

Planting Seeds

These folks came to CSF with a “good idea and a plan” and became important community institutions:

A 2019 award to **Thurston County Inclusion** of \$340 for start-up costs turned into summer camps and year-round events that build relationships among youth 5-22 of all abilities. With a staff of four, TCI has made the leap into long-term stability.

Oly Coalition for Ecosystem

Preservation. This visionary group “got started with CSF funding...” from a \$1000 grant in 2014. Today Oly EcoSystems manages more than four preserves and continues as a community-driven fighter for local habitat protection and land conservation.

In 1997, CSF gave **Evergreen Dairy Working Group** \$615 to file for tax exempt status. Today we know them as the **South Sound Community Farmland Trust**, a thriving example of environmental stewardship, ensuring community control over precious agricultural resources.

**Community Sustaining Fund
of Thurston County**
2103 Harrison Ave NW #2715
Olympia, WA 98502
ThurstonCSF.org



**How a
few cents can
make real
change**



What we do

Since 1990, the **Community Sustaining Fund** has given out over \$230,000 to groups and individuals in Thurston County working for social and economic justice, environmental protection and a healthy community. We prioritize projects that empower people to have more control over their own lives, or explore new ways to meet community needs.

Who we are

These funds are overseen by a board made up of community volunteers and a representative from the board of the Olympia Food Co-op. CSF holds two grant rounds each year, announcing them on our website and in local publications. All board members participate in evaluating applications and interviewing finalists. We are always on the lookout for new board members with enthusiasm and skills to share.

“CSF deserves to be better known, given its impressive mission!”

—South Sound Estuary Association

A sample of grant recipients

For almost 40 years, CSF has awarded small amounts to over 350 groups and individuals. Here are some:

LISO-Legal Immigration Services of Olympia, Haki Farms Collective, Strengthening Sanctuary Alliance, Olympia Artspace Alliance, Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team, The Bridge Music Project, Salish Sea Action Collective, Oly Ecosystems, Farm & Forest School, Skate Like a Girl, MamaZine, Indigenous Weavers' Exchange, Olympia–Rafah Solidarity Mural, Treble Voices for Peace–Olympia Peace Choir, Triceratops Tech Resources



Who should apply?

Groups and individuals in Thurston County with environmental, social justice and community building projects. We encourage start-ups with “a good idea and a plan.” Guidelines for applying are at ThurstonCSF.org

Source of funds

CSF is unique in that it is a permanent part of the “Round-up” program at the Olympia Food Co-op. Shoppers who “Round-up” the cost of their purchases generate \$7,000-\$8,000 annually for distribution to projects in Thurston County. Businesses and individuals have also supported the fund through direct donations and events. Awards range from a few hundred dollars to a maximum of \$1,500.

Interested? Want to participate?

Apply for a term on the Board

Volunteer for a Board committee

Join us at a tabling event (It's fun)

“Round-up!” when shopping at an Olympia Food Co-op.

And of course you can always send a donation!

Contact Us

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Email: ThurstonCSF@gmail.com

Website: ThurstonCSF.org

