

2020 Annual Report

The McConnell Foundation

In 2020, the Foundation funded grants in the priority areas of interest to its Board of Directors which include Community Vitality; Children, Youth & Education; Major Projects; NatureBridge in Yosemite Program; The McConnell Fund at The Community Foundation of the North State; and programs in the countries of Nepal and Laos. All of these priorities were able to continue during COVID-19, except for the 2020 NatureBridge program, which had to be canceled.

In addition to new grants approved in 2020, the Foundation paid out funds committed to on-going, long-term projects such as College OPTIONS and North State Together under the Children, Youth & Education program area, and International programs such as community conflict transformation in Nepal, improving access to justice for citizens of Laos, women's leadership development in Nepal, and water quality of Laos' rivers. The Foundation was able to continue with Community Vitality grant making and investments, catalyzing the revitalization of downtown Redding - specifically in design, infrastructure, and construction. Progress on public trails development, land conservation, and wildfire mitigation projects for community protection in Shasta County was realized. The Burney Library and Dorris Community Center were completed and opened to the public, and the Center of Hope project neared completion.

Annual complimentary use of the Foundation's meeting rooms for nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and public schools was paused from March – December in response to COVID-19. The Foundation used this shelter-in-place time to remodel its public and staff restrooms in the headquarters building. With staff working remotely, contractors were able to work safely without the public on site. The restrooms are now refreshed for guests when meetings can resume post-COVID.

Public use of the Foundation's trails and open space provided uninterrupted recreational opportunities for walking, hiking, and biking during the pandemic, when fresh air and exercise were essential to health and well-being. In addition, the Foundation developed a new partnership with UC Berkeley's GrizzlyCorp Program to provide workforce development and training for recent college graduates to promote regenerative agri-food systems and wildfire resiliency in rural communities.

Program Related Investments (PRIs)

A Program Related Investment (PRI) is a way for foundations to leverage their philanthropic dollars. Unlike grants, however, foundations receive a return on their investment, through either repayment or return on equity. Equity is used for charitable purposes, such as, affordable housing, community development, property conversions, and protecting open space. The Foundation is doing work in each of these areas through its Bell Plaza Bike Depot, Block 7 mixed-use development, Cal-Fire recovery, mitigation and prevention, regenerative agriculture

at Ross Ranch, and housing and supportive services for people who are vulnerable or homeless. In 2020, the Foundation funded the following PRIs:

Bell Rooms Bike Depot – Adaptive Reuse Development

\$136,897

Block 7 – Net Zero Mixed-Use Affordable Housing Development

\$7,941,372

Cal Fire-OES grant

\$1,212,118

BearCorps Regenerative/Climate Smart Ag on Ross Ranch

\$10,000

Center of Hope Apartments – Permanent Supportive Housing Development

\$151,424

Ross Ranch SALC conservation easement exploratory costs

\$31,800

Gore Ranch SALC conservation easement exploratory costs

\$29,024

GRANTS APPROVED IN 2020 BY THE FOUNDATION’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

City of Redding

Redding Police Explorers Program in honor of Bob Blankenship

\$25,000

Community Foundation of the North State

Happy Camp Relief Fund

\$50,000

Community Foundation of the North State

The McConnell Fund 2021

\$742,500

Henry L. Stimson Center

US-Mekong Caucus

\$5,000

JPR Foundation

Cascade Theatre Matching Gift Challenge
\$5,000

McConnell Scholars Program

2021 McConnell Scholars
\$846,000

Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Center - Nepal (NRCTC)

Stay Home, Stay Safe
\$49,700

NatureBridge

2020 Gala Sponsorship
\$5,000

NatureBridge in Yosemite

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Yosemite Program was canceled for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. When the program resumes, funding is in place for tuition and transportation for high school students and teacher chaperones from Shasta, Siskiyou, Modoc, Tehama and Trinity County High Schools to participate in the NatureBridge in Yosemite Program, a week-long residential field science and environmental education program held in Yosemite National Park.
\$128,210

Shasta County Arts Council

Accelerating the Redding Cultural District
\$75,000

Turtle Bay Exploration Park

Operating Support for Calendar Year 2021
\$1,500,000

Turtle Bay Exploration Park

Sustainability Gardens - 2021 Site Maintenance
\$70,000

In addition to the grants approved in 2020, the Foundation distributed funds to partner organizations on new and previously-approved grants as follows:

California Bicycle Coalition Education Fund

Shasta Living Streets Bike & Walk Downtown
\$245,000

Center for Lao Studies

Between Two Worlds Exhibit: Richmond
\$21,090

City of Redding

California Soccer Park Modernization Project
\$1,000,000

City of Redding

4th of July Fireworks
\$85,000

Community Foundation of the North State

Operating Support for Occupancy Expenses
\$73,092

Community Foundation of the North State

Operating Support 2017-2021
\$181,526

Community Foundation of the North State

The McConnell Fund 2020
\$123,750

Community Foundation of the North State

Happy Camp Relief Fund
\$50,000

Fall River Resource Conservation District

Forest Health Project Planning and Environmental Compliance
\$200,000

Friends of the Intermountain Libraries, Inc.

Burney Library Project
\$100,000

Henry L. Stimson Center

US-Mekong Caucus
\$5,000

JPR Foundation

Cascade Theatre Matching Gift Challenge
\$5,000

Local Indians For Education

Support for Community Graduation Celebrations
\$500

McConnell Scholars Program

Student scholarships 2013-2020
\$486,727

Mount Shasta Trail Association, Inc.

Gateway Two Trail Development
\$105,000

Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Center - Nepal (NRCTC)

Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Project: Global Platform II
\$30,000

Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Center - Nepal (NRCTC)

Stay Home, Stay Safe
\$49,700

Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Center - Nepal (NRCTC)

NRCTP Phase VI: Sustainable Growth
\$150,000

NatureBridge

Yosemite Program 2020
\$56,210

NatureBridge

2020 Gala sponsorship
\$5,000

Northern Valley Catholic Social Service Inc.

The Woodlands II
\$200,000

Ore-Cal Resource Conservation and Development Area Council

Butte Valley Community Center Building Addition
\$185,000

Redding Fashion Alliance Incorporated

Incubation Spaces to Activate Vacant Property - Years 3 and 4
\$95,000

Redding Trail Alliance, Inc.

Shasta County Trail Planning, Building and Promoting 2018-2020

\$60,000

Shasta College Foundation

Scholarships for the Shasta College Global Education Program Expeditions 2016-2020

\$10,000

Shasta County Chemical People, Inc.

Shasta Coalition of African Americans for Community Health, Education, and Empowerment -
Community Graduation Celebrations

\$500

Shasta Family YMCA

Healthy Shasta Partnership 2019-2021

\$75,000

Shasta Family YMCA

Purchase of 1740 Eureka Way

\$1,280,514

Shasta Land Trust

Conservation & Stewardship Manager Position

\$28,000

The Asia Foundation

Improving Access to Justice for All Lao Citizens: Phase IV

\$200,000

Turtle Bay Exploration Park

Operating Support for Calendar Year 2020

\$1,500,000

Turtle Bay Exploration Park

Sustainability Gardens - 2020 Site Maintenance

\$70,000

Viva Downtown Redding

Butte Street Revitalization

\$172,228

OTHER GIVING

Board and Staff Matching Gift Donations

Annually, the Foundation's board members and staff voluntarily embrace opportunities to share their time and resources on projects and events that contribute to the quality of life in Redding and beyond.

In addition, through the Foundation's generous Matching Gift Program, board members and staff to make donations to eligible nonprofit organizations of their choice. Individual donations are matched by the Foundation.

\$260,695

Community Support

Annually, as part of the Foundation's communications and community relations, the Foundation supports events and opportunities that tie nonprofit organizations to our mission and priority areas of giving. These are often one-time community opportunities or annual events that reach a broad audience.

\$49,228

Qualifying Memberships

\$18,500

Lema Ranch Persimmons

Persimmons grown and harvested on Lema Ranch were donated to Shasta Senior Nutrition Program, Great Northern Corporation, Anderson-Cottonwood Christian Assistance, Lifeboat Mt. Shasta, and the community at large.

4-H/FFA Jr. Livestock Auctions

The McConnell Foundation supports local 4-H and FFA clubs by purchasing animals at livestock auctions and donating meat to One SAFE Place, Anderson-Cottonwood Christian Assistance, Empire Recovery, Great Northern Corporation, Shasta Senior Nutrition Center, Shasta-Trinity-Tehama HIV Food Bank, and Trinity County Food Bank.