

## **2022 Annual Report**

### **The McConnell Foundation**

In 2022, the Foundation funded grants in the priority areas of interest to its Board of Directors which include Children, Youth & Education; Community Vitality; International giving in the countries of Nepal and Laos; Major Projects; NatureBridge in Yosemite; Scholarships; and The McConnell Fund at The Community Foundation of the North State. The Foundation continued its work on ecosystem resilience and formally adopted the Ecosystem Resilience Program as a priority program area for annual review.

The Ecosystem Resilience Program focuses on wildfire mitigation, land conservation, regenerative agriculture, and post-wildfire restoration. In recent years, catastrophic wildfire events have become Northern California's leading cause of structure loss and the greatest source of greenhouse gas emissions. Ecosystem resilience objectives include ensuring community safety, providing forest and ecosystem productivity, protecting watersheds, supporting rural economies, restoring degraded or damaged ecosystems, and maintaining habitat for threatened, endangered, and other species of conservation concern.

- **Wildfire Mitigation:** Collaborate with community partners to bring funding to at-risk communities, protecting habitable structures and forest ecosystems from catastrophic wildfires. These efforts seek to perform strategically located treatments on approximately 18,000 acres (2,500 parcels) in 17 communities in Shasta, Trinity, and Siskiyou counties.
- **Land Conservation and Regenerative Agriculture:** Establish conservation easements on the Foundation's Gore and Ross Ranches and develop regenerative/climate-smart management practices.
- **Post-Wildfire Restoration:** Develop processes and partnerships to restore critical areas on the millions of acres of land damaged through high to moderate burn severity. Large contiguous burned areas are at risk of conversion with a negative effect on a number of ecosystem services, including hydrological function, carbon sequestration, and habitat.

In addition to new grants approved in 2022, the Foundation paid out funds committed to ongoing, 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 continued its Community Vitality grantmaking and investment, catalyzing the revitalization of downtown Redding - specifically in design, infrastructure, and construction, focusing on affordable housing, active lifestyles, and fostering local, creative placemaking. There are synergies between Community Vitality programming and the Foundation's efforts regarding environmental sustainability in:

- Net Zero: Installing onsite solar panels to offset energy costs of affordable housing development
- Active Transportation: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by offering e-bike share to residents and tourists
- Urban Greening: Planting street trees to increase shade and reduce energy demand in downtown Redding

Sustainability also remained a high priority, with the Foundation integrating Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) into its work. SDGs are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a blueprint for achieving a better and more sustainable future for all. The SDGs were set up in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and are intended to be achieved by 2030. To learn more, visit <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>. The Sustainability Committee published a Sustainability page on the Foundation's external website. Land Stewardship, Sustainable Development, and Foundation Operations are the three main nodes. Our Sustainability Statement is: "The McConnell Foundation recognizes that the communities we serve are on the front lines of the environmental crisis and commits to action."

Public use of the Foundation's trails and open space provided uninterrupted recreational walking, hiking, and biking opportunities.

Complimentary use of the Foundation's meeting rooms was offered to nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and public schools, allowing groups to escape their daily work environment and enjoy the Foundation's tranquil setting. Sixty-five meetings were held at the Foundation's headquarters and guest house, hosting 1,982 people. A sample of groups that met at the Foundation is AAUW Redding, Caltrans, City of Redding, Dignity Health Connected Living, Enterprise Elementary School District, Girl Scouts of Northern California, Healthy Shasta, Hill Country Health and Wellness Center, Lassen Park Foundation, League of Women Voters Redding Area, Mercy Foundation North, National Association of Social Workers, North State Together, North Valley Employer Advisory Council, Northern Summit Academy, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, Partners for Rural Impact, Redding School of the Arts, Shasta College, Shasta Community Health Center, Shasta County Arts Council, Shasta County Citizens Advocating Respect, Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency, Shasta Family YMCA, Shasta Library Foundation, Shasta Living Streets, Shasta Union High School District, Shasta-Cascade Viticulture Association, The Women's Fund, and US Forest Service.

### **Program-Related Investments (PRIs)**

Program-Related Investments (PRIs) allow foundations to leverage their philanthropic dollars. Unlike grants, however, foundations may receive a return on their investment through either repayment of funds expended 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, wildfire recovery, mitigation and prevention, regenerative agriculture at Ross Ranch, and housing and supportive services for people who are vulnerable or homeless. In 2022, the Foundation funded the following PRIs:

**Bell Plaza Bike Depot & Café – Adaptive Reuse Development**

\$1,339,872

**Block 7 - Net Zero Mixed-Use Affordable Housing Development**

\$3,622,130

**Wildfire Mitigation grants**

\$754,623

**Regenerative/Climate Smart Ag on Ross Ranch**

\$45,993

**Center of Hope Apartments – Permanent Supportive Housing Development**

\$469,400

**GRANTMAKING**

The Foundation's Board of Directors approved new grants in 2022, some of which were also paid in 2022. In addition to approving and making payments on new grants, funds were also distributed to partner organizations on previously-approved grants.

**Grants approved in 2022 and funds distributed in 2022**

**Butte Valley Museum & Historical Society**

General Support

\$5,000

**City of Redding AHSC grant pass-through funding**

Construction Costs Downtown Affordable Housing

\$2,950,315

**Community Conservation Nepal**

Environmental Justice in Nepal Book Project

\$8,000

**Happy Camp Community Action, Inc.**

Happy Camp Community Center Improvement Project

\$33,000

**Henry L. Stimson Center**

Nepal Early Warning Platform Scoping Study

\$50,000

**Hill Country Community Clinic**

General support

\$5,000

**Hill Country Community Clinic**

Donation to Center of Hope in memory of Christopher (Chris) Andrews  
\$250

**Mercy Foundation North**

Donation to Cancer Center in memory of Patricia (Patty) Wilcox  
\$500

**Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Center - Nepal (NRCTC)**

Phase VII: Together for Peace  
\$691,500

**NEO Philanthropy, Inc.**

Support  
\$10,000

**Nepal Youth Foundation**

Educating Dalit Lawyers Project  
\$100,000

**Redding Fashion Alliance Incorporated**

Retail Space Transition  
\$10,000

**Redding Fashion Alliance Incorporated**

Interim Operating Support  
\$50,000

**Redding Rancheria, A Federally Recognized Indian Tribe**

Redding Rancheria Tribal Health System in appreciation of services provided to the community  
\$5,000

**Shasta County Office of Education**

Donation to Schreder Planetarium in memory of Jack Schreder  
\$1,000

**Shasta Regional Community Foundation**

Operating Support for Occupancy Expenses 1335 Arboretum Drive, Suite B (2023-2025)  
\$221,760

**The Unyoke Foundation**

Peacebuilders' Unyoke Retreat  
\$5,736

**Turtle Bay Exploration Park**

Loan Forgiveness  
\$3,309,187

**United Way of Northern California**

North State Equity Fund  
\$100,000

**Viva Downtown Redding**

Butte Street Revitalization-Operating Grant 2022-2025  
\$300,000

**Watershed Research And Training Center**

Weaver Basin Trails - Expansion & Improvement  
\$225,000

**Whitmore Community Center**

Community Meetings  
\$4,000

**Grants approved in 2022, funds not distributed in 2022**

**City of Redding**

2023-2027 4th of July Fireworks  
\$525,000

**City of Shasta Lake**

Bizz Johnson Ballpark Concession and Bathroom Replacement Project  
\$165,000

**Community Foundation of the North State**

The McConnell Fund 2023  
\$742,500

**McConnell Scholars Program**

2023 McConnell Scholars  
\$876,000

**Mercy Foundation North**

Regional Cancer Center in Redding  
\$1,000,000

**NatureBridge**

2024 Yosemite Program  
\$140,000

**Shasta College Foundation**

Shasta College Global Expeditions Program (2023-2029)  
\$77,000

**Turtle Bay Exploration Park**

Operating Support for Calendar Year 2023  
\$1,500,000

**Turtle Bay Exploration Park**

Sustainability Gardens - Site Maintenance 2022  
\$70,000

**Viva Downtown Redding**

Viva Downtown Butte Street Revitalization-Rent & Utility Subsidy 2023-2025  
\$518,781

**Funds distributed in 2022 on previously-approved grants**

**California Bicycle Coalition Education Fund**

Shasta Living Streets Bike & Walk Downtown  
\$175,000

**Center for Lao Studies**

Between Two Worlds Exhibit: Merced  
\$17,500

**Center for Lao Studies**

Between Two Worlds Exhibit: Sacramento  
\$43,890

**City of Redding**

2018-2022 4th of July Fireworks  
\$85,000

**City of Redding**

Block 7 HCD/AHSC Funding  
\$2,950,315

**College OPTIONS, Inc.**

College OPTIONS  
\$567,614

**Community Foundation of the North State**

Operating Support for Occupancy Expenses 1335 Arboretum Drive, Suite B  
\$73,092

**Community Foundation of the North State**

The McConnell Fund at the Community Foundation of the North State 2022  
\$742,500

**Community Foundation of the North State**

Operating Support 2022-2026  
\$90,438

**International Union for Conservation Of Nature & Natural Resources (IUCN)**

Lao Ecology Small Grant Program  
\$75,000

**Mahila Shakti Bikash Kendra Nepal (MSBKN)**

Rural Women's Leadership Development Project: Phase VII  
\$650,000

**McConnell Scholars**

Student scholarships  
\$770,806

**Mercy Foundation North**

Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta Emergency Department Expansion and Renovation Project  
\$250,000

**MSI-US**

Continuing Women's Health Services During the Covid-19 Pandemic in Nepal  
\$40,000

**Natural Resource Conflict Transformation Center - Nepal (NRCTC)**

NRCTP Phase VI: Sustainable Growth  
\$190,000

**NatureBridge**

Yosemite Program 2023  
\$53,301

**Redding Fashion Alliance Incorporated**

Fashion Education & Production Studios Programming  
\$100,000

**Shasta College Foundation**

North State Together 2020-2027  
\$863,024

**Shasta County Arts Council**

Accelerating the Redding Cultural District  
\$25,000

**The Asia Foundation**

Improving Access to Justice for All Lao Citizens: Phase IV  
\$100,000

**The Asia Foundation**

River Basin Management Project  
\$200,000

**Turtle Bay Exploration Park**

Loan Forgiveness  
\$3,309,187

**Turtle Bay Exploration Park**

Operating Support for Calendar Year 2022  
\$1,500,000

**Turtle Bay Exploration Park**

Sustainability Gardens - Site Maintenance 2022  
\$70,000

**Viva Downtown Redding**

Viva Downtown Butte Street Revitalization-Rent Subsidy  
\$77,065

**Viva Downtown Redding**

Viva Downtown Butte Street Revitalization-Operating Grant 2022-2025  
\$125,000

**OTHER GIVING**

**Board and Staff Matching Gift Donations**

Annually, the Foundation's Board of Directors and staff members 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 Gifts Program, board members and staff make donations to eligible nonprofit organizations of their choice. Individual donations are matched by the Foundation.

\$210,566



**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.

\$92,425

**Qualifying Memberships**

\$35,700

**4-H/FFA Jr. Livestock Auctions**

The McConnell Foundation supports local 4-H and FFA clubs by purchasing animals at livestock auctions and donating the 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.

\$45,659