

# KERN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Growing community.  
Growing philanthropy.

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September 2022

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## A message to the community from our President and CEO



Talk about a heat wave! We all know it's hot outside, but did you know that Kern Foundation has also had a sizzling summer? Our inaugural class of paid interns had a fantastic summer working with the City of Bakersfield. I encourage you to view the National Intern Day videos highlighting these exceptional young men and women. The Foundation will soon restart public events—I hope you can join us in Tehachapi. And our biggest news: The Oscar and Libbie Rudnick Scholarship Fund received a \$5.5 million gift. This gift is unprecedented and will have a permanent impact on educational outcomes in Kern County. Happy September to you all.

Aaron Falk

*Save the date!*

# TEHACHAPI *Philanthropy*

.....  
OCT 6



.....  
5-7PM

Join us at  
The Village Co.  
122 S. Green St.

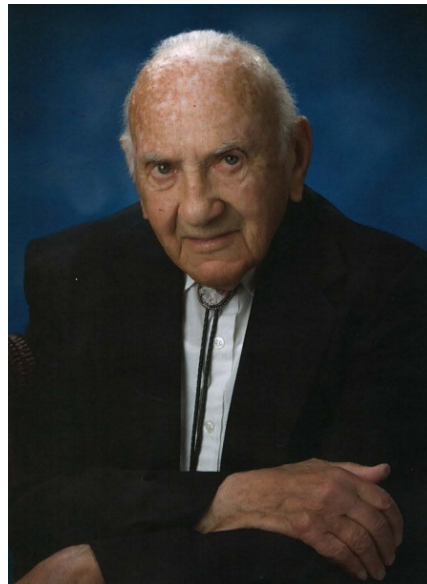
.....  
Learn about Kern Community Foundation and  
local nonprofits in the land of four seasons!  
.....

Refreshments will be provided

Kern Community Foundation believes in philanthropy – the practice of giving now and making long-term investments to support effective charitable organizations and programs forever. While accepting donations and making grants are a core component of our work, KCF also recognizes the valuable role local nonprofits play in improving the community.

KCF is making its way to the land of four seasons and hosting its first Tehachapi Philanthropy. Tehachapi Philanthropy will showcase charitable organizations, leadership, and needs to local business leaders. For more information on the event ([click here](#))

## Oscar and Libbie Rudnick Scholarship Fund



The Oscar and Libbie Rudnick Scholarship Fund started in 2012 to provide educational opportunities for students in Kern County. The endowed scholarship was established with a \$500,000 gift in memory of Elynor Rudnick Falk by her husband Dr. David Falk. In August 2022, after Dr. Falk's passing, Kern Community Foundation received another **\$5,000,000** gift for the Fund to be used for scholarships. This historic gift will transform the lives of deserving Kern County students in perpetuity.

This gift is the single largest donation ever made through Kern Community Foundation. "This gift is an eternal mitzvah," said Aaron Falk, President & CEO of Kern Community Foundation. "The Oscar and Libbie Rudnick Scholarship Fund has established an everlasting bond between the Rudnick's and the future of Kern County." Since 2012, the Fund has granted \$161,300 in scholarships to Kern County students. This amount should dramatically increase over the next few years.

# Bakersfield Youth Jobs Program City Hall Summer Internship Closing Ceremony

The first cohort from the Bakersfield Youth Jobs Program (BYJP) has completed their 8-week-long internship. The closing ceremony was held at the Council Chambers with the interns' mentors, supervisors, and family members in attendance.

The interns each presented their internship experiences and shared how they strengthened their professional skills, and recognized public service's impact and civic pride's importance.

The families were all overjoyed by their teen's accomplishments. Mayor Karen Goh, City Manager Christian Clegg, and KCF CEO Aaron Falk gave some final words expressing the pride and admiration of the teens.

The ceremony concluded after the interns were presented with a Certificate of Completion to showcase their commitment to public service.

Raphael Guimte, Water Resources Intern and junior at Liberty High School, shared, "BYJP has benefited my personal and professional development in unimaginable ways. My mentors showed me what it takes to be successful in the workplace. I am appreciative of the opportunity. I leave with newfound knowledge and expertise. KCF is very proud of these students and excited for their future endeavors."

Jacqueline Barranco, Recreation and Parks Intern and junior at Mira Monte High School expressed, "the internship has given me new skills and increased





my confidence. I would recommend this program to any teen wanting to learn more about our city."

Thank you to our amazing partnerships with the City of Bakersfield, California Volunteers, Bakersfield College Launchpad, and community leaders for a successful first cohort.

Check out the awesome intern videos that were made for National Intern Day! ([click here](#))

If you would like to learn more about BYJP, please click on [Learn More](#).



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## David Moore Scholarship Dinner



Last month, two David Moore Scholarship recipients, Ryan and Nick, had the opportunity to learn more about what the scholarship represents and have dinner with John Moore III at Woolgrowers. Ryan, a Highland High graduate, is attending Bakersfield College to study biology. Nick recently graduated from Garces Memorial High School and will attend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo to learn business agriculture.

The David Moore Agricultural Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 in memory of David Moore. The scholarship supports Kern County high school graduates seeking a degree in agriculture. We are very proud of all of our scholarship recipients. Kern Community Foundation manages dozens of scholarship funds. Community stakeholders have created these scholarships to honor their loved ones, support higher education, and foster the improvement of students as they pursue their diverse ambitions. Students can access all our scholarship resources through one simple application on our website at [kernfoundation.org](http://kernfoundation.org).

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## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



### Aera Impact Grant

Make an impact in your classroom!  
Need extra funds for a special  
classroom project?

Aera Energy is here to help! Aera grants provide financial support for educational programming focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) activities that have a clear objective and enhance the academic development of students. Grants will be awarded for the current school year up to \$500 each for classrooms in the counties of Kern, Fresno, and Monterey.

Grants will be awarded to the school district's educational foundation and earmarked for your specific classroom project. [Learn More](#)

**Application Due:**  
**Wednesday, October 26, 2022**



### Community Wildfire Defense Grant

The Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program is to assist at-risk local communities and Indian Tribes with planning and mitigating against the risk created by wildfire.

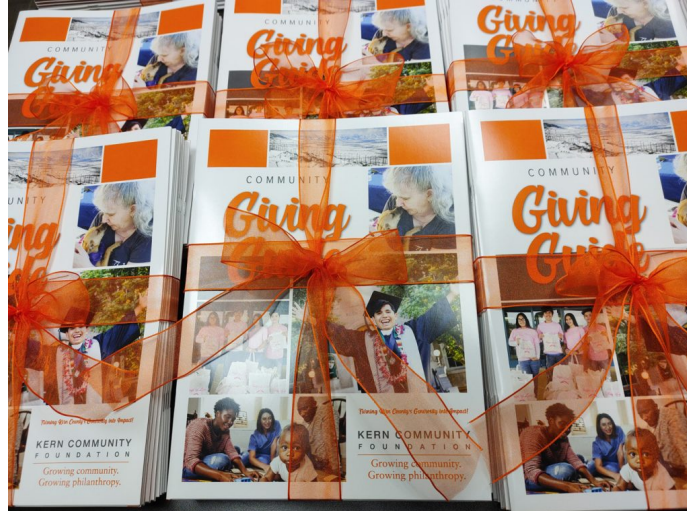
The grants are only for eligible projects developed by communities, Tribes, states, non-profits, and Alaska Native Corporations. Communities will receive priority for this program if they are a low-income area, recently impacted by disaster or in a wildfire hazard location.

For questions regarding applications, please contact Sheila Walker at [accessga@usda.gov](mailto:accessga@usda.gov) [Learn More](#)

*Applications are now available at  
[grants.gov](https://grants.gov)*

## Community Giving Guide





Would you like your nonprofit organization to appear in our 2023 Community Giving Guide? One of the benefits of being registered with Kern Community Foundation is that your agency is listed in our **Community Giving Guide**, which is published every other year. It comes with its online companion, the **Nonprofit Search** on **our website**, which is updated in real time as agencies register with the Foundation and as we receive updated information from our nonprofit partners.

Interested in becoming a sponsor for the Community Giving Guide?  
Please contact Cristina Camacho at [Cristina@kernfoundation.org](mailto:Cristina@kernfoundation.org).

**Nonprofit Registration Form** [click here](#).

## NONPROFIT SPOTLIGHT



### Dolores Huerta Foundation (DHF)

The Dolores Huerta Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization on a mission to inspire and organize communities to build volunteer organizations empowered to pursue social justice. DHF organizes at the grassroots level developing natural leaders with hands-on training through collective action working to establish Vecinos Unidos (Neighbors United) chapters in some of the most disenfranchised regions of California.

DHF raised \$236,348 winning the prize of Most Dollars Raised for Give Big Kern 2022! In 2019, DHF embarked on a mission to establish the Dolores Huerta Peace

and Justice Cultural Center. Revitalizing an entire city block in Downtown Bakersfield, the multi-use campus and headquarters for the DHF will draw tourists and revitalize small businesses in the heart of California's Central Valley. For more information, visit [doloreshuerta.org](http://doloreshuerta.org)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Upcoming September Events

September 10: Fundraiser for KAFF Paralympic Fencing Program  
September 22: The Women's and Girls' Fund Annual Luncheon

CALLING ALL NONPROFITS  
REGISTERED WITH  
KERN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION!

#### DID YOU KNOW?

Kern Community Foundation's Community Calendar is available to all registered nonprofit organizations.

#### ACCESS

Nonprofits registered with KCF can post straight to the Community Calendar by logging into their Partner Access account.

#### REQUEST

To request **Partner Access**, please write to [info@kernfoundation.org](mailto:info@kernfoundation.org). If you already have Partner Access, please submit your upcoming events to be featured on our monthly newsletters.

KERN COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

Growing community.  
Growing philanthropy.



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