



Mission of the Fund for St. Helena

The Fund aims to provide more resources to nonprofit programs in St. Helena and the surrounding communities of Angwin, Berryessa, Chiles Valley, Oakville, Pope Valley and Rutherford. In doing so, the Fund hopes to draw the attention of other grant makers and donors, as well as the general public, to the visible and hidden needs in this diverse collection of cities and towns. This year, the Fund has the following Focus Areas:

- Giving local 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. While the St. Helena area is known for its economic affluence, there also is poverty. Many of the kids from low-income or working poor families live in remote areas, where there are minimal services. Even the youth from wealthy families face personal and health challenges that prevent them from moving into adulthood in a productive way. We also find that there are just a handful of options for this region's youth (outside of sports teams) to participate in stimulating extracurricular activities.
- Empower youth ages 14-24 to get their voices heard and invite them to actively participate in the grant application process. **What we see:** There are a couple of venues outside the classroom for youth to express the changes they'd like to see in their cities and towns (teen centers in Angwin and St. Helena). There are few, if any, ways for youth to partner with adults or work with 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 range have been available exclusively through the school system, or have been focused on youth diversion activities aimed at 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 this age group in St. Helena, there still is lots of work to be done there, as well as in the surrounding communities.

Examples of Projects

\$7,500 to Angwin Community Teen Center to offer creative and practical arts, including painting and sculpture classes, as well as plumbing repair and small building construction workshops.

\$6,200 to Planned Parenthood Shasta-Diablo for a health education group, in which high school students design and implement safe and engaging activities for themselves and their peers.

\$10,000 to St. Helena Family Center to pilot a program for at-risk Latino male high school kids that combines soccer practice with leadership training and cultural appreciation.

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=43