Dear friends,

We have concluded another remarkable year for both Opus Bank and the Opus Community Foundation! In our second year of funding, we were able to build upon the successes and accomplishments from our first year. We leveraged our relationships and delved deeper into our grant making and volunteerism with a better understanding of the current needs in the communities that we serve.

Coinciding with Opus Bank’s growth, now with over 50 banking offices along the West Coast, our foundation was able to expand and reach into new communities and provide assistance to students and families in need. We continue to believe that a well-funded and supported nonprofit sector is an integral part of a healthy community and we are deeply committed to doing our part.

We’d like to extend a very special thank you to all the leaders of the nonprofits who work tirelessly to bring people together and help those in need. We are so inspired by the gracious sharing and giving that we see every day. We are also grateful for those individuals, businesses, families, public agencies, and service groups that freely give their time, talents, and resources in order to make a difference in the communities where we live and work.

This past year, we also saw tremendous growth in our matching gifts program, collectively giving over $50,000. We are proud to say that our team members are always looking for ways to help the causes that mean so much to all of us. Our passion for reaching new communities is just beginning. If there is one thing we have learned in our second year, it’s that the best way to inspire change is by giving back.

Warmest regards,

Katie Ellis

Katie S. Ellis
Executive Director, Opus Community Foundation
OUR MISSION

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of individuals and families living in and around Opus Bank’s service areas, particularly for the least advantaged, by providing financial support to nonprofit organizations that make a positive and meaningful impact in the community. The Opus Community Foundation’s philanthropic efforts target affordable housing, community development, education, financial literacy, health and human services, and the arts. Our goal is to stimulate economic change, promote reinvestment, inspire philanthropy, and strengthen the communities around us.
DIRECT IMPACT

“Our long-standing mission and commitment for the Opus Community Foundation is to make a difference, lead by example, have an impact, and do our part to help rebuild a successful economy.”

STEPHEN H. GORDON
Chairman & CEO, Opus Bank
GRANTS GIVEN

AbilityFirst
Affordable Housing Clearinghouse
Angels Gate Cultural Center
Arlington Kids Klosset
Boys & Girls Club of Gig Harbor
Boys & Girls Club of Laguna Beach
Boys & Girls Clubs of Fullerton
Boys & Girls Clubs of Los Angeles Harbor
Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County
Boys & Girls Clubs of the South Bay
Bridgeways
Brigid Collins Family Support Center
Burlington-Edison Education Coalition
Center for Human Services
Child S.H.A.R.E.

Children’s Museum of Skagit County
CHOC Children’s Foundation
Clothes for Kids
Clothes the Deal
Cocoon House
Eastside Baby Corner
Eastside Friends of Seniors
El Viento Foundation
Encompass
Families Forward
Friends of Youth
Fullerton Civic Light Opera
Hands Together
Hathaway-Sycamores
Housing Hope

Human Options
Interfaith Association of Northwest WA
Irvine Children’s Fund
Junior Achievement (CA & WA)
Kirkland Performance Center
KITH
Laguna College of Art and Design
LifeWire
Mercy Housing Northwest
Micro-Enterprise Academy
Millionair Club Charity
MIND Research Institute
OC Community Housing Corp.
OC STEM Initiative
Olive Crest (CA & WA)
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Located in San Diego, California, Reality Changers offers inner-city, at-risk youth the ability and opportunity to become first-generation college students by providing them with academic support, financial assistance, and leadership training. Founded in 2001, Reality Changers began with only three eighth grade students and a mere $300. Today, more than 12 years later, the organization has awarded more than $3 million in scholarships to its students. Through the skills taught to them by Reality Changers, these students have additionally accrued over $25 million in scholarships from outside sources.

This organization has helped students to focus academically, creating opportunities for these at-risk youth to attend college. Reality Changers is directly responsible for assisting more than 200 students in relinquishing the streets and continuing forward on the right track for their futures. With help from Opus Community Foundation, Reality Changers has been able to take many kids who had been previously relegated to the waiting list, and move them forward, allowing them to enroll in this program.

“Gangs don’t have a waiting list, which is why Reality Changers shouldn’t either. Opus has helped us to make that goal a reality for us.”
The Arlington Kids Kloset helps to meet the clothing needs of all eligible children in their target area so as to help create a more comfortable and productive environment for learning at school. The 100% volunteer-operated organization serves the school districts of Arlington, Lakewood, and Darrington, allowing children eligible for free or reduced lunches to receive a week’s worth of clothing to wear to school. Offered items include new and quality used clothing, shoes, and hygiene products twice a year, free of charge to children 0-18. The organization even has a program that allows high school students to find formal attire for school dances through a dress exchange and free tux rental program.

The Opus Community Foundation supports Arlington Kids Kloset in its mission to provide underserved children with the freedom and confidence to focus more on their school work and less on their clothing.

“Opus has helped support our goal of allowing students from low-income families to focus less on what they are dressed like and more on their schoolwork.”
Based in Santa Ana, The Wooden Floor is a non-profit, afterschool organization that delivers hope and opportunity to 375 low-income youth every year. Through the use of dance, academic, and family service programs, The Wooden Floor teaches youth self-discipline, builds their self-esteem, and gives them a sense of accomplishment.

Over the last two years, The Opus Community Foundation has partnered with The Wooden Floor to support the organization's tutoring and mentoring services. Through one-on-one mentoring and tutoring, the program ensures that students are on track to graduate on time. Ninety percent of the students involved in this organization are the first of their families to attend college, and The Wooden Floor gives them the resources and mentorship to accomplish that. In addition to the Opus Community Foundation funding the organization, Opus Bank team members volunteered at events to help raise over $200,000 last year. These donations support the organization's students through a ten year journey from elementary school through college.

“The Wooden Floor was eager to develop a partnership with the Opus Community Foundation due to our shared values of serving underserved populations with an emphasis on arts and higher education.”
By making charity a part of our holiday celebration, we stay true to our vision of giving back to the communities in which we live and work. This year, we concluded our third holiday season at Opus Bank with our “Celebrate Generously” Holiday Giving Campaign.

Through this program, every Opus Bank team member has the chance to nominate organizations that will receive funding, which are then narrowed down by a nomination committee and team member balloting. Last year, over $25,000 was given out to six organizations in both California and Washington. These organizations embody Opus’ goal of helping low-income and underserved children in our communities. In addition, team members across California and Washington participated in the Great Works’ “Adopt a Family” program for the holidays. Team members individually donated to ten families and helped fulfill these families’ wish lists for the holiday season. Donations consisted of purchasing holiday dinners, gifts, clothes, books, and school supplies. This program grew significantly from the previous year, and serves as another example of our team members’ devotion to their communities.
The following organizations were selected to receive donations on behalf of Opus Bank team members:

- **Brigid Collins Support Center** supports the healthy development of families in its surrounding communities. (WA)
- **Center for Human Services** strengthens the community through counseling, education, and support to children, youth, and adults. (WA)
- **Eastside Baby Corner** provides essential goods to families to ensure their babies begin life with adequate food, clothing, beds, and safety equipment. (WA)
- **Pathways of Hope** provides assistance for the homeless and their children through prevention, assistance, and after-care support services. (CA)
- **Raise Foundation** provides resources, basic needs, and comprehensive services to strengthen families and make each home a safer place for the children to grow. (CA)
- **YMCA** strengthens communities by working side-by-side with neighborhoods to ensure their families have the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. (CA, WA)
Opus Bank Team Members firmly believe that through volunteering they can help build stronger, more vibrant communities and brighten the lives of our children, families, and seniors within our neighborhoods. During our second year as Opus Bank, our team members once again exceeded expectations in donating their time and skills through efforts coordinated through our “Great Works” program, as well as through their own personal connections and commitments. Our team members participated in fundraising walks, home building, financial literacy programs, job preparedness workshops, and other events targeting those with the greatest needs.

The success of the Opus Community Foundation’s nonprofit matching gift program represents the commitment of Opus Bank’s team members to improve the lives of those in the communities in which we live and work. This year we saw a dramatic increase in team member participation, with over $50,000 in contributions provided to charitable organizations outside of our traditional grant making.
We want to extend a very special thank you to those who freely give of their time and resources, becoming personally involved with our communities on a deeper level.

You are an inspiration to all.