Island Savings Community Endowment

2019 Grants

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| **Organization Name** | | | **Community** | | | **2019 Grant** |
| 1000X5 Children's Book Recycling Project Society | | | Victoria | | | $5,000 |
| ***1000x 5 Children’s Books*** provides struggling families with resources to foster early literacy during the critical developmental stage of birth to five years old. The mission is to increase early literacy rates and therefore family literacy within our community. | | | | | | |
| Board of Education of School District 64 (Gulf Island) | | | Salt Spring Island | | | $10,000 |
| **Gulf Island School Gardens Network** connects with our community and enhances the sustainability of school gardening across the Gulf Islands School District. Students who learn in school gardens enjoy proven health, academic, and socio-emotional benefits. A new Gulf Islands School Gardens Activity Guide will be test-run with four classes at Salt Spring Elementary (~90 students, plus community volunteers). | | | | | | |
| Victoria Women’s Transition House Society | | | Victoria | | $10,000 | |
| **Women’s Drop-in Support group** is a trauma-informed psycho-educational group counseling program providing immediate, facilitated, group counselling access for women recovering from the trauma of violence and domestic abuse. The program will run for 52 weeks in partnership with YMCA-YWCA of Vancouver Island. Women can access the group when they need support and for as long as they need support. | | | | | | |
| Haven Society | | | Nanaimo | | $8,300 | |
| Haven Society’s **Outreach Program** will develop and pilot life skills modules tailored for the needs of its clients: women in Central Vancouver Island who have experienced gender-based violence and who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. A complex set of life skills is necessary for daily functioning, social inclusion, and housing stability. | | | | | | |
| Island Sexual Health Society | | | Victoria | | $5,000 | |
| **Island Sexual Health Society** provides programs for youth aged 15 to 24 in Greater Victoria. Youth served face multiple barriers including lack of housing, employment and community services, thus increasing a likelihood in early sexual activity, pregnancy, sexual abuse and health complications. Reducing health inequalities through the delivery of quality education programming helps give everyone the same opportunities to be healthy, no matter who they are, where they live and what circumstances may be in. | | | | | | |
| Ladysmith Family and Friends Society | | Ladysmith | | | $6,000 | |
| **Healthy Bodies, Healthy Hearts** provides 500 families, with children ages 0-6, regular healthy meals and snacks to share together, opportunities to learn about healthy eating habits and to participate in fun food preparation. Programming provides vulnerable families with healthy take home meals and reduces barriers to LaFF attendance, leading to better physical and mental health outcomes over the course of their lifetime. | | | | | | |
| Ladysmith Resources Centre Association | | Ladysmith | | | $2,000 | |
| **Food Skills for Families** begins in October 2019, January and March 2020. Each program invites twelve participants to learn about making healthy food choices through classroom work and hands-on cooking. The curriculum is evidence-based and is developed by specialists and dietitians based on information provided by the Canada Food Guide. Food Skills for Families is delivered to five target populations: Low Income, Newcomers, Punjabi, Indigenous and active Seniors. | | | | | | |
| SeaChange Marine Conservation Society | | Brentwood Bay | | | $5,000 | |
| **EcoRowing in The Place of Blue Grouse** - SeaChange forges partnerships with local First Nations, non-profit organizations, local, provincial and federal governments, and community groups dedicated to the conservation and restoration of nearshore marine environments. In the fall of 2019 and spring of 2020 it will deliver “hands on, feet wet” outdoor environmental education to a minimum of 32 elementary, middle and high school classes (grades 4 –12) from the Greater Victoria School Districts #61, #63 and the ȽÁU, WELṈEW̱ Tribal School in Brentwood Bay. | | | | | | |
| John Howard Society | Nanaimo | | | $10,000 | | |
| The **Youth Mentoring Program** was developed in 2015 to fill gaps in service/support among youth referred to the Community Service Order Program and Restorative Justice Program. The program will match participants with mentors who will increase meaningful volunteerism, enhance employment opportunities, and help youth realize educational goals. Mentors will be trained in mental health, suicide prevention, addiction, and risk factors associated with criminality in order to ethically and appropriately support participants. The program will run July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 for up to 50 youth aged 12-19. | | | | | | |
| Raincoast Conservation Foundation | Saanich Peninsula, Cowichan District | | | $6,500 | | |
| The **Salish Sea Emerging Stewards Leadership** training program allows youth to turn their knowledge into action. The program will engage up to 50 First Nations and marginalized youth, ages 11-19 from underserved communities from Vancouver and Vancouver Island. Over eight sessions (September 2019-May 2020), youth will develop community projects, gaining leadership skills, shared learning, and become ambassadors of environmental stewardship. | | | | | | |
| Pacific Centre Family Services Association | Victoria West Shore Communities | | | $10,000 | | |
| The **Seniors Transportation Support Service** provides low cost drives to medical appointments, social visits and/or grocery shopping. This outreach service combats isolation, promote seniors’ resilience and extends seniors’ ability to age in place. Funding will provide 44 weeks of start-up funding, after which the program will become self-sustaining. | | | | | | |
| Pacifica Housing Advisory Association | Nanaimo, Duncan | | | $10,000 | | |
| Expanding the **Community Volunteer Program** to include 40 more participants (bringing total group to almost 80 individuals)—the program assists persons who were at one time either homeless or at risk of homelessness and who face multiple barriers to accessing housing in the private market, a chance to gain skills and work towards securing future employment or greater social integration. The program fosters a sense of pride in home and surroundings, encourages social interaction, and develops and strengthens life skills for those who have experienced homelessness and/or housing insecurity. | | | | | | |
| The Men’s Centre | Salt Spring Island | | | $5,837 | | |
| **Dad’s Soup** is a series of six workshops for lower income fathers where they learn how easy it is for Dad to prepare a delicious healthy meal for his family. In addition to the discussions, fathers learn that girls raised with involved, nurturing fathers display a greater sense of competency. Boys raised with involved fathers are far less likely to be excessively aggressive, violent, or exhibit anti-social behaviors. All participants are able to receive fathering support after the course has completed from counselors they are already familiar with. A food/meal component is a part of sharing the bond of fatherhood—the primary focus is being a happy, healthy, involved and supportive father. The participants get to keep the materials and food that is prepared during the course as it directly benefits their families. | | | | | | |
| **TOTAL** | | | | **$93,637** | | |