

To identify the major causes of climate change in Napa County with indisputable data so that citizens, policy makers and organizations can better understand the best steps to take to make progress on this critical issue. This year, the Fund has the following Focus Areas:

- Investing to expand the scope of a study now underway in Napa County on green house gas emissions. **What we see:** Businesses, citizens, trade associations and other organizations are picking up different pieces of the climate change puzzle in Napa County, and working hard to make a difference. However, they don't have access to data on the major drivers of climate change in our community. Policymakers will ultimately need to make tough choices in order to reduce Napa County's carbon footprint. Areas like transportation, workforce housing and zoning are politically charged everywhere, but especially so in Napa County. Unbiased, scientific information can foster a more productive community dialogue, give courage to our political leaders and lead to viable solutions in the area of climate change.
- Packaging local data and information on climate change for non-technical audiences, and conducting cost-benefit analyses on potential action steps. **What we see:** Science is at the center of climate change, but most people aren't equipped to make sense of the numbers. Even information developed for non-technical audiences can be so obtuse (or uninteresting) that it defies a meaningful call to action. Removing barriers to consumer understanding and engagement is critical to building a strong consensus of support for climate change solutions. Helping people understand the cost-benefit implications of various actions also is important.
- Taking advantage of the wisdom of others. **What we see:** As a rural community, Napa County is geographically isolated. This isolation sometimes can inhibit the free flow of new ideas and perspectives. The Community Foundation, through our networks, has access to climate-change experts and innovators located outside Napa County. These leaders' insights and experiences can help us take action more quickly on projects that make a difference.

Examples of Projects

\$7,500 for 80 community leaders to hear an expert from the Hewlett Foundation on how philanthropy can affect climate change.

\$1,500 to organize a visit for donors to Sonoma State, to meet with thought-leaders on green building and sustainability.

How to Apply

The Fund makes grants on an initiative-funding basis. Grant decisions are made at the discretion of the Community Foundation Board of Directors, with recommendations from staff. For more information, please contact Terence Mulligan at 707.254.9565.