

Frequently Asked Questions Re: Donor Advised Funds/Foundations

Congratulations! Your organization has received a grant from a Donor Advised Fund/Foundation at Napa Valley Community Foundation (NVCF).

What is a Donor Advised Fund/Foundation?

A Donor Advised Fund or Donor Advised Foundation is established by a donor(s) at NVCF to facilitate their charitable giving. Often called a “Foundation within a Foundation,” these Funds allow a donor(s) to create a charitable giving account with us, taking advantage of our back office, research and due diligence services. The donor(s) then recommends grants to nonprofit organizations from this Fund, and these grants are distributed with our Boards’ approval.

Is this a grant from the donor or the Community Foundation?

This is a grant from Napa Valley Community Foundation, at the recommendation of the donor(s). There is no need to send us an acknowledgment letter or receipt—we also are a 501(c)(3) organization and do not require it. We recommend that you acknowledge the donor(s), but please do not provide them with a tax receipt. The donor(s) received a tax deduction when they established their Fund/Foundation with us.

How do we acknowledge the donor(s) who made the recommendation?

We would encourage you to recognize the generosity of the donor(s) who recommended the grant by listing them in your Annual Report, in social media, on your website and other marketing materials. If the grant is not anonymous, please list both the Fund name and the Napa Valley Community Foundation (“*A grant from the ____ Fund of Napa Valley Community Foundation*”). If the grant is anonymous, please simply list the Napa Valley Community Foundation. Note that your grant letter specifically mentions the name of the Fund that distributed the monies.

You also can send us a letter of gratitude and we will forward to the donor(s)/Fund(s) as appropriate.

May I apply for another grant from this Fund/Foundation?

Grants from Donor Advised Funds are based on consultations with and recommendations from individual and family donor(s). Napa Valley Community Foundation does not accept formal requests for funding directed to Donor Advised Funds/Foundations. However, we greatly appreciate hearing from you, and want to know your organization’s current needs. Please keep us informed, and we’ll do our best to involve Fundholders where appropriate.

Who may I contact with other questions about this grant?

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Philanthropic Services staff at 707.254.9565.