



SISTERS

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Growing Funds for Growing Futures

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

GRADUATE RESOURCE ORGANIZATION

WHEN YOU
STEP IN...
STUDENTS
STEP UP!



MISSION STATEMENT

To help Sisters High School graduates achieve their educational aspirations, inspiring them to give back by becoming more.

Wow... things are happening with Sisters GRO!!!

In 2019, we implemented a new online process for student applications, and award selections by donors. This was necessary to keep up with the growing number of scholarships from the generous Sisters community. Speaking of growth, the 2019 Senior Celebration surpassed the **\$1.1 Million** mark for funds that GRO has distributed to date. This doesn't even include all of the scholarship funds awarded during our Senior Celebration event each year. Suffice it to say that we have an amazing community that is stepping up and supporting our graduates! But, we can do more.

This year we will continue to improve on how we conduct our business so that we can expand and sustain our capabilities for future generations of Outlaws. We want to improve our abilities to interface with over 75 donor and scholarship selection committees, and increase the amount of money awarded each year while we maintain and improve the health of our finances.

Rising student debt and the increasing cost of higher education is all over the news these days. Everything that we can do to help with those costs will pay huge dividends for our graduates. To that end, here are additional ways to bestow funding to our Sisters youth:

Endowments - Sisters GRO can work with donors to establish endowments so that their funds will continue to support Sisters Graduates far into the future. Please keep us in mind as you update your estate planning.

Securities - Sisters GRO can accept publicly traded securities which may result in tax benefits for the donor.

Retirement Account/Life Insurance Beneficiaries - Naming Sisters GRO as a beneficiary allows for more of your money to stay in the community supporting Sisters graduates.

All donations, big or small, can be directed to a scholarship or to Sisters GRO's general fund to help cover our operating costs.

I sometimes get asked, "What does Sisters GRO do?" The long answer includes things like administer the scholarship application process, facilitate the selection process with the donors, collect the funds, manage the award process, and disburse the funds. The simple answer is that "Sisters GRO provides a way for the community to give back and pay it forward." Those of us who have been fortunate have a way to help the next generation(s).

It is especially rewarding when I read the following words from a recent scholarship recipient that echo this sentiment:

"I am very appreciative that people are so kind and supportive of young students trying to pursue their dreams. Our community is special in that way, everyone cares about the people that they meet. It is truly inspiring, and I look forward to the day that I can set up some sort of a scholarship for individuals such as myself looking to continue their education after high school. It helps an incredible amount."

I can't thank our Board enough for all their volunteer hours that are required to keep this organization going. I couldn't do it without them! I also want to thank all of our donors who continue to contribute every year and give so generously. We obviously couldn't do it without them either.

Go Outlaws!!!

Tim Ross
Board Chair

2019 SISTERS GRO BOARD

Tim Ross: Chair

Lori Larson: Vice-Chair

Ann Thompson: Secretary

Bob Landwehr: Treasurer

Susan Parker: Board Member

Diane Russell: Board Member

Karen Lord: Board Member

Charlie Kanzig: Board Member

Joe Hosang, SHS Principal: Ex-Officio

Rick Kroytz, SHS Counselor: Ex-Officio

GRO HISTORY

Offering Assistance and Administrative Support in the Scholarship Process to Sisters High School Graduates.

2018

GRO works with 65 donors to offer 95 local individual scholarship available to SHS graduates

2011

Partnership with the ASPIRE Program

2008

GRO was founded as a 501(c) (3) organization

2013

Collaboration with The Roundhouse Foundation, whereby they furnish funds for Enrichment Experiences, and GRO manages the process and distribution of funds.

2019

GRO breaks the \$1 million mark in scholarships made to students and transitions to online student scholarship application and donor award process

2011

GRO established the Endowment for Dreams Fund with the Oregon Community Foundation



GRO SCHOLARSHIP TESTIMONIES



Alexa Asson

**California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, Biology**

These scholarships mean so much to me and all of the students who received one. Sisters GRO is such a generous program that really makes the Sisters community feel connected. I am grateful for the generosity of all the donors and the support they have given us to succeed in college. Thank you so much!



Abigail Busick

Western Oregon University, Education

This scholarship means so much more to me than it's worth. It not only helps lift the weight of future student debt off my shoulders, it inspires me to work hard, be the best person I can be and get the most academically out of my college experience. I will forever be grateful for this scholarship and I can't even begin to explain how much it has encouraged me to seek out my passions and work extremely hard. I'm very thankful and this scholarship is very helpful to not only myself, but my family as well.





Brooke Robillard
University of Denver, Psychology

I would like to extend my most sincere gratitude for all those who have supported my future through the Sisters GRO scholarships. The scholarships I received have allowed me to go to my top choice for school and continue my education. I value quality education and am beyond grateful for the chance to study psychology and Spanish next year. The scholarships I received not only made me feel supported financially, but they also showed me that I had others that believed in me. I will forever be grateful for this encouragement, thank you for believing in me.



Bennett Lewis
Fort Lewis College, Business

Thank you so much for this generous award, I cannot begin to put into words how much this means to me. These awards are so amazing and I am so grateful for the generosity of everyone involved. I look forward to the future ahead and I will never forget the kindness and support of the community that raised me and propelled me into my next step.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



2019 ADMINISTERED SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIP NAME	TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED
Ace Hardware - Sisters Scholarship	1000
Bill and Jan Reed Memorial Scholarship	5000
Bill Edwards Alumni Association - SHS Spirit Scholarship	1000
BiMart Scholarship	500
Black Butte Ranch Art Guild Scholarship	6000
Black Butte Ranch Hospitality Scholarship	2000
Bob Chandler Memorial Scholarship	5000
Col. John O. Miller Aviation Scholarship	2000
Concussion Awareness - Taking it Head-On Scholarship	2000
Dentists of Sisters Scholarship	3000
Diane Jacobsen Memorial Scholarship	1000
Dominic Fouts Scholar-Athlete Award	5000
Elizabeth Danforth P.E.O. Chapter FS Scholarship	2000
Endeavor-Chase Scholarship	15000
Enterprising Spirit Scholarship	1500
Frank Dale Memorial Scholarship	600
Friends of the Sister's Library Scholarship	2000
George Shackelford Memorial Football Scholarship	1000
Green Ridge Physical Therapy Health and Wellness Scholarship	1000
Hardtails Business Entrepreneurship Scholarship	1000
High Country Disposal Scholarship	1000
Jeremy Moyer Memorial Wrestler Scholarship	1000
Jim Gentry Memorial Scholarship	2250
KLM Scholarship	1000
Laird Superfood Health, Mind and Body Wellness Scholarship	1000
Metabolic Maintenance Health and Wellness Scholarship	1500
Michael B. Ilg Character Scholarship	2500
Nugget Newspaper Scholarship	2000
Outlaw Booster Club Spirit Scholarship	1000
Outlaw Health Professionals Scholarship	3000
Outlaw STEM Scholarship	4500
P.E.O. GH Scholarship	2000
Peter and Pamela Hoover Character Scholarship	1000

2019 ADMINISTERED SCHOLARSHIPS

SCHOLARSHIP NAME	TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED
Ponderosa Heating and Cooling Scholarship	4000
Ron and Patti Leblanc Opportunity Scholarship	2000
Rotary Club of Sisters Academic Scholarship	4000
Rotary Club of Sisters Vocational Scholarship	2000
Ruth Golden Ingham Scholarship	1000
Shibui/MacKintosh Scholarship	10000
Shirley J. von Kalinowski Scholarship	2500
SHS Leadership by Example Scholarship	2000
SisTech Manufacturing - General Scholarship	5000
Sisters Chamber of Commerce Scholarship	2500
Sisters Community Church Scholarship	1000
Sisters Confucius Classroom Scholarship	9000
Sisters Environmental/Sustainability Careers Scholarship	4000
Sisters Folk Festival/Americana Project - Performing Arts Scholarship	1750
Sisters Folk Festival/Americana Project - Visual Arts Scholarship	2250
Sisters GRO Endowment for Dreams	2000
Sisters GRO Pegasus Scholarship	2500
Sisters High School Character Scholarship	1000
Sisters High School Visual Arts Scholarship	750
Sisters Kiwanis Glenn Keeran Scholarship	5000
Sisters Kiwanis Scholarship	11000
Sisters Meat and Smokehouse Scholarship	1000
Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show	1000
Sisters Rhythm & Brews Festival Building Education Fund	500
Sisters Rodeo Association Scholarship	7500
Sisters Schools Foundation Scholarship	2000
Stewart & Verle Weitzman Scholarship	25000
Taylor Family Scholarship	5000
Three Sisters Lions Scholarship	5000
Todd Sampson Memorial Aviation Scholarship	1000
Wayne and Irene Hensley Memorial Scholarship	1000
Willitts Scholarship	2000

Grand Total \$207,600

STAR DONORS

In addition to our fabulous scholarship donors, Sisters GRO would like to give a BIG thank you to these donors who have contributed to our operational expenses during our July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 fiscal year:

Lynda & David Sullivan

Tim & Karen Hensley

Sage & Lynne Dorsey

Pam Olivier

Ann & Tommy Thompson

Zoe Willitts

Karen Lord

Susan Parker

Timothy & Lori Larson

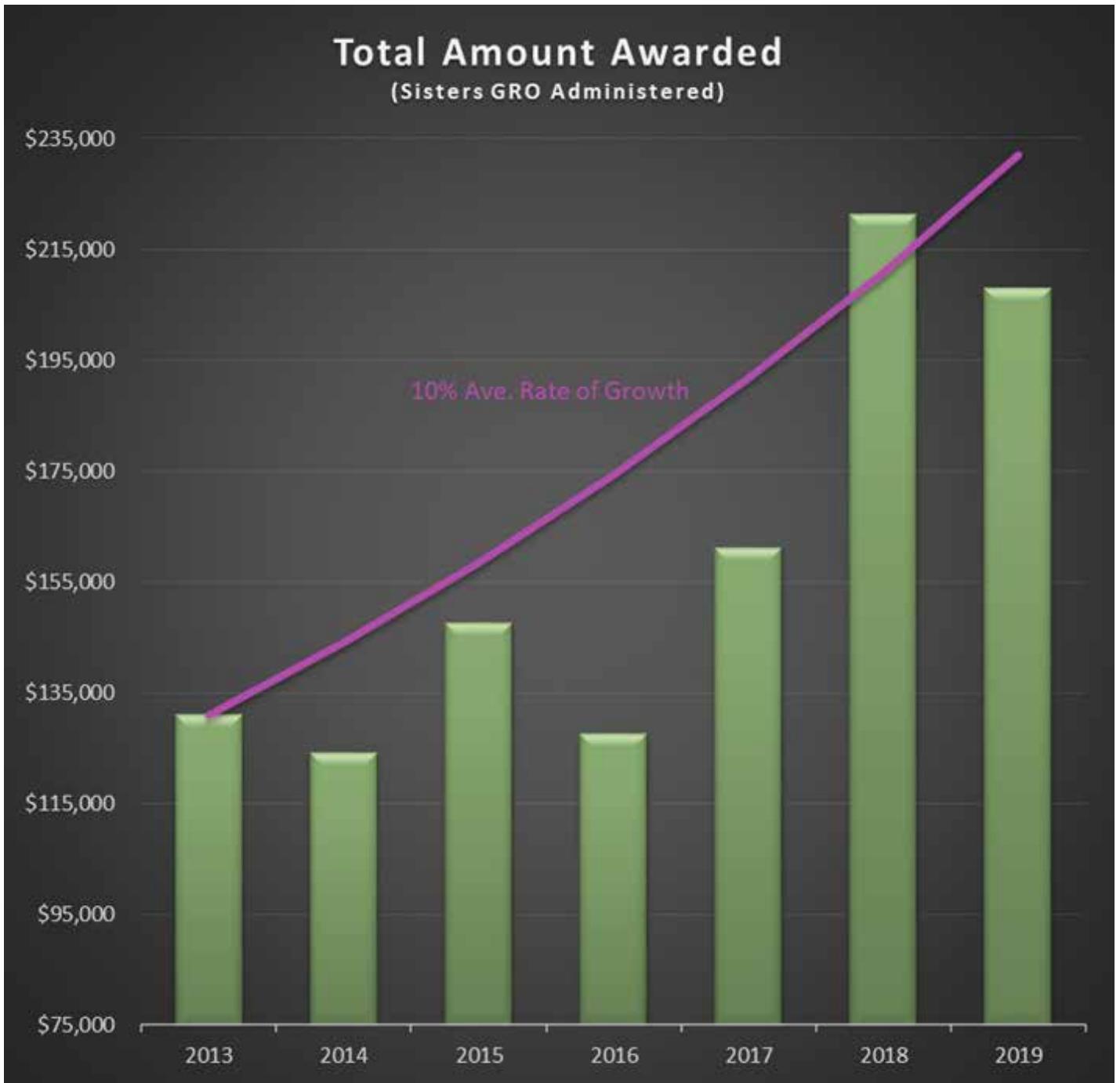
Bob & Gayle Landwehr

Stewart & Verle Weitzman

Robert and Mary Anne Woodell

The Roundhouse Foundation

Benevity Community Impact Fund – Intel Involved Volunteers



A student may receive several different scholarships, and a scholarship may be split among several students



GRADUATE RESOURCE ORGANIZATION

Sisters Graduate Resource Organization recognizes that a vibrant community fosters the dreams, ambitions and goals of its young people.

We are dedicated to the growth of our community's future by championing post-high school education through scholarships and graduate support programs. By investing in Sisters graduates, we invest in our community.

Thank you for your support!

P. O. Box 1546 • Sisters, OR 97759-1546
info@sistersGRO.org

DONATION FORM FOR SISTERS GRO

I am enclosing a tax-deductible donation to Sisters GRO.

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other _____

I am pledging a monthly tax-deductible donation to Sisters GRO.

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other _____

I am interested in setting up a named or endowed scholarship through Sisters GRO.
Please contact me.

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities in Sisters GRO.

You may donate by mail or through our website at SistersGRO.org

Sisters GRO is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____