BEN B. CHENEY FOUNDATION

2024 Annual Report





Dear Friends and Partners,

As we reflect on 2024 and the Ben B. Cheney Foundation's 49th year of giving, we are reminded that progress happens when people come together with creativity, persistence, and shared purpose. Our work this past year was less about quick wins and more about planting seeds - quiet, steady investments that will bear fruit for years to come.

In 2024, we had the privilege of making two significant investments in housing, a fundamental building block of strong, thriving communities. Through our support of Habitat for Humanity Pierce County's Building Hope Campaign, we are helping more families achieve homeownership through innovative pathways and creative community solutions. And with our investment in the Tacoma Rescue Mission's Good Neighbor Village, we stand alongside a bold vision to house chronically homeless individuals, offering the dignity, stability, and connection every person deserves.

These are just two examples among the countless ways our nonprofit partners are strengthening communities across Washington, Southern Oregon, and Northern California, places once home to Cheney Lumber Mills. Their daily dedication inspires us, and it is our honor to stand shoulder to shoulder with them, not just as funders, but as true partners committed to their success.

In 2024, we invested more than \$3.5 million across the communities we support through 158 different grants that were intentionally directed at the foundations of thriving communities: youth, housing, health, education, and culture.

As we celebrate five decades of partnership in 2025, my hope is that our investments in 2024 will continue to pay dividends for years to come, not just in outcomes, but in the strength of the relationships that make progress possible. Your leadership matters, and together, we're building communities where everyone has the chance to flourish.

With gratitude,

Erika Tucci



Erika Tucci, Executive Director



Brad Cheney, Board Chair

Our Founder

Ben B. Cheney lived life fully and richly, devoting himself to his work, his family and his community.

Our Founder

Ben B. Cheney of South Bend, Washington, formed the Cheney Lumber Company in 1936 and was involved with the lumber industry until his death in 1971. A tireless businessman and innovator, he is credited with standardizing the length of building studs at eight feet, a concept that reduced discarded and wasted wood.



Ben Cheney's passion was athletics, especially the game of baseball. He helped to bring a Pacific Coast League franchise to Tacoma and contributed to the construction of Tacoma's ballpark, Cheney Stadium. He was also a stockholder of the San Francisco Giants and served on its board of directors.

Ben Cheney's love of sports was not confined to his own interests. In the small logging communities of Washington, Oregon, and California many young people played on Cheney-sponsored teams. Over 5,000 youngsters developed their skills while participating under Cheney sponsorship. Today many of these participants still retain the enthusiasm, self-discipline, and team spirit that come from athletic involvement.

The Ben B. Cheney Foundation

Ben Cheney showed his love of life best by establishing the Cheney Foundation. Long after his death in 1971, the Cheney Foundation continues to honor his enthusiasm for life by supporting a broad range of needs through its philanthropic efforts in the communities where the Cheney Lumber Company was once active.

The Foundation also honors Ben Cheney's innovative and thrifty spirit by never forgetting that the purpose of every grant is helping people. The Foundation has provided grants to help with basic needs, such as food, health care and shelter. Other grants have helped to enrich communities through the arts, athletics, and historical programs.

Ben Cheney lived life fully and richly. The Ben B. Cheney Foundation strives to carry on his hopes and dreams for the people and communities that he knew and loved. Learn more about Mr. Cheney through this 20-minute video, A Dream Shared.

Our Emblem

The red Belgium stud horse has represented the Ben B. Cheney Foundation since its formal inception in 1975. The Foundation was funded by proceeds derived from the Cheney Lumber Company with whom the logo originated. In the early years of the lumber industry, Belgium stud horses were used as an essential part of harvesting timber from the mass forests of the Pacific Northwest. Known to be strong and gentle beasts, they willingly hauled huge timber out of the forest.

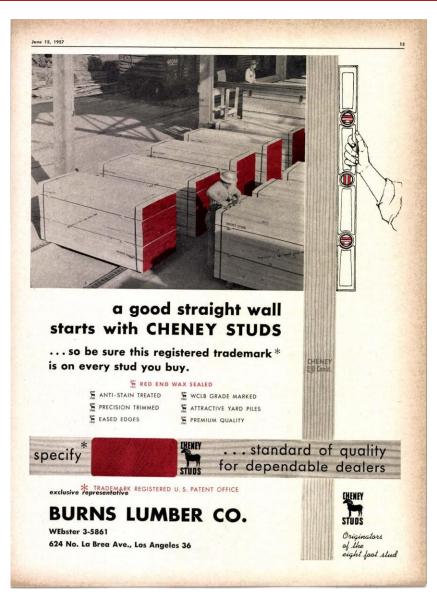
The Cheney Lumber Company was a producer of 2x4s known as studs. Cheney studs had a solid reputation for quality, excellence and longevity. In 2024, we continued to focus on a wide variety of needs and causes serving those communities where the Cheney Lumber Company once operated.

The Belgium stud horse is our compass. Like this grand animal, our partners exhibit many of its characteristics: gentle, willing to work, lively, tough, brave and sensible. Our communities are better and more resilient for their work and service.



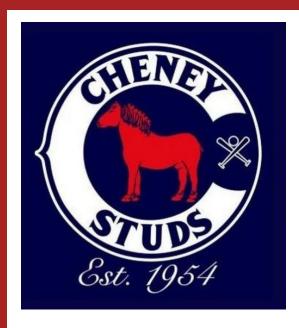
BEN B. CHENEY FOUNDATION

Helping people and their communities



1957 Cheney Lumber Advertisement

Cheney Studs



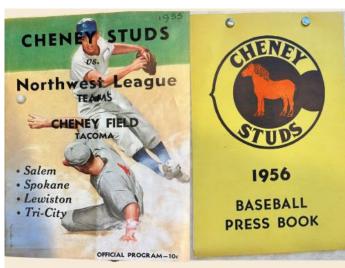
70 Years of Excellence — The Cheney Studs

As you already know, Ben Cheney was a baseball enthusiast who made his mark on Tacoma through Cheney Stadium, and on the San Francisco Giants where he served on their board of directors... but did you know he founded a baseball team that is still actively competing in the Pacific International League? 2024 marked the 70th year of the Cheney Studs baseball team.

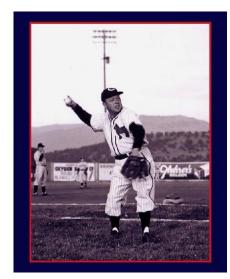
Ben Cheney founded the Cheney Studs in 1954 and for a handful of years, he played on the team as an infielder. Today his three-time NBC World Series Champion "Studs" are the third oldest team participating in the National Baseball Congress. <u>Learn more about the Cheney Studs baseball team</u>.



Cheney Studs, 1963 Team



Cheney Studs official program (1955) and Press Book (1956)



Ben Cheney playing in Oregon

Our Giving



Partnered with 74 Organizations



\$3,409,994 Granted



33 Cheney High School Athletic Scholarships

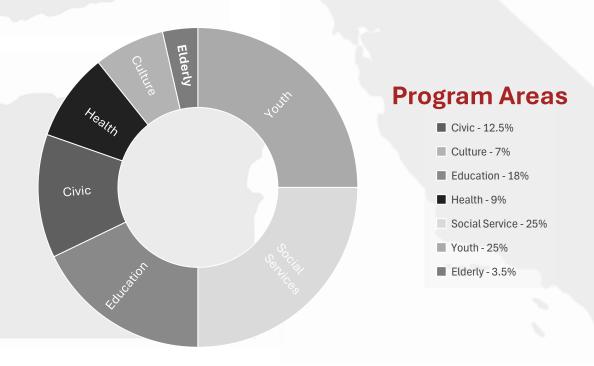


29 Communities Served in Washington, Oregon, and California



Board Directed & Matching Gifts: \$105,447

At the end of 2024, after 49 years of making grants, the Foundation has made approximately 6,468 grants to more than 1,528 different organizations for a total distribution of \$119,772,547.



YOUTH \$322,500 IN GRANTS

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Olympic Peninsula, Sequim, WA Boys & Girls Clubs of South Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA First Tee of South Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA Grants Pass H.S. Athletic Booster Club, Grants Pass, OR Kiwanis Club of South Bend, South Bend, WA Narrows Baseball Club, Gig Harbor, Orting Lions Community Park, Orting, WA Pacific International League, Kent, WA Scouting America, Pacific Harbors Council, Tacoma, WA The Children's Museum of Southern Oregon, Medford, OR Washington Trails Association, Seattle, WA Woodworth Family Foundation, Tacoma, WA 2024 Race for the Clubs benefitting Boys & Girls Clubs SPS, \$2,500 Y.M.C.A. of Pierce and Kitsap Counties, Tacoma, WA

Youth 71Five Ministries, Medford, OR

Port Angeles Clubhouse Enhancement Plan, \$25,000 Teen Center Refresh at Al Davies Club, \$35,000 Program Support, \$15,000 Evergreen Sports Complex Lighting Project, \$15,000 Kiwanis Club of South Bend Summer Camp, \$15,000 Narrows Baseball Facility, \$15,000 Septic Improvements, \$5,000 2024 Season Support, \$40,000 Camp Thunderbird Excavator, \$30,000 Museum Expansion Capital Project, \$50,000 Expanding Youth Access to the Outdoors Pierce Co., \$10,000 Kids Night 2024, \$35,000 71 Five Park, \$30,000



CIVIC \$182,000 IN GRANTS

Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition, Puyallup, WA
Historic Town of Wilkeson
P.O.O.L Foundation, Raymond, WA
Partners for Parks, Lacey, WA
PenMet Parks Community Center, Gig Harbor, WA
Port Townsend Marine Science Center, Port Townsend, WA
Shanaman Sports Museum, Tacoma, WA

Buckley Foothills Trailhead and Pavillion Project, \$20,000 Community Hub, \$5,000 O.R. Nevitt Memorial Pool Renovation, \$15,000 The H-Barn Project at Fort Steilacoom Park, \$25,000 PenMet Parks Recreation Center, \$100,000 Exhibits for Greater Impact, \$15,000 Tribute to Champions, \$2,000

HEALTH \$715,000 IN GRANTS

Mercy Foundation North, Redding, CA Mary Bridge Children's Hospital, Tacoma, WA Summit Pacific Medical Foundation, Elma, WA Y.M.C.A. of Pierce and Kitsap Counties, Tacoma, WA Regional Cancer Center, \$75,000 New Hospital Pledge Payment, \$525,000 Saving Lives Campaign, \$15,000 Pearl Street Family Y.M.C.A Pledge Payment, \$100,000



CULTURE \$150,000 IN GRANTS

Grand Cinema, Tacoma, WA Harbor History Museum, Gig Harbor, WA Historic Slavonian Hall Foundation, Tacoma, WA Seventh Street Theatre, Hoquiam, WA SAVE THE GRAND Campaign, \$80,000 Shenandoah Project Exhibits, \$25,000 Restoration and Preservation of Slavonian Hall, \$30,000 Front Façade & Alley Wall Restoration Project, \$15,000

ELDERLY \$23,652 IN GRANTS

Hospice of Humboldt, Eureka, CA Peninsula Senior Activity Center, Ocean Park, WA Support for IT and Equipment Upgrades, \$13,000 Flooring for Center's Addition, \$10,652



SOCIAL SERVICES \$1,278,395 IN GRANTS

Bryant Neighborhood Center, Tacoma, WA
Cispus Learning Center,
Four Way Community Foundation, Grants Pass, OR
GoodRoots Northwest, Buckley, WA
Habitat for Humanity, Tacoma/Pierce County, Tacoma, WA
Kitsap Humane Society, Silverdale, WA
Jefferson Community Foundation, Port Hadlock, WA
Living Opportunities, Medford, OR
Network Tacoma, Tacoma, WA
Salvation Army – Medford Citadel, Medford, OR
Tacoma Community House, Tacoma, WA
Tacoma Rescue Mission, Tacoma, WA
United Way of Kitsap County, Bremerton, WA
Caring f

Bathroom Remodel, \$30,000
Cispus ADA Sidewalks, \$14,580
Systems Review, Technical Assistance, \$8,000
Locker Rollout Expansion Project, \$48,065
na, WA
Building Hope Campaign, \$500,000
Feline Holding Kennels Replacement/Renovation, \$25,000
Building Strong & Collaborative Nonprofits, \$30,000
Establishing Headquarters, \$10,000
One Family at a Time: Venture Rehabilitation, \$15,000
Hope House Expansion, \$43,000
Enterprise resource planning (ERP) software system, \$15,000
Good Neighbor Village, \$500,000
David Foote Non-Profit Center HVAC unit, \$14,750
Community Breakfast Program, \$15,000
Caring for Young Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence, \$10,000



EDUCATION \$489,000 IN GRANTS

Assoc. of Fundraising Professionals South Sound, Tacoma, WA South Sound Philanthropy Conference, \$1,000 Candid, New York, NY Connecting Nonprofits to the Resources They Need to Thrive, \$2,000 Eagle Point School District, Eagle Point, OR 2024 Charley Givan Scholarships, \$15,000 Increasing STEM Interest & Aptitude for Students, \$25,000 Harbor WildWatch, Gig Harbor, WA 2024 NAO Conference, \$1,000 Nonprofit Association of Oregon, Portland, OR Investments in PLU's Science Education Facilities, \$300,000 Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA Playground Replacement Project, \$15,000 Saint Patrick Catholic School, Tacoma, WA South Bend Music Program, \$10,000 South Bend School Foundation, South Bend, WA Cheney Scholarship Program, 2024-2025, \$60,000 University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA Sports Enterprise Management Program, \$60,000 University of Washington - Tacoma, Tacoma, WA



BEN B. CHENEY HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP

\$99,000 IN 2024 SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the Ben B. Cheney Foundation provides a High School Athletic Scholarship to each of the 32 high schools in Pierce County plus one Scholarship for a student from South Bend, WA, where Ben Cheney attended high school.

In their own words:

Reflecting on my athletic journey, I learned the importance of resilience, adaptability, and perseverance. I am excited to see where soccer and sports medicine will take me, and I know I can make a positive impact in the world.

Being part of this football program has taught me more than I could have imagined. I've learned it takes an entire team to win a game. I've learned how to power through the highs and lows and to work hard even when things seem hopeless. Hard work, timeliness, attention to details, leadership... are a few of the lessons I'll take with me as I move forward.

I'm glad that I didn't give up on golf even after so much failure. Not only has participating developed my patience, humility, confidence, and time management skills, but it has also given me mentors I am unafraid to reach out to.

Schools: Annie Wright, Bellarmine, Bethel, Cascade Christian, Chief Leschi, Charles Wright, Clover Park, Curtis, Eatonville, Emerald Ridge, Fife, Foss, Franklin Pierce, Gig Harbor, Graham-Kapowsin, Lakes, Life Christian, Lincoln, Mt. Tahoma, Orting, Peninsula, Puyallup, Rogers, Silas, Sound Christian Academy, South Bend, Spanaway, Stadium, Steilacoom, Sumner, Washington, White River



2024 HOLIDAY GRANT PROGRAM

Each year since 1976, the Ben B. Cheney Foundation has made an end of the year donation to a handful of food banks in an effort to make the holidays brighter for individuals and families in our region. It is one of the two programs initiated by the Foundation in our first year of formal operations. Originally, three organizations received a gift of \$1,500 each. Since then, the number has risen to six partners receiving \$7,500 each. Today the food bank partners use the funds for dinners, and a variety of food items used by our diverse Pierce County population.

Holiday Grant Partners:
Nourish Tacoma, WA
Tacoma Rescue Mission, Tacoma, WA
Salvation Army Puyallup Valley Corps, Puyallup, WA
Salvation Army Tacoma Corps, Tacoma, WA
Emergency Food Network, Lakewood, WA
Gig Harbor Peninsula FISH, Gig Harbor



THE LATEST

Whether we're out and about in the community, attending a ribbon cutting, or celebrating a community partner's success, we want to share these moments with you and shine a spotlight on the hard work and dedication of those making a true impact in the regions we serve. Find these stories and updates on our website by clicking The Latest. Read about the groups making a difference in youth sports, healthcare, public safety, preserving history, and more.



North Mason Regional Fire Mobile Integrated Health Program, Belfair, WA



Medical Teams International's Mobile Health Clinic, Pierce County, WA



Staff at Saint Patrick Catholic School's playground ribbon cutting, Tacoma, WA



Evergreen Sports Complex Lights, Grants Pass, OR

Find more stories at BenBCheneyFoundation.org

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Ben B. Cheney Foundation Staff

Erika Tucci, Executive Director Jenette Warne, Program Officer

Ben B. Cheney Foundation

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