

# NAPA VALLEY

## COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



### Mission of the Fund for American Canyon

The Fund aims to provide more resources to nonprofit programs in American Canyon. In doing so, the Fund hopes to draw the attention of other grant makers and donors, as well as the general public, to the needs in this rapidly growing area of Napa County. This year, the Fund has the following Focus Areas:

- Giving American Canyon youth ages 14-24 opportunities to develop themselves as students and leaders, and expose them to the broader world of career and citizenship. **What we see:** Although education and income are more closely linked now than ever before, many of California's young people reach adulthood without the education or experiences needed to participate in our current economy. American Canyon's youth population has grown 10 percent during the last few years, and services have not kept pace. This city's youth only have a couple of options (outside of sports teams) to participate in stimulating extracurricular activities that are close to home.
- Empower youth (ages 14-24) to get their voices heard and invite them to actively participate in the grant application process. **What we see:** Geography is a barrier in American Canyon, where teens and young adults must leave their town to attend school, whether it's high school or college. There are a very limited number of off-campus venues for kids to express the changes they'd like to see in their city. There are even fewer opportunities for youth to partner with adults or younger kids to make these changes happen.
- Support nonprofits to pilot new projects or expand existing ones aimed at youth ages 14-24. **What we see:** Historically, programs for this age group have been available exclusively through the school system, or have been focused on youth diversion activities with the goal of reducing crime. Only limited financial resources have been available for charitable programs (beyond the scope of crime prevention) that reach out to older youth. While nonprofits and funders have begun to turn their attention towards the American Canyon community, there still is lots of work to be done.

### Examples of Projects

\$5,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters for Youth4Youth, an afterschool peer mentoring program geared towards drug and alcohol prevention for middle- and high-school students.

\$10,000 to the Boys and Girls Club of Napa Valley for recreation and special events programming for kids at the Club's American Canyon Teen Center.

\$6,000 to the Greater Vallejo Tennis Association for an afterschool program in which American Canyon high school tennis players mentor elementary school kids and teach them how to play the game.

### How to Apply

The Fund is open for applications once during the calendar year. For more information go to [http://www.napavalleycf.org/index.php?page\\_id=184&available\\_grant\\_id=41](http://www.napavalleycf.org/index.php?page_id=184&available_grant_id=41)