

IMPACT REPORT



Yakima Valley
Community Foundation

SUPPORT BEYOND THE CHECK

The challenges our communities face are too large to be solved by any one organization—or sector—alone. Community foundations are uniquely structured to bring community leadership and resources together to create an equitable and prosperous community where ALL can thrive. When we move beyond our traditional roles of grantmaking and acting as a charitable bank, we drive more positive change by leveraging our relationships, knowledge, and expertise. As a funder, we have more to offer than dollars alone. Responsive, adaptive, non-monetary support bolsters capacity and organizational health in our nonprofit sector.

In 2023, we enjoyed an increased role in advocating for our area to elevate the barriers and the needs within rural areas of America and right here in Central Washington. We used our voice to secure additional support for the nonprofits who do important work here, for the preservation of local news structures reporting accurately on issues important to all of us, and for policy and system changes at our local, state, and federal levels.

YVCF is honored to partner with others across community to advocate and secure resources to address such things as the childcare shortage, to improve access to vaccines, health screenings, and information, and for infrastructure investments. For far too long, metropolitan areas with staffing to prepare onerous grant applications or to develop “shovel-ready” projects, have been receiving the bulk of federal and state funds, leaving rural areas like ours with failing systems and an overwhelming burden of deteriorated irrigation canals, wastewater systems and more. When our rural communities pool our connections, time, energy, and expertise we move mountains – or at least money to help move mountains.

We are grateful for your ongoing, vital partnership so needed for the community we know and love to thrive.



Cynthia Juarez
2023 Board Chair



Sharon Miracle
President & CEO



Thanks to a \$4.27M grant from the WA State Department of Health, we partnered with community-based organizations across Yakima, Adams, Grant, and Kittitas County to help engage the local Hispanic-Latino population about their access to healthcare resources. This resulted in new public health campaigns, giving families easy ways to find health and community information. We understand that some members of our community face unique challenges in accessing vital health information and services, especially in rural areas, in part due to language and cultural barriers.

We launched a new education series focused on highlighting important topics in our community. Together we explored community-based solutions regarding:

- Meeting the needs of vulnerable populations in the Lower Valley
- Supporting local arts organizations post-pandemic
- Expanding and supporting afterschool programs for youth
- Lifting up local nonprofits with more sustainable fundraising models and business structures

COMMUNITY

conversations



In 2023 we welcomed Shelly Valdez to our Board of Directors. This brings the number of YVCF board members to nineteen. Shelly is originally from the Yakima Valley where she was born and raised. She attended the University of Washington and started her career in the Seattle area. A couple of years ago, Shelly and her husband, Santos Valdez, along with their two young daughters, returned to Yakima. Shelly has been on a steep career trajectory during her time with Microsoft Corporation, where she currently holds the position of Venture Integration Lead - Global Treasury and Financial Services.

"This Valley has provided me with ample opportunities and resources to succeed, so I'm excited about the opportunity to give back"
- Shelly Valdez

Meet our Board



BY THE NUMBERS

\$81M

Total assets

\$4.3M

Total contributions received in 2023

\$2.8M

Total granted in 2023

120

Funds under management

105

Nonprofits supported

\$1.37M

Grants made from Donor Advised Funds

\$36M

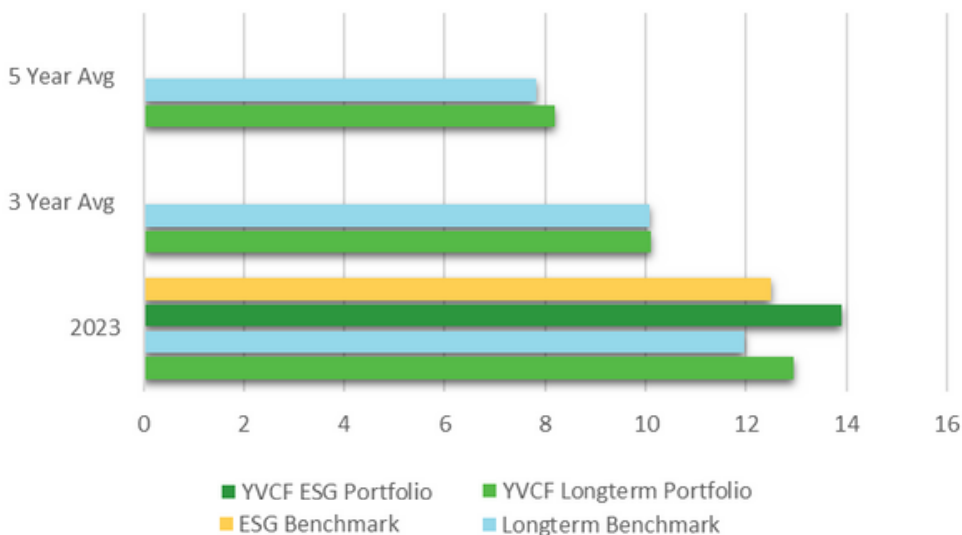
Total amount of grants
given in last 10 years

\$19.4M

Total amount of grants
given in last 5 years

January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

YVCF Investment Returns vs Benchmark



Our Investment Committee implements and supervises our Investment Policy Statement with assistance from Graystone Consulting, a Morgan Stanley subsidiary specializing in foundations and endowments. Pooled investment assets provide the opportunity to participate in high-quality investments and receive lower fees. In 2023, the average investment fee was a nominal 0.56%.

Transparency, accessibility, and clarity are at the heart of how the Yakima Valley Community Foundation manages the charitable assets entrusted to us.

*Meet the
Investment
Committee*





YVCF is proud to have served as a funder, fund convener and champion of the new Aquatic Center being built at MLK, Jr. Park. We joined many other generous Yakima companies and families with our gift of \$225,000. YVCF is committed to building infrastructure and opportunities for historically underrepresented communities, and the aquatic center project is emblematic of that goal. We can't wait to dip our toes in 2025!

"YVCF's gift honors Ms. Ester Huey, a former member of the foundation's board, for her tireless work on projects like the aquatic center and so many others that have improved Yakima and supported our community's youth" - Sharon Miracle



Yakama Power, a Yakama Nation enterprise, provides low-cost energy and broadband across the reservation. They won a competitive grant from the Dept. of Commerce for \$8M to upgrade existing irrigation canals with solar panels, energy and cable lines, and walking pathways. But to receive this grant, they needed to raise philanthropic matching dollars, tough for a utility company that does not fundraise. YVCF gifted \$100k, which allowed for the \$8M grant to be received, which was further leveraged into a \$32M grant. This project is vital to our community, helping create and sustain living wage jobs on the reservation, and has tremendous environmental impacts – water and renewable energy.

\$100k >> \$8M >> \$32M = jobs + environmental impacts

"My YVCF Donor Advised Fund is a year old this month and while my fund is modest, the benefits are obvious to me. I maximized my charitable donations so my taxes were lower, and I am planning and managing my giving in a more satisfying way."

- Gwen Chaplin, Donor Advised Fundholder and YVCF Board of Directors Member

*Give Like Gwen-
Give, Grow & Grant
Charitable Investments*



YVCF ♥ 'S



One of 900 community foundations in the United States, YVCF partners to create a better future for all by pursuing our areas' greatest opportunities and addressing the most critical challenges, inclusively uniting people, institutions, and resources from throughout our region, and producing significant, widely shared and lasting results. For more than 20 years, we've been proud to connect people and resources for all who call the Yakima Valley home.

TODAY. TOMORROW. FOREVER.

Our greatest assets are long-term, trusted relationships with people and organizations across the Yakima Valley. Combined with our philanthropic tools, we help you build pathways for charitable giving that can make a difference now, and for generations to come. Contact us to learn more about strategies and opportunities to build a thriving community.

*Reach out about
how we can
partner* →



MISSION

To connect people, resources, and ideas so the community we know and love thrives.

VISION

A community leader in education, health, and civic engagement - supporting equitable access to opportunity with special attention to those who are frequently left out and left behind.



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yakimavalleyycf.org