

ORCAS ISLAND
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

WORKING TOGETHER.
HELPING EACH OTHER.





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Orcas entered this pandemic with an enormous advantage—a community of islanders that has a tradition of neighbors helping neighbors.

Forged from weathering winter storms and power outages and from generations of self-reliance, we know how to work together to take care of each other. We have set up a strong network of nonprofits to provide services. We have systems in place to move resources where they are most needed. We know how to pitch in.

Pitching in. That's what it takes to be a resilient community. It takes everyone to offer what they can. That could be time, skill, money, or just plain old elbow grease. Whatever is needed and whatever it takes.

When we connect in this way, we not only help others, we help ourselves. We feel connected. We feel like we belong. We know we can make a difference. Building community takes time, trust,

and tenacity. We were so fortunate to have entered 2020 with strength and a foundation of trust.

Over the next few pages, OICF will share a few stories about how the community jumped into action. There are too many stories to fit in here. We all had the opportunity to pitch in and most of us also reached out for help. Working together, helping each other, we are getting through it.

Thanks for all you did to make it so.

Hilary Canty, Executive Director
hilary@oicf.us

Previous page: Village of Eastsound from Indian Island

Clockwise from above:
 The Lummi Nation Totem
 Red Road to DC
 Celebration at Madrona
 Point; Hive work party at
 the Healing Arts Center;
 New roof on the Crow
 Valley School Museum;
 Island Market employee,
 Laura Jung; Conestoga
 Hut built by The Shelter
 Group





Resiliency requires a level of connectivity and a deep understanding of community resources and needs.

Orcas was fortunate to enter the pandemic in 2020 with a highly effective nonprofit sector, featuring talented staff and skilled boards. They were already familiar with each other and willing to collaborate. When organizations needed to pivot and expand to meet growing community needs, they did so with speed and grace. OICF established the Community Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to gather the financial resources needed for this expansion, allowing the nonprofits to focus on providing services rather than fundraising. Members of the CERF Advisory Board came from both nonprofit and faith-based

organizations, providing a deep understanding of the ever-changing issues that the pandemic revealed on the island.

Orcas quickly had a system to get rent and mortgage assistance out to the community thanks to a collaboration between the Orcas Community Resource Center and OPAL Community Land Trust. The Food Bank expanded services, hours of operation, and the nutritional value of its food while becoming a hub for local food distribution. The Senior Center rallied a team of volunteers to deliver food and medications to seniors and

disabled neighbors who sheltered at home. It also set up a program to make weekly calls to those folks to help ease the impact of isolation.

This remarkable response was made possible because as a community, we had already invested in these organizations and they were comfortable working together. Donors trusted OICF to get the funds out quickly and where they would do the most good. Working together and contributing what we can, Orcas has proven to be a resilient community.

\$2,756,423 RAISED

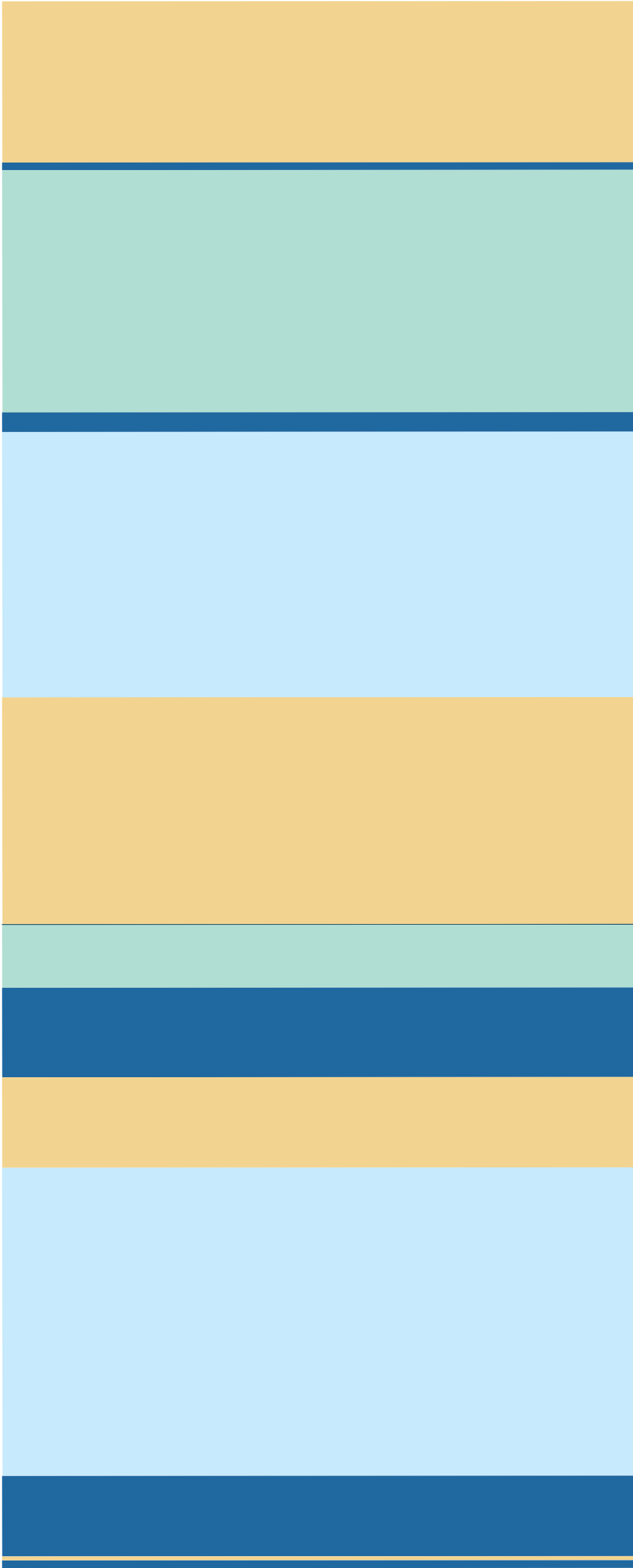
Funds raised between March 5, 2020 & October 13, 2021

DONATIONS
\$1,932,979

ALL IN WASHINGTON
MATCHING GRANT
\$823,444

\$2,032,077 DISTRIBUTED

Funds distributed between
March 5, 2020 & October 13 2021



- Early Childhood Education Initiative:** increased access to early childhood education & daycare
- Island Rides:** electric vehicle purchase
- OPAL Community Land Trust:** rental & mortgage assistance
- Orcas Center:** safety videos & musicians for vaccination clinics
- Orcas Community Resource Center:** case management, increased social services, household supplies, utility support & staff expansion
- Orcas Island Education Foundation:** OISD Outdoor Education Program
- Orcas Island Farmers Market Association:** COVID precautions for safely reopening
- Orcas Island Food Bank:** increase capacity & access to local food
- Orcas Senior Center:** nutrition, transportation, & Buddy Check-In programs for seniors
- San Juan Agricultural Guild:** increase local food production to benefit the Food Bank
- Orcas Island Civilian Conservation Corps:** A San Juan Islands Conservation District, Western Washington University & Northwest Indian College Foundation collaboration
- Shelter Program:** for neighbors lacking housing
- Washington State University:** 4-H Victory Garden
- YMCA Camp Orkila:** in-person student program

Madrona Sculpture at
April's Grove by Zach Leck



The pandemic has been hard on us all. For some, the added stress of not being able to pay the bills was overwhelming.

Early in March 2020, it became apparent that many families were having difficulty paying rents and mortgages as employment waned due to the pandemic. Facing the possibility of growing debt and potential loss of housing was the reality for many households on Orcas.

Fortunately, as a community, we were able to provide immediate philanthropic support through CERF while working in collaboration with the Orcas Community Resource Center and OPAL Community Land Trust. OPAL established a program to offer homeowners and renters financial counseling and, if needed, provide rent or mortgage payments directly to landlords and financial institutions. All in all, 442 households received assistance: \$389,000 in support was

distributed from March 2020 through June 2021, and 89% of those helped were not OPAL homeowners or tenants.

This quick support was a true gift during very difficult days. For some, it helped stabilize their situation, and a few repaid the funds so that they could be used to support another family. Not only were those families supported, but the program also provided income to property owners and kept money moving through the local economy—a win for all. Beginning in June 2021, the Opportunity Council was able to start providing support with help from Federal and State funding.

Thank you to all the donors who provided the funds to make this possible. Truly a great community response.

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Orcas Island School
District Kids at YMCA
Camp Orkila for
Education Day



When schools turned to remote learning, parents and educators were concerned about the impact on students' mental health.

Increasing isolation and loss of peer support loomed large. The Orcas Island School District, the Orcas Island Education Foundation & Camp Orkila worked together to address the issue and launched an outdoor education program, providing a day per week of in-person, outdoor activity for each class in the district.

For many, this once-a-week retreat was the only time they were with other students. This was a life changer for both students and parents, providing a small slice of normalcy in an otherwise distressing year.

The program was so successful that the School District has decided to build it into the curriculum. It provides a weekly opportunity to strengthen student's social, emotional and physical skills.

Thanks to the many donors who donated to CERF to support this program during the All in Washington match, over \$300,000 was raised and is now available to keep Outdoor Education going for many years to come. It is a good example of ways this community has become more resilient in the face of crisis.



A kid getting their morning bottle feeding at the Lum Farm; Mandy Troxel, Amy & Eric Lum and Crystal Mossman on the Coffelt Farm Preserve



CERF made a grant to the San Juan County Agriculture Council, who reached out to Orcas farmers and producers for proposals.

Four projects were selected, including one from the Lum family, who farm on the Land Bank's Coffelt Farm Preserve.

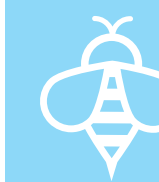
The Lums used the funds to hire additional labor and to purchase an ice machine. They found that this support was a turning point for them, bringing their farm production to the next level. Having an extra set of hands to help harvest and feed was a game changer, and ample ice allowed them to increase their cheese production.

They have also fostered two cows that were given to the Food Bank and provided hundreds of

pounds of meat to Food Bank customers when the cows were slaughtered this summer.

Additional grants were made to the Rainbow Chicken Ranch for egg production, and to Maple Rock and Morning Star for increased vegetable production.

These grants not only provided more food for the Food Bank, they also helped local farms maintain and, in some cases, expand employment opportunities.



In early 2020, a small group started convening at OICF with a focus on engaging younger people in the community in local philanthropy.

It was apparent, even then, that our island was changing, and future leaders, donors, volunteers, and changemakers were going to be passed the torch by their older peers in the not-so-distant future. From this idea, Orcas Hive was born. Hive's mission is to offer up a place to connect and collaborate with Orcas Island's next generation of community-minded visionaries and leaders. With the support and empowerment of OICF, Hive aims to connect the younger generations of locals with one another and with organizations and philanthropic opportunities that fit their interests.

Bit by bit, Hive's vision has come to fruition, growing a movement out of an idea. With the help and encouragement of local donors, a Hive fund was opened, and its first grants were made during

the annual GiveOrcas campaign. Over the summer outdoor concerts at Orcas Island Winery were hosted in collaboration with Hive, helping to bring awareness to the mission. Hive also hosted its inaugural community work party. Young locals came together, many hands making light work, and assisted organizations in checking much needed items off of their to-do lists.

Hive aims to inspire change, to promote progress, and most of all to continue on with the neighborly spirit and love that drew us all into this community. As residents come and go, Hive is committed to making sure future generations stay inspired to be a part of this community as we grow roots, raise our families, and contribute our time and resources to this place we all call home.

An evening of fun and music at Orcas Island Winery hosted by the Hive; Volunteers at the inaugural Hive Work Party





One of the 30 trees that were planted to celebrate the 25th anniversary of OICF

OICF celebrated our 25th anniversary in 2020. To honor the milestone, we had over 30 trees planted in Eastsound.

There are a couple of trees at the Village Green in the new play area, one in front of our office building on Urner Street, and the rest planted in the April's Grove neighborhood.

As the proverb says, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second best time is now."

Thank you to Robin Kucklick for his expertise in selecting the varieties and overseeing the planting at April's Grove and to the Greenings and Mathew Hamilton for selecting and planting the ones on the Green.

Their efforts ensure the beauty of Eastsound for generations to come.

"To plant trees is to give body and life to one's dreams of a better world."

—Russell Page



Clockwise from above: CERF Advisors Erin O'Dell, Susan Singleton, Kevin Ranker, Judy Scott, Brian Moss, Hilary Canty, Berto Gándara & Lisa Byers; Orcas Island Civilian Conservation Corps members working along Cascade Creek at Buck Bay; Daniela Pereira from the Orcas Community Resource Center; Village Green Playground; Sail Orcas sailboats at West Sound; Orcas Food Co-op signage; Volunteer Island Rides driver Mariann Carrasco; OICF thanks the community for GiveOrcas participation; Jake Perrine, Nicole Matisse, Bethany Marie & Dimitri Stankevich of the Orcas Center; Fresh organic food at the Food Bank





The end of the day at the Orcas Island School District; Cheddar sitting in front of the Ginny Lou Wood Water Fountain on the Village Green; Anemones in front of Roses



The Foster family has multi-generational ties with a Mexican pueblo, dating back to 1945, when Jeremy's father was working as an anthropologist in Michoacan.

This past year, the Fosters decided to honor the Pichu family connection by starting the Pichu Fund, which provides an annual scholarship to a Latinx High School student pursuing higher education. They set up the fund as an endowment, ensuring the connection continues for generations to come.

Bob and Betty Lundeen endowed a fund at OICF as well. Their focuses were the Library, seniors, education, and medical services. Last year, their fund helped re-roof the Medical Clinic. This year, it will provide a Social and Emotional Advocate at the middle school—timely support for so many.

Ginny Lou Wood left the proceeds from the sale of her home to OICF. In her lifetime, Ginny was a strong advocate for the Eastsound community and the Salish Sea. Her legacy gift has provided funding for the new playground and water fountain in the Village Green. We made sure the fountain was dog friendly in honor of Jesse, her wonder dog.

Legacy gifts come in all sizes and can be focused on what you love most. It is a lovely way to give back to this community that has given so much to each of us. We are happy to help you set up a fund at any time.

OICF manages over \$19 million in assets while keeping our administrative expenses exceptionally low.

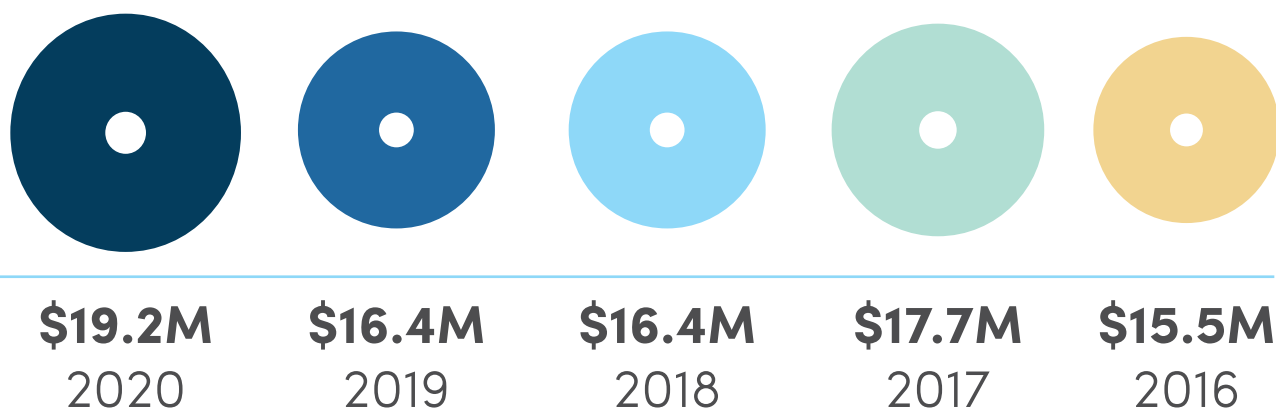
REVENUE

Contributions	\$6,967,870
Investment Income	\$1,440,112
Administrative Fee Income	\$26,163
Rental Income	\$22,156
Total Revenue	\$8,456,301

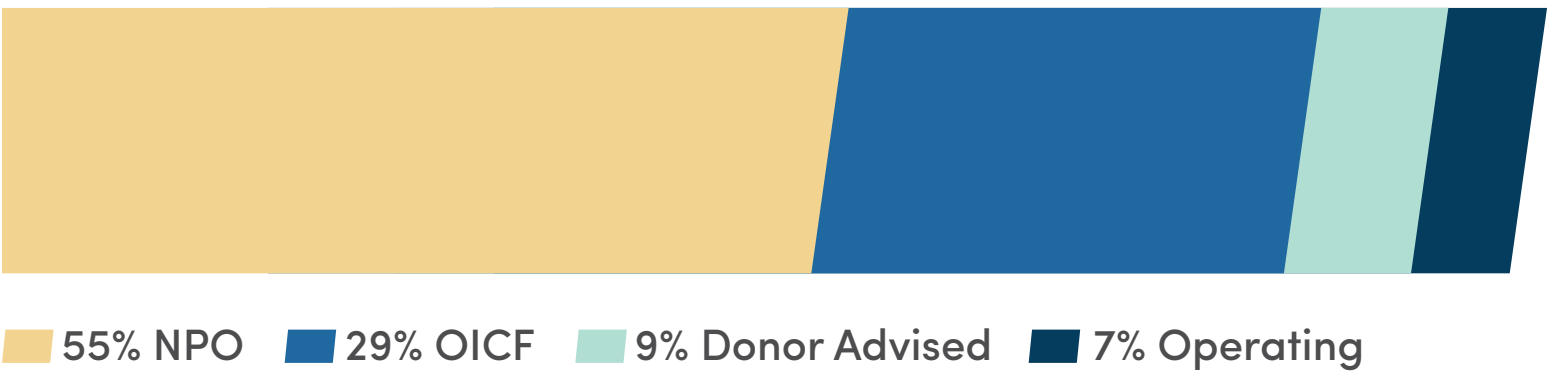
EXPENSES

Grants	\$5,581,526
Salaries	\$231,077
Operating	\$270,827
Total Expenses	\$6,083,430

TOTAL ASSETS



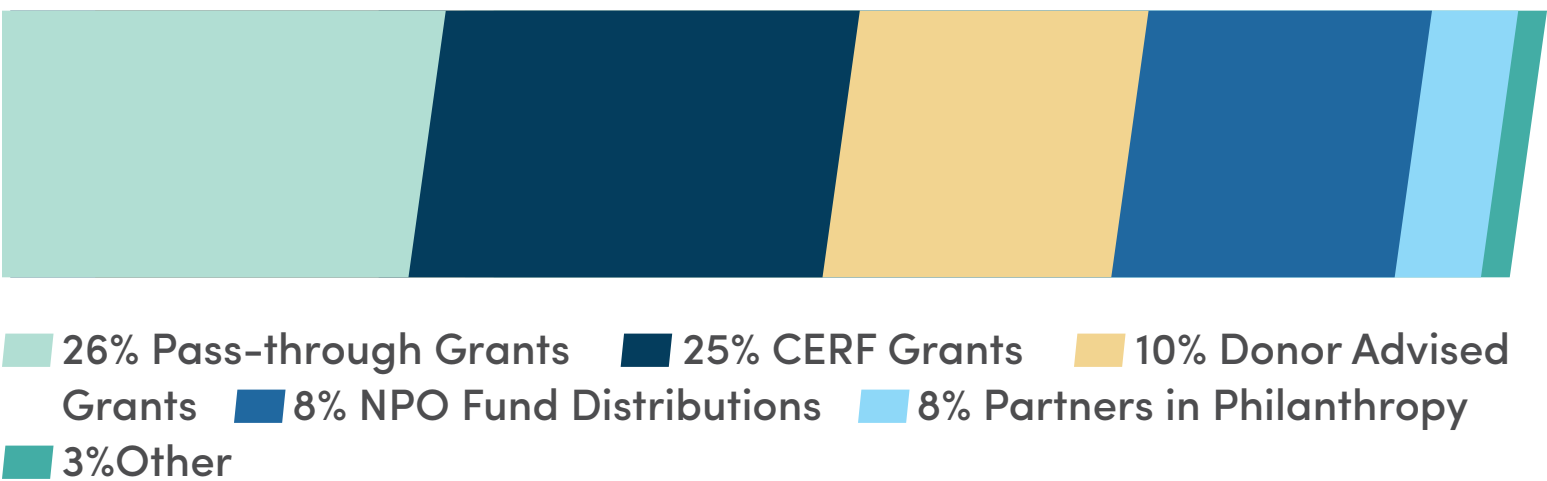
TOTAL ASSETS BY FUND TYPE



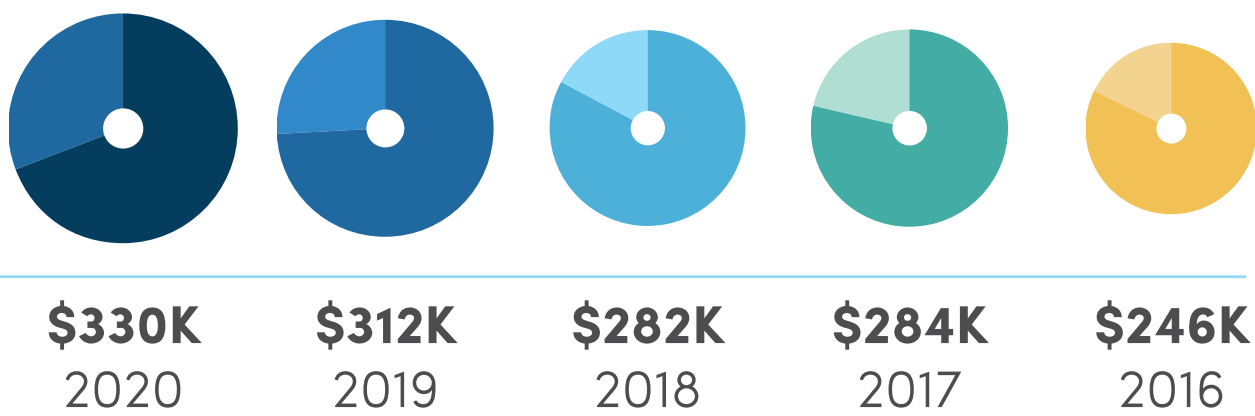
EXPENSES



GRANTS & DISTRIBUTIONS



GIVE ORCAS



GiveOrcas darker shades represent our Spring Campaign. Lighter shades represent our Holiday Campaign.

OICF had a total of 1,357 donors & awarded 769 grants in 2020—all of which significantly benefited our island.

The shoreline of San
Juan County



We invest in partnerships, nonprofits, and projects that tackle community challenges, help meet critical needs, and improve the quality of life for all of our neighbors.

Investing in OICF is an investment in community. OICF currently holds over 150 funds for a variety of nonprofits, legacy donors, and donor-advised funds. Each year, the funds make distributions to programs and projects around the world, but mostly here on Orcas.

We invite you to consider opening a fund of your own. Setting up a fund is a simple process. We accept different kinds of assets and can facilitate even the most complex forms of giving, including

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD), stock transfers, pass through gifts/grants, and gifts of real estate. We offer five different investment options and have low administrative fees. All fund owners have cloud-based access to their accounts, making grantmaking a simple process.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Jen Wallace at jen@oicf.us or (360) 376-6423, and she can walk you through the process.

OICF currently holds over 150 funds for a variety of nonprofits, legacy donors, and donor advised funds.



Thank you to our Cornerstone Donors who give annual, sustaining gifts of \$1,000–\$15,000 to fuel the programs & operations of the Community Foundation.

If you are interested in supporting OICF by becoming a Cornerstone Donor, please contact Jen Wallace at jen@oicf.us or (360) 376-6423. We'd love to hear from you.

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Gordon & Maureen Crowe
Andy Wickstrand
Bob Gamble & Wini Adams
Jonathan & Carol Buchter
Lexie & Scott Clifford
Peter Fischer
Ann & Sig Snelson
Nancy Edquist

*Deceased

Deer Harbor Marina at sunset: OICF staff Jen Wallace, Ed Andrews, Hilary Canty & Megan Neal



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“Serving my generation with excellence will in turn mean my generation can lead with excellence.”
—Oyi Anyado



Clockwise from below: Kite Day at Buck Park sponsored by Orcas Island PTSA & Orcas Island Parks & Recreation; World map at the OISD Library; Ricky, the Mayor of Eastsound; Irises in front of OICF; Cyprus Island from the ferry; Signage at the Orcas Island Winery; The Dental Van

ORCAS ISLAND COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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