

# Annual Report FY16-17

## ENGAGE. INSPIRE. EMPOWER.

Thanks to generous donors like you, the Springfield Education Foundation (SEF) provides academic resources, sustains programs and inspires a love of learning by creating opportunities for students to explore their abilities, discover what's possible and achieve success.

SEF awarded 22 donor-funded Innovative Educator Grants last fall, totaling \$51,375, which are making a meaningful impact in early literacy, attendance, participation, career and college connections and teaching excellence, all of which contribute to improving graduation rates.

In addition, SEF was instrumental in implementing the Kids in Transition to School (KITS) program, supported by a \$162,320 federal grant through United Way of Lane County. With parent involvement, approximately 60 pre-kindergartners were taught critical skills to help them stay on track and be successful throughout school.

### ★ INNOVATION



When Thurston Elementary School teacher Apryl Smith received a SEF Innovative Educator Grant last fall to access reading and math software programs, students were ecstatic! The grant helped teachers address three critical areas of learning: reading fluency and comprehension, math fact fluency and attendance.

By spring, school-wide attendance increased nearly 10 percent; students in all grades made gains in reading fluency and comprehension; and math fact fluency increased dramatically.

"Students were constantly begging to use the math program during their free time!" Apryl says. "Our parent group was so impressed that the kids chose to practice their math facts over other entertainment that they agreed to fund the program when the grant ends."

### ★ CAREER PREPARATION



This fall, students in Springfield High School's auto mechanics program will have a new opportunity to learn about diesel engine technology and repair. With support from the Springfield Education Foundation and donors, teacher Mark Simmons is leading the completion of a \$70,000 addition to the auto shop, which includes two new service bays.

Automotive technology, and other career and technical education programs, teach students critical-thinking skills and allow them to explore potential career paths.

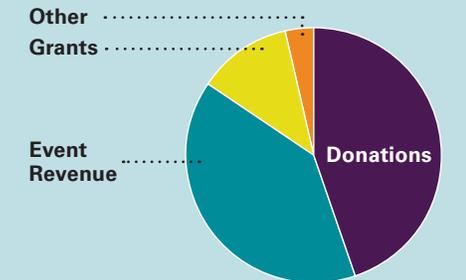
"Without SEF and those who support the foundation, there's no way this program could exist on this level," Mark says. "When I see something click with a student in this program, there are no words to describe what that means, to them and to me."

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Fiscal year ending June 2017

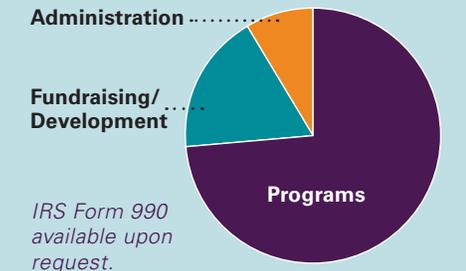
### Revenue

Donations	\$222,038
Event revenue	\$197,731
Grants	\$59,800
Other	\$16,636
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$496,205</b>



### Expenses

Programs	\$359,599
Fundraising/Development	\$87,708
Administration	\$40,761
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$488,068</b>

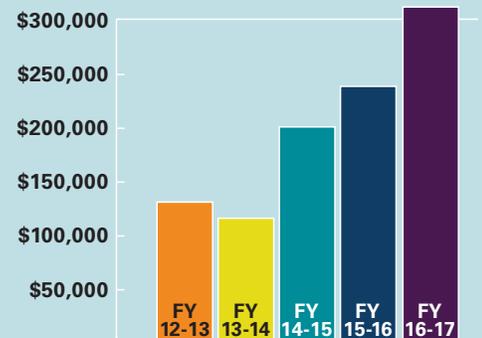


## INCREASING SUPPORT

### Five-Year Summary

### Invested in Student Programs

FY12-13	\$130,904
FY13-14	\$115,912
FY14-15	\$200,752
FY15-16	\$238,435
FY16-17	\$312,167*
<b>Total invested</b>	<b>\$998,170</b>



\*Does not reflect \$162,320 invested in KITS program

**“This program has changed my life. I found my passion for engineering by working with these engines. And now, I want to build spaceships.”**

– Leyah, student, Springfield High School Auto Mechanics Program

## INSPIRING LEARNING



Students involved in the Miller Integrated Nature Experience at Springfield High School see Oregon and life in new ways. Created by teacher Ivan Miller, the program combines nature writing, journalism and Oregon geography with leadership and exploration, while providing a foundation for environmental consciousness and stewardship.

SEF helped secure a three-year grant through the Gray Family Foundation to sustain and support the program, which allows students to explore their environment—from backpacking along the Rogue River trail, to hiking Black Butte and rafting the McKenzie River—while learning to effectively translate their experiences to the written page by creating two magazines, *The Backcountry Review* and *Sonder*.

## TECHNOLOGY



Last year, SEF managed a donor-directed, \$100,000 gift to help create the new graphic design lab at Springfield High School. With support from Springfield Public Schools facilities staff, school administrators and teachers, along with community businesses, an extensive upgrade was made to an underutilized space, creating 30 workstations, each equipped with new computers and access to professional design programs.

During the 2016-17 school year, 256 students used the graphic design lab to work on a variety of projects. Plans are underway to develop additional programs of study, which may include typography and web design.

## LITERACY



Success in school begins with a strong foundation in literacy. SEF supports the annual Gift of Literacy and celebrated the program's 12th year in the spring. Through dedicated community partnerships and generous sponsorships, every first-grader in Springfield Public Schools participates in this program. Each first-grade classroom receives a set of ten hard cover, librarian-selected books from a variety of genres to read throughout the school year. Gift of Literacy culminates with a field trip to Lane Community College where students are treated to a celebration with guest readers from the community and are presented with a new book of their choosing and a Springfield Public Library card.

Research shows that reading intervention at an early age is directly related to long-term success in school and in life.

## ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY



What do you get when you take 68 fifth-graders into the outdoors and let nature be your classroom? Unique hands-on experiences and life-long memories. Two Rivers–Dos Ríos Elementary School teacher Connie Opsal received a Frank Sherman Grant through SEF last year, making it possible for her students to attend SKY Camp Outdoor School and learn from forestry agents, geologists, astronomers, nurses and artists.

“This incredible experience taught the students to respect nature and each other,” Connie says. “They realized that learning is more than just textbooks and a desk, hard work makes you tired, and that the stars really do shine brighter away from the city.”

