



**SAVE** - for the rainy day

**SPEND** - like you mean it

**SHARE** - leave your community better than you found it!

### A Few Places Where You Can Make a Big Difference in the Northwest Community

#### Arts & Culture

**Arts Corps** Your dollars might support capacity building, program enhancements and evaluation for the Strategic Plan of the agency's work in providing free arts education opportunities through after-school programs in King County's most economically distressed neighborhoods.

**The Vera Project Impact update:** VERA evolved in response to the community's need for an alcohol and drug-free venue for youth to enjoy music, but its hallmark is building skills and developing confidence in young adults.

*"It is rare to find a place where kids can govern and learn with the support of adults, rather than adults dictating their course. The VERA Project is a fertile ground for these young artists, engineers and musicians to grow into leaders of our community and beyond,"* said Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder.

Volunteers at VERA learn lighting/audio engineering and silk screening, while interns discover how to raise funds and how to collaborate with groups all over the city to produce mega events. Since its founding in 2001, the VERA Project has boldly engaged more than 100,000 patrons, but its most ambitious goal yet was to build a space containing new recording studios, offices and classrooms so artists and students can make music and collaborate in groups making decisions that affect their interests for recording engineering, stage managing and lighting design.

#### Education

**Community for Youth** Your funds help to strengthen and expand their programs that support underachieving yet promising high school students to stay in school through mentoring and after-school programs in Seattle.

**Friends of the Children** A program of long-term, paid mentoring for vulnerable children living in high risk environments to develop the relationships, goals, skills, and resources needed to thrive.

**Team Read** Fund the expansion of a reading tutoring program that matches high school-age tutors with second- and third-grade students from Seattle's neediest public schools.

## **Environment**

**EarthCorps** Your dollars might fund increased capacity to recruit and engage volunteers to perform critical environmental restoration of Puget Sound area urban forests, watersheds and shorelines.

**Bike Works** Your support help Rainier Valley youth to fix bicycles, thereby clocking hours to earn their own bicycles. This fosters responsibility, encourages cycling as a transportation alternative, and models a recycle rather than throw-away community.

**North Cascade Institute** Be amongst one of the many supporters of the wild 12-day canoe program for minority and low-income youth. Last summer kids in the program went into the wilderness around Ross Lake where they worked on forest restoration projects with the Park Service's Leave No Trace program, a natural resource management and cultural history activity. The youth provided more than 1,000 hours of service work and helped others with restoration projects and learned about careers in the environmental field. You can also look into the SCA – Student Conservation Association for environmental employment opportunities.

## **Health**

**First Place** Help fund the expansion of its on-site mental health services to better meet the needs of children traumatized by homelessness and to break the cycle of violence, poverty and educational failure.

**Pike Place Market Foundation** Your dollars might fund expansion of the Senior Wellness Program that provides hot lunches, nutrition counseling, fitness classes, and mental health/social work services to seniors living in the downtown Seattle and Pike Place Market area.

## **Human Services**

**Girl Scouts of Western Washington** Your dollars might fund the expansion into Snohomish County of the Fostering a Future program, which is designed to meet the special needs of girls in foster care, to help them gain the confidence and skills they need to overcome their histories of violence and neglect.

**Seattle Milk Fund** Your dollars might fund the Childcare Program that provides financial assistance to low-income parents so they can complete their education as full-time students and achieve economic self-sufficiency more quickly while being assured of good-quality care for their children.

**Washington Women's Employment & Education** Help to fund the REACH Plus program that improves computer skills, work habits and the overall employability of welfare recipients and low-income parents in King and Pierce Counties.