

# MORAGA

Community Foundation

November 2020

As this turbulent year draws to a close, it is a good time for the Moraga Community Foundation to update our donors and the community on our progress over the past year. **Beyond that, we hope you will consider a donation to MCF as part of your year-end giving and support our ongoing mission to fund and support projects which will benefit the Town and the Moraga community.**

2020 has been a year of disruption and change affecting all of us. For MCF, the journey actually began in late August 2019, when the ugly crimes perpetrated by Francis Robert (Bob) Fritzky against MCF came to light. We are happy to report that this situation is now largely resolved.

As you may be aware from recent media reports, on August 21 2020 Mr. Fritzky pled guilty in the Federal District Court to stealing from MCF, wire fraud, and filing a false tax return. Under a written Plea Agreement with the United States Attorney's Office, Fritzky admitted to forging documents and embezzling \$204,913.84 from MCF, and he has agreed to pay restitution in not less than that amount to MCF as the principal victim of these crimes. The final amount of restitution may be higher, and will be determined by U.S. District Judge Jon Tigar at Fritzky's sentencing hearing, currently scheduled to take place on January 15 2021.

In a separate civil lawsuit, the Contra Costa Superior Court has approved the entry of judgment in favor of MCF for more than \$770,000, including a sizeable award of punitive damages, as just compensation for the embezzlement and fraud committed by Fritzky. MCF has worked hard over the past year to ensure that justice will prevail, and that his crimes and breaches of trust do not go unpunished.

Concurrent with our successes on the legal front, MCF has taken a hard look at our by-laws and procedures and implemented measures to prevent future fraud and restore the trust of our donors and the broader community. Almost immediately, we instituted additional safeguards to prevent similar criminal acts in the future. Our Board of Directors has adopted a strict set of written internal controls that we believe will protect the integrity of the MCF.

**Moraga Community Foundation**

**November 2020**

**Page 2**

We are reporting these facts to you, a friend of MCF, because it is important that you know them. Equally important, we want you to understand that MCF is moving forward and continuing the mission we have been pursuing since our inception in 2015 – building a vibrant future for Moraga. **The good news here is that MCF has persevered and successfully completed several projects over the past year, benefiting the Moraga community.**

In May, we partnered with the Eagle Foundation to facilitate an \$11,400 donation to Moraga-based Next Move Network, which provided motivational training and assistance to recent St. Mary's College graduates and other young adults facing unexpected challenges in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In June, we partnered with the Town of Moraga to repair the electronic message board adjacent to the Commons after it was vandalized by graffiti.

In July, MCF donated \$5,000 to the Town to finance the installation of a new water bottle filling station just outside the main restrooms at the entrance to the Moraga Commons park. The water fountain is part of a larger MCF plan to upgrade and enhance facilities at the Commons (stay tuned for more to come!)

Finally, we are proud of MCF's contribution to the Lamorinda initiative to provide Covid-19 testing at local senior care facilities. From May to July, MCF raised \$15,267 to pay for testing of senior residents and staff at three Moraga facilities (a total of 280 tests). The Lafayette Community Foundation (LCF) and the Orinda Community Foundation also participated, accepting funding responsibility for their cities. It was a great partnership, and MCF was aided by and grateful to receive a generous contribution from LCF. While MCF funded the Moraga initiative, the tests were performed by LabCorp and the Contra Costa County Medical Director. Many thanks are due to the doctors and volunteers who carried out this essential and potentially lifesaving work.

The Moraga Community Foundation has weathered the storm. We are ready and committed to advancing our long-term mission to enhance Moraga's quality of life. Please stay tuned in 2021 as we continue to plan for the future.

In the meantime, we wish to thank you and all our supporters for their contributions to date. **Please keep MCF in mind as you make donations at year-end. Checks may be sent to MCF at our Moraga address below. Or you may visit us and donate online at [www.moragacommunityfoundation.org](http://www.moragacommunityfoundation.org).**

With thanks and warm regards,



David Trotter  
President, Moraga Community Foundation