



MAT-SU HEALTH
FOUNDATION

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

A Year of Listening and
Acting on Community
Priorities





Message from the President & CEO

At the Mat-Su Health Foundation, we value collaboration and community knowledge. In 2023, we connected directly with people across the Mat-Su Valley to hear their needs, priorities, and feedback. We were energized by these conversations – by the points of alignment within them, as well as the opportunities for further discussion. This report includes some of the progress we made towards these priorities in 2023. We so appreciate our engaged and activated community and look forward to continuing the conversation in the coming year. Thank you for being on this journey with us as we work together to make the Mat-Su the healthiest borough in Alaska.

Elizabeth Ripley

Elizabeth Ripley
President & CEO

Building a Shared Understanding of the Challenges We Face and a Path Forward

We heard community members ask for opportunities to give input on Mat-Su Health Foundation's governance and distribution of assets. In response, we held a series of community conversations to discuss your needs and priorities. In speaking with people in Palmer, Wasilla, Chickaloon/Sutton, and Upper Su, we heard that some of the highest priority needs include:

- Access to basic needs
- Behavioral health and addiction
- Lack of affordable housing
- Challenges with accessing healthcare
- Social isolation and lack of community connections

These priorities are aligned with the 2022 Community Health Needs Assessment, which guides our grantmaking – reinforcing that our work is going in the right direction and supporting a thriving Mat-Su Valley.



2023 Highlights: Investing in Our Shared Priorities

Impact by the Numbers

2023 Grant Making

- **176** grants
- **114** organizations
- **\$14,877,066**

2023 Scholarships

Every year, we invest in hundreds of Mat-Su community members pursuing careers in health and human services. Educational and vocational scholarships ensure that these individuals have the opportunity to build secure, high-paying careers and our community has a strong and sustainable healthcare workforce.

- **422** students in bachelor's or master's programs
- **124** students in certificate programs
- **35** professionals further developing their leadership skills
- **\$2,269,619** invested in Mat-Su community members



Connect Mat-Su
Local support for local needs

A comprehensive health and social services information and referral hub, ensuring that every person in the Mat-Su Valley has what they need to live a healthy and fulfilling life.

- **4,608** referrals made (5.4% increase from 2022)
- **1,502** people served
- **77%** of referrals were for housing, health or transportation needs



A cross-sector collaborative of community members joining together to promote family resilience and reduce child maltreatment in the Mat-Su.

- **375** attendees trained on Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences and Raising Resilience
- **157** babies supported and celebrated through Community Baby Shower events

Grantee Highlights



Expanding the Healthy Smiles Forever program to offer dental care to those who need it

CHRISTIAN HEALTH ASSOCIATES

The Healthy Smiles Forever Program brings dentistry and oral healthcare to long-term care residents. We were able to offer the program \$250,000 to expand services for more than 200 residents at three facilities in the Mat-Su. The grant will pay for dental care specialists, expand in-facility services, and provide oral healthcare training and education to CNAs and other providers who care for these important residents.



Creating accessible spaces by supporting construction of the Palmer Family Park

PALMER CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

The Palmer Family Park has Mat-Su's first fully accessible and inclusive playground for children with a range of abilities. Accessible public spaces for connection, movement, and play are an important part of making sure everyone has the opportunity to lead a healthy, thriving life. We contributed \$500,000 toward the park's materials and construction.



Increasing access to housing in the Mat-Su

BLOOD-N-FIRE MINISTRY AND VALLEY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

We all know that housing is limited and comes at a premium in our region. Many struggle to find and keep affordable housing. This past year we supported Blood-n-Fire Ministry, a program that provides housing assistance to people experiencing homelessness in the Mat-Su, in purchasing the Knick House Property in Wasilla. We also funded Valley Residential Services to build an additional 24 units of affordable housing for Mat-Su families, expanding the existing Old Mat Road complex.



Supporting North Mat-Su residents in need

UPPER SUSITNA FOOD PANTRY

Food, fuel, and hygiene-related products are necessities that community members sometimes find out of reach. We contributed \$80,000 to the food pantry's services supporting those in need, including programming that teaches parents, guardians and children how to grow their own fruit and vegetables in the pantry's community garden.



Looking Ahead

We were thrilled to enter 2024 with a talented new leadership team

who bring fresh energy and perspectives to our work. With deep experience in healthcare, human services, philanthropy, and hospital leadership, they are already improving how we serve you. We'll continue to grow our staff to better meet the needs identified by the community.

As part owners of the Mat-Su Regional Medical Center, we were proud to participate in the renegotiation of the management services agreement in 2023, setting the direction for the next decade and beyond. We advocated for an agreement that ensures the hospital will continue to provide care and services for Mat-Su residents.

We'll work with the Medical Center to significantly increase access to behavioral health services, in response to community feedback and the Community Health Needs Assessment. We'll expand the Crisis Now program, which gives law enforcement and first responders an appropriate option for people in crisis to receive short-term mental health treatment quickly.

We're also excited about a new program from R.O.C.K. Mat-Su that will launch this summer. HELLO Baby will offer critical support for babies and families in their first years of development. Stay tuned for more information.

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position *In Thousands, 2023 Unaudited*

Assets	2023	2022
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$37,077	\$22,568
Investment in Joint Ventures	\$105,803	\$110,247
Long-Term Investments	\$230,728	\$182,889
Land, Property and Equipment	\$25,629	\$26,050
Total Assets	\$399,237	\$341,754
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts and Grants Payables	\$3,960	\$3,058
Other Current Liabilities	\$1,462	\$1,365
Total Current Liabilities	\$5,422	\$4,423
Long-Term Liabilities	\$3,412	\$4,264
Total Liabilities	\$8,834	\$8,687
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$389,403	\$333,067
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$1,000	
Total Net Assets	\$390,403	\$333,067
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$399,237	\$341,754

Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

In Thousands, 2023 Unaudited

Revenue and Support	2023	2022
Equity Income in Joint Ventures	\$52,302	\$46,049
Investment Income, Net	\$29,698	(\$25,451)
Donations and Other Income	\$1,860	\$20,359
Total Income	\$83,860	\$40,957
Grants and Expenses		
Grants to Community Organizations	\$15,024	\$13,427
Scholarships	\$2,267	\$1,800
Programs and Capacity Building	\$3,625	\$4,867
General and Administrative Expenses	\$5,609	\$5,037
Total Expense	\$26,525	\$25,131
Change In Net Assets	\$57,335	\$15,826
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$333,068	\$317,242
Net Assets, End of Year	\$390,403	\$333,068

2023 Grants Awarded

113 Grantees • 176 Grants
\$14,877,063 awarded

Grantee Name	Awarded Amount	Number of Grants
Access Alaska, Inc.	\$14,000.00	1
Ak Payee Services Inc.	\$12,000.00	1
Alaska Addiction Rehabilitation Services	\$50,000.00	1
Alaska Assistance Dogs	\$15,000.00	1
Alaska Children's Trust	\$25,000.00	1
Alaska End-Of-Life Alliance	\$3,100.00	1
Alaska Family Services Inc.	\$84,950.00	3
Alaska Farmers Market Association	\$33,520.00	1
Alaska Farmland Trust	\$37,612.00	1
Alaska Legal Services Corporation	\$100,000.00	1
Alaska Pacific University	\$49,999.00	1
Alaska Peace Officers Association	\$15,000.00	1
Alaska Professional Volunteers	\$14,987.00	1
Alaska Safe Riders	\$12,500.00	1
Alaska Sports Hall Of Fame Inc	\$72,000.00	3
Alaska Warrior Partnership	\$35,000.00	2
Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska	\$50,000.00	1
American Cancer Society	\$15,000.00	1
American National Red Cross	\$47,285.00	2
Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, Alaska Chapter	\$5,000.00	1
Beacon Hill	\$6,000.00	1
Best Beginnings	\$40,000.00	1
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska	\$214,684.00	2
Big Lake Elementary School	\$32,700.00	1
Blood-N-Fire Ministry of Alaska	\$921,500.00	3
Bright Lights Book Project	\$11,000.00	1
CCS Early Learning	\$38,000.00	3

Grantee Name	Awarded Amount	Number of Grants
Chickaloon Village Traditional Council	\$160,020.00	4
Christian Health Associates	\$250,000.00	1
Christmas Friendship Dinner INC	\$29,200.00	1
Compassionate Directions	\$355,000.00	4
Connect Palmer Inc.	\$112,500.00	1
Curry Ridge Riders Inc.	\$50,000.00	1
Daybreak Incorporated	\$5,000.00	1
Dena'ina Elementary School	\$10,000.00	1
Denali Arts Council	\$30,000.00	2
Denali Education Center	\$15,000.00	1
Epilepsy Foundation of America	\$10,700.00	1
Euthus Ministries	\$10,000.00	1
Food Bank of Alaska	\$50,000.00	1
Friends of the Sutton Library	\$5,500.00	1
Frontline Mission	\$31,000.00	2
Gamers Sports Travel	\$15,000.00	1
Girl Scouts Of Alaska	\$95,000.00	2
Glacier View Community Council	\$1,500.00	1
Grantmakers In Health	\$16,995.00	1
Great Land Trust Inc	\$198,250.00	1
Hope Community Resources Inc	\$277,400.00	1
Jessica Stevens Community Foundation	\$15,000.00	1
Kids Kupboard	\$120,000.00	1
Knik Tribal Council	\$29,999.00	2
Lake Louise Snowmachine Club Inc.	\$200,000.00	1
LINKS Mat-Su Parent Resource Center	\$1,142,330.00	4
Mat-Su 2024 Arctic Winter Games Host Society	\$275,000.00	1
Mat-Su Council on Aging	\$150,000.00	1
Mat-Su Food Bank	\$51,000.00	2

Grantee Name	Awarded Amount	Number of Grants
Mat-Su Services for Children and Adults, Inc. (MSSCA)	\$307,296.00	2
Mat-Su Ski and Snowboard Club, Inc	\$45,000.00	1
Mat-Su Ski Club	\$200,000.00	1
Meadow Lakes Community Development Inc	\$20,500.00	3
Meadow Lakes Elementary School	\$32,700.00	1
Meadow Lakes Seniors, Inc.	\$16,655.00	2
Moose Boosters Wrestling Club	\$9,900.00	1
MY House	\$27,000.00	2
Nami Alaska Incorporated	\$5,000.00	1
Nine Star Enterprises Inc.	\$4,590.00	1
Northgate Alaska	\$80,000.00	3
Northwest Resource Associates	\$17,595.00	2
Pacific Northwest University Of Health Sciences	\$30,000.00	2
Palmer Church of God	\$22,000.00	2
Palmer Community Foundation	\$15,000.00	1
Palmer Family Church Of The Nazarene	\$500,000.00	1
Palmer Fellowship United Methodist Church	\$30,000.00	2
Palmer High School	\$15,000.00	1
Palmer Senior Citizens Center Inc (aka Mat-Su Senior Services)	\$365,000.00	2
Pediatric Resource Center of Alaska	\$100,123.00	1
Peer Power	\$25,000.00	2
Philanthropy Northwest	\$19,500.00	1
Pioneer Amateur Hockey Association	\$10,600.00	1
Point Mackenzie Community Council	\$50,000.00	1
Postpartum Support, International	\$15,000.00	1
Project Linus	\$400.00	1
PTA for Susitna Valley Jr./Sr. High School	\$15,000.00	1

Grantee Name	Awarded Amount	Number of Grants
Radio Free Palmer	\$90,734.00	1
REACH 907	\$16,100.00	2
Santa Cop & Heroes Program	\$21,500.00	2
Set Free Alaska, Inc.	\$5,000.00	1
Skeetawk	\$654,100.00	2
Special Olympics Alaska	\$15,000.00	1
Sultana New Ventures, LLC	\$250,000.00	2
Sunshine Community Health Center	\$2,976,241.00	4
Sunshine Station Child Care Center	\$279,100.00	3
Sunshine Transit	\$170,000.00	1
Talkeetna Elementary PTA	\$11,000.00	1
The Children's Place	\$6,000.00	1
The Foraker Group	\$100,000.00	3
True North Recovery, Inc.	\$20,880.00	1
United States Tennis Association, Pacific Northwest Section	\$15,000.00	1
United Way of Mat-Su	\$125,500.00	3
University of Alaska Foundation	\$60,000.00	1
University of Alaska, Anchorage	\$152,350.00	2
Upper Susitna Food Pantry	\$80,000.00	1
Upper Susitna Seniors, Inc.	\$60,520.00	2
Valley Charities, Inc.	\$91,365.00	5
Valley Pathways High School	\$14,000.00	1
Valley Residential Services	\$1,048,500.00	5
Valley Transit	\$270,000.00	1
Wasilla Area Seniors, Inc. (WASI)	\$495,000.00	2
Wasilla Middle School	\$12,284.00	2
Wasilla Waves Swim Club	\$1,499.00	1
Wild Energized Life (WEL)	\$174,300.00	1
Willow Elementary	\$3,000.00	1
Willow Food Pantry, UMC	\$12,000.00	1



**MAT-SU HEALTH
FOUNDATION**



Mat-Su Health Foundation is dedicated to improving the health and wellness of Alaskans living in the Mat-Su and creating a community where all persons have the opportunity for a healthy life.

**777 N. Crusey St., Ste. A201, Wasilla, AK 99654
907-352-2863
HealthyMatSu.org**