

Growing Stronger Communities



First Federal
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
A Private Charitable Corporation

2019
Annual Report

To Our Communities

The year 2019 marks a milestone for First Federal Community Foundation, representing five years of contributing to difference-making nonprofit organizations in the four counties where First Federal, the Foundation's sole donor, operates full-service branches.

We at First Federal Community Foundation are grateful to First Federal for demonstrating both the foresight and generosity to establish our Foundation, dedicated to improving the quality of life and investing in the future of our communities. We are honored to carry on First Fed's legacy of addressing the needs of our community with contributions of \$3,767,500 in our first five years.

In 2019 alone, the Foundation contributed \$800,000 to organizations focused on affordable housing, community support, community development and economic development. By county, \$235,000 was directed to projects in Clallam County; \$195,000 to Jefferson County; \$60,000 to Kitsap County; \$165,000 to Whatcom County; and \$145,000 to projects affecting two or more of our target counties.

We hope that this 2019 Annual Report will give you a sense of appreciation for the many organizations that are supporting our communities, serving as a safety net for those most in need, and building a strong and vibrant future for us all.

Foundation Financials

Grant awards and operating costs were offset by income from dividends and interest, and realized and unrealized gains on stock sales and investments, resulting in a net asset increase for the year of \$1,439,699. As of December 31, 2019, the Foundation's assets, comprised of cash and shares of First Northwest BanCorp (First Federal's parent company) stock, totaled \$12,648,284.

[Click here](#) for more information on the Foundation's financials.

"The Foundation board is impressed by the breadth and depth of organizations improving the quality of life in the communities we serve. While this makes our decisions as to where to allocate our funds challenging, we are excited to watch the impact of our grantmaking unfold."

— **Norman J. Tonina, Jr., Chairman**

Our Directors and Officers



Pictured from left to right: Craig Curtis, Board Member; Cindy H. Finnie, Board Member; Jan Simon, Executive Director and Board Member; Norman J. Tonina, Jr., Chairman and Member of the Board; Karen McCormick, Board Member; Matthew P. Deines, President & Chief Executive Officer, First Federal.

Not pictured: David T. Flodstrom, Board Member; Joyce Ruiz, Board Secretary; Geri Bullard, Board Treasurer.

Giving Back...Our First Five Years

First Federal Community Foundation is a private charitable corporation that began making grants in 2015, thanks to a generous gift valued at nearly \$12 million from the parent company of First Federal, when the bank was converted to a publicly traded company. This gift underscored First Fed's commitment to continue its tradition of giving back to the communities it serves.

In that same spirit, First Federal Community Foundation is committed to creating broad impact and improving the quality of life in the communities in which First Federal maintains full-service branches.

We are grateful to First Federal for making the Foundation's giving possible. We are inspired by the vision and dedication of the organizations we fund and honored to support them in addressing challenges and maximizing opportunities.

"The Foundation's giving — \$3,767,500 in our first five years — is an investment in and commitment to our shared future."

— Matthew P. Deines, President & CEO, First Federal



Priorities for Giving

First Federal Community Foundation is committed to improving the quality of life in our communities. Through focused investing in projects and programs that create broad impact, our grants benefit charitable services, affordable housing, economic development and community development projects and programs. Priority is given to efforts that build organizational capacity to better serve the broader community, and deliver benefits to low-to-moderate-income, disadvantaged and/or marginalized persons or families.

Affordable Housing

In 2019, three organizations shared \$100,000 in Affordable Housing grants.



Rep. Derek Kilmer, left, congratulates Pennies for Quarters founder and president, Matthew Rainwater, middle, and CRTC CEO, Dave Walter on their grant award.

Featured Grant: The Composites Recycling Technology Center (CRTC) in Port Angeles received a \$50,000 grant to build a demonstration tiny home in collaboration with the nonprofit, Pennies for Quarters.

One out of every four homeless individuals is a veteran. Pennies for Quarters is committed to transforming the lives of homeless vets by developing a community of 24 tiny houses that provides transitional shelter, common resources, and access to community and social services.

The nonprofit CRTC will build the homes using modified coastal Western Hemlock harvested from the North Olympic Peninsula and supplied in large part by the Makah Tribe, and carbon fiber

scrap that would otherwise end up in a landfill. The homes will be durable, energy efficient, and have the warmth and beauty of wood while being resistant to bugs, mold, and rot.

"Increasing the availability of affordable housing is very important to First Fed. This grant, which also benefits homeless vets and provides manufacturing jobs, makes it a good fit for Foundation support."

— David T. Flodstrom, Foundation Board Member

Affordable Housing grants were also awarded to:

Habitat for Humanity of East Jefferson County: \$25,000 for the South County Home Repair program, providing much-needed home repairs to families in Jefferson County.

Sustainable Connections: \$25,000 to launch the Bellingham for Everyone campaign, aimed at helping the public understand and connect homelessness and affordable housing issues with solutions.

Community Development

Ten organizations shared \$425,000 in Community Development grants.



Members of the Max Higbee Center celebrate construction of their new facility.

Featured Grant: Whatcom County's Max Higbee Center is named for the late Dr. C. Max Higbee, who led the special education program at Western Washington University and spearheaded passage of a law requiring free and appropriate public education for all children with disabilities that became a model for federal legislation.

The Center supports and empowers teens and adults with developmental disabilities to build community, friendships, life skills and health through recreation. First Federal Community Foundation awarded \$50,000 to the Center to remodel and expand their new facility, allowing the Center to nearly triple its program space and eliminate its growing waitlist.

Community Development grants were also awarded to:

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Olympic Peninsula

\$25,000 for the construction of a new clubhouse in Sequim to expand the number of at-risk and disadvantaged youth to receive the benefits of membership.

Dungeness River Audubon Center

\$25,000 to reconstruct and expand its River Center location in Sequim.

Jefferson Healthcare Foundation

\$100,000 to renovate the inpatient area of the Jefferson Healthcare Medical Center in Port Townsend.

Northwest Maritime Center

\$50,000 to establish the new Port Townsend Maritime Academy Skills Center, part of the public education curriculum, and provide for its initial equipment needs.

North Olympic Healthcare Network

\$25,000 to equip the new seven-chair dental clinic for Medicaid patients in Port Angeles.

PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center Foundation

\$25,000 to support the new palliative care assistance program for those in the Bellingham area struggling with chronic and serious illness.

Radio Port Townsend (KPTZ)

\$50,000 to purchase a transmitter site and develop an Emergency Broadcast Operations Center to provide community resources in case of disaster.

Roxy Bremerton

\$25,000 to replace the historic theatre's original 'swamp cooler' with a modern HVAC system.

Whatcom Center for Early Learning

\$50,000 to remodel and expand the capacity to serve children with developmental disabilities and delays and their families.

Economic Development

The Foundation awarded four organizations a total of \$175,000 in Economic Development grants.

Featured Grant: The Center for Inclusive Entrepreneurship (CIE) was awarded \$50,000 to expand delivery of the First Steps Business Training Program in Clallam and Jefferson Counties.

The Program offers cost-free training and support to low-income individuals from underserved communities to move out of poverty and become leaders in building resilient, sustainable and equitably shared community wealth through entrepreneurship.

CIE looks for every opportunity to help get new businesses launched. One such example is Two Hooligans Cider. “Two Hooligans” refers to co-founders Mackenzie Grinnell and Jaiden Dokken, childhood friends who grew up on, and have returned home to, the Olympic Peninsula. Providing cider to Finnriver Cider for the new 7 Cedars Hotel, and with prize money from CIE’s business competition and CIE’s ongoing support, Mackenzie and Jaiden are creating their own facility to bring Two Hooligans Cider to other locations by winter 2020.



Two Hooligans co-founders prepare for apple pressing season.

“Entrepreneurship is leadership in action that benefits entire communities.”

***— Mike Skinner, Executive Director,
Center for Inclusive Entrepreneurship***

Economic Development grants were also awarded to:

Jamestown S’Klallam Tribal Capital, Inc.

\$75,000 to create the Emerald Coast Opportunity Zone Prospectus, a marketing tool aimed at maximizing investments in designated opportunity zones in Clallam and Jefferson counties.

North Olympic Regional Veterans Housing Network

\$25,000 for construction of a new retail shop in Forks that employs disabled vets.

Northwest School of Wooden Boatbuilding

\$25,000 to fund scholarships and state-of-the-art equipment for marine systems training programs that provide vocational training and career services for low-income students from Jefferson, Clallam, and Kitsap counties.

Community Support

The Foundation awarded eighteen organizations a total of \$100,000 in Community Support grant funding in 2019.

Bainbridge Island Senior Community Center: \$10,000 for the new Resource Navigator program, helping identify the needs of seniors and connect them to resources to address them.

Best Dental Help: \$5,000 to expand the delivery of dental services to an additional 400 low-income children in Jefferson and Clallam counties.

Camp Beausite Northwest: \$5,000 to expand current programming for disabled campers to attend the Jefferson County location.

College Success Foundation: \$5,000 to underwrite a portion of the costs for 80 low-income, minority, and first-generation students from Bremerton and Port Angeles to go on college campus tours in Washington.

Community Arts and Recreational Alliance: \$5,000 to fund a collaboration with Community Arts & Recreation Alliance and the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe’s Teen Work Readiness program to provide career guidance and support, plus bicycles and bike maintenance skills, to low-income and minority youth.

Girls on the Run of Kitsap County: \$5,000 for scholarships for girls from low-income families to participate in a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running.

Junior Achievement of Washington: \$5,000 to bring financial education and career awareness programs to 20 elementary schools and 450 students in Whatcom County.

Kathleen Sutton Inspirational Fund: \$5,000 to provide transportation services, that otherwise would be burdensome, for women undergoing cancer treatment on the North Olympic Peninsula.

Kids in Concert: \$5,000 to purchase new and used instruments for kids’ programs on Bainbridge Island.

Morningside: \$5,000 for repairs to their Port Angeles offices, allowing Morningside to continue providing on-site employment services and support to people with disabilities.

Museum and Arts Center in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley: \$5,000 to complete construction of their new building in Sequim.

Olympic Media: \$5,000 for two emergency two-way radio systems to gather and disseminate vital information to the Port Townsend community in the event of a disaster.

Olympic Neighbors: \$5,000 to support developmentally disabled adult programs at its new facility in Jefferson County.

Puget Sound Voyaging Society: \$5,000 to support Shelter from the Storm, a job-training and paid internship project for 18- to 25-year-olds to construct tiny homes that Bayside Housing will use to house homeless in Jefferson County.

Recreation Northwest: \$5,000 for the Parkscription public health campaign in Bellingham.

Scarlet Road: \$10,000 to purchase laptops for staff and volunteers to work more efficiently, and fund security enhancements to provide a safer environment for program participants in Bremerton.

South Kitsap Helpline: \$5,000 to purchase food for Helpline’s food programs that, in 2018, served more than 8,000 low-income children, adults, and seniors.

Western Washington University Foundation: \$5,000 to fund a program that engages community members with Western Washington University faculty and students to address real challenges in a low-income, rural community in East Whatcom County.

Looking Forward, Giving Back

As we recap the highlights of 2019, we must acknowledge the extraordinary challenges we now face in July 2020.

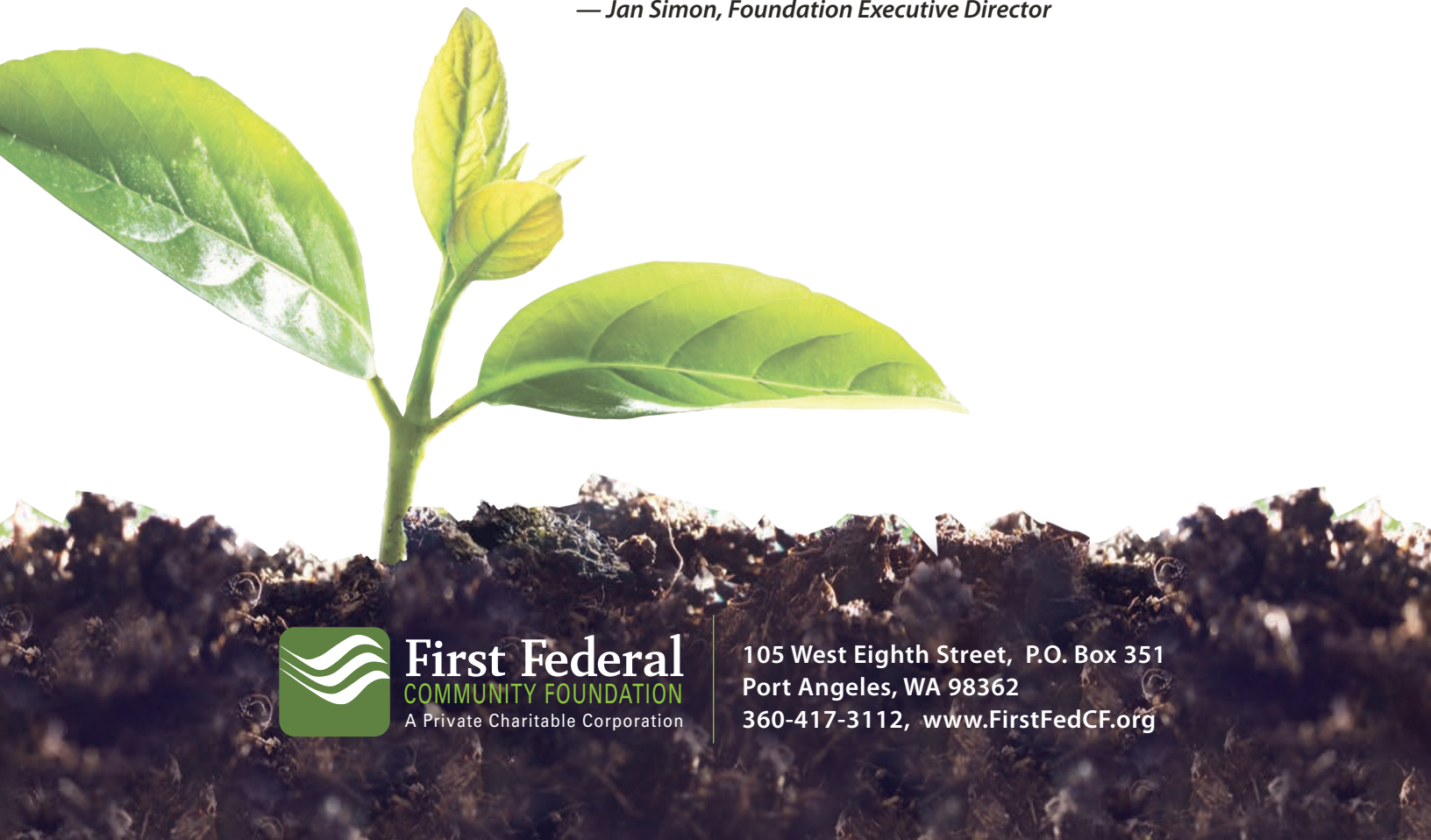
We are navigating the uncharted waters of the global COVID-19 pandemic and the stark recognition of social justice and equity issues. The full impact to our culture, health and economy – and the right and just ways to address them – are still unfolding.

Yet the organizations that First Federal Community Foundation is privileged to support are tackling these issues and more, working diligently to provide for basic needs, creating beacons of hope and possibility, and building a bright and sustainable future.

Our commitment to efforts that make life in our communities better remains strong and true. We at First Federal Community Foundation are humbled and inspired by the responsibility to select and fund organizations whose impact will be magnified significantly by our grants. And we promise to continue growing stronger communities by continuing to give back.

“During these unprecedented times, we will continue identifying opportunities to support our communities and generate meaningful change. This is leadership . . . a trait for which First Federal has been known for nearly 100 years. The Foundation is proud and honored to continue that tradition.”

— Jan Simon, Foundation Executive Director



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