

2025

ANNUAL REPORT



THE GIBNEY
FAMILY
FOUNDATION

Prepared by:
Allison Rowley

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01. CEO Message

02. Vision, Mission, and Donor's Intent

03. Areas of Focus

04. Giving Statistics

05. 2025 Grants

06. Grantee Spotlight

07. 2025 Donations

08. Boards & Committees

09. TGFF Family

CEO MESSAGE

As we reflect on 2025, we are reminded that meaningful impact begins with listening. This year, we took an important step in that commitment through our Community Survey Report, designed to better understand the needs, challenges, and opportunities facing the organizations we serve. The insights gained are helping to guide our approach, ensuring that our grantmaking remains responsive, thoughtful, and aligned with those doing the work on the ground.

We are deeply grateful for the organizations we had the privilege to partner with this year. Your dedication, innovation, and unwavering commitment to your communities inspire us and strengthen the impact we can achieve together. We also extend our sincere appreciation to our family grant sponsors, whose engagement and generosity continue to drive our mission forward.

In 2025, our Foundation completed a comprehensive five-year strategic plan, providing both reflection on where we have been and clarity on where we are headed. As we look to the future, we are energized to embark on a new chapter shaped by a renewed focus on collaboration, intentionality, impact, and listening.

We believe solutions are strongest when developed together. We remain intentional in our governance and decision-making, guided by a clear mission and vision. And at the heart of it all, we will continue listening - to our partners, to the communities we serve, and to the next generation of leaders who will carry this work forward.

We are honored to be part of this shared effort and look forward to what we can accomplish together in the years ahead.

~Tracy Wasden, CEO



OUR VISION

Sustainable Solutions for Independence

OUR MISSION

Partnering with others to develop sustainable resources for organizations that foster independence, primarily for those who are blind and visually impaired.

DONOR'S INTENT

Al Gibney's concept of a Family Foundation is that of a simple organization of family members who can jointly do more for each other and for others than any of us can do alone; to give us as a family some simple focus shared by all so that when we are together we can enjoy the satisfaction of creating something for the benefit of others whom we know have been less fortunate in life than we.

AREAS OF FOCUS

Support for People with Visual Impairments

TGFF strives to empower individuals with visual impairments with independence, employment, and quality of life, which we strongly feel all should be able to enjoy. *A few areas we specifically support include: Adaptive Sports, Assistive Technology, Employment Readiness, Transitional Services, Programming, Mental Health Support, etc.*



Support for Families, Children & Adults

TGFF recognizes the importance of mental health, safe living conditions, food security, and other factors needed to support and strengthen families, adults, and children in our communities. *A few areas we specifically support include: Programming, Mental Health Support, Domestic Violence/Crisis Centers, Veterans, Food/Food Insecurity, etc.*



Support for People with Disabilities

TGFF helps organizations put smiles on faces and build confidence through adaptive recreation, leadership, and specialized programs that further independence. *A few areas we specifically support include: Social and Recreational Activities, Programming, Employment Readiness, Transitional Services, etc.*



GIVING STATISTICS

Total Amount
Awarded in 2025:

\$1,254,391

Number of Grants and Donations
Awarded in 2025:

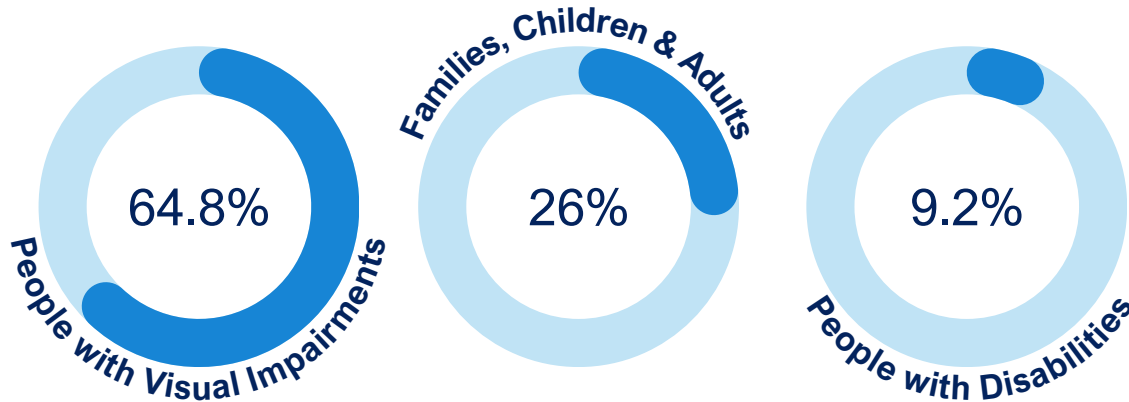
124

Number of Grants and Donations
Awarded to BVI Orgs:

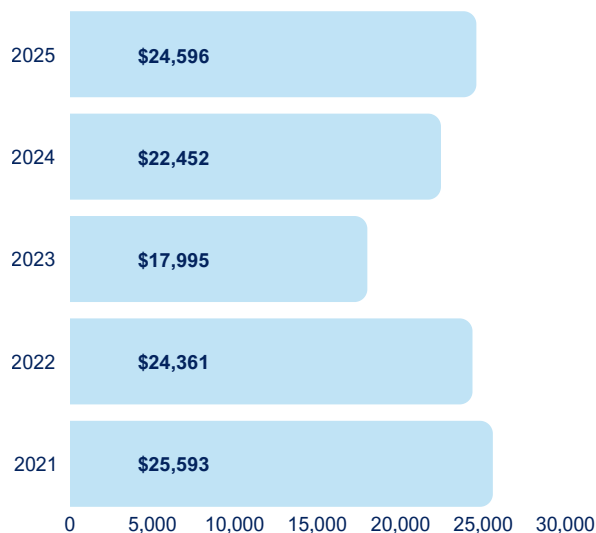
78

By Area of Focus

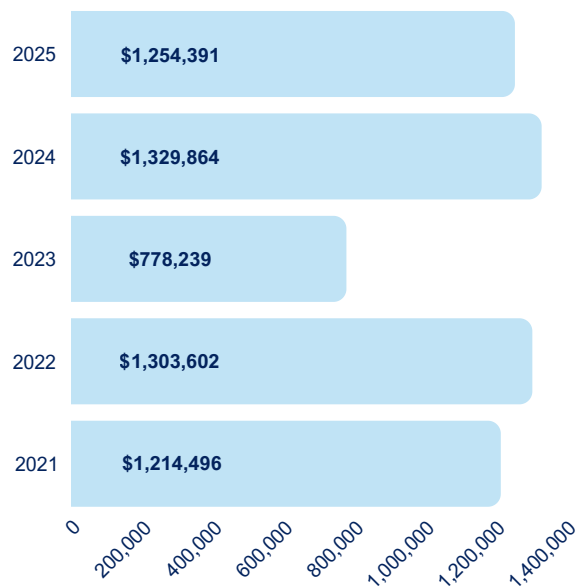
*Includes all Grants and Donations



Average Grant Size
*Grants only



Total Awarded By Year
*Includes all Grants and Donations



GRANTS

*Support for People with Visual Impairments

Adaptive Sports New England Inc. | \$5,000

Funding for travel expenses for the 2025 Boston Strong beep baseball team to attend the national championship tournament.

American Council of the Blind | \$25,000

Support to enhance the existing ADP website to provide easy access of audio description information for museums, National Park Service sites, performing arts venues, and TV listings.

American Printing House For The Blind Inc. | \$29,884

Enable members of the APH FamilyConnect Advisory Board to assess and improve upon new and ongoing APH programs, products, and services supporting children who are blind or low vision and their parents and families, as well as advancing parent leadership through the development of resources to empower participants attending local, regional, and state community conferences and/or events.

Blind Children's Center Inc. | \$35,000

Support for the salary and training of the dedicated Blind Children's Center TVI who will perform functional vision assessments, community outreach, and case management at their new CVI Multidisciplinary Clinic.

Blind Institute of Technology | \$25,000

Support to hire a full-time Digital Accessibility Project Lead to teach Digital Accessibility Analyst class and oversee the BIT apprentices working on accessibility projects.

ComMotion - Community in Motion | \$5,000

Funding to create audio description scripts for live instruction and instructional videos, movement reference sheets with Braille and tactile graphics, and 3D movement models for two ComMotion routines, to improve accessibility and increase engagement.

Computers for the Blind | \$25,000

Funding to provide 100 laptops to low-income families with a member with visual impairments.

Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired | \$40,000

Funds to purchase state-of-the-art equipment and staff support for a new Digital Content Creation class.

Dogs Inc. | \$15,000

Funding to support life-changing services for children and teens with vision loss with the placement of expertly trained guide and skilled companion dogs.

GRANTS

*Support for People with Visual Impairments Continued

Envision Dallas Lighthouse Foundation Inc. | \$25,000

Grant funding to support the cost of services, training, rehabilitation, and equipment needed for those with low vision.

Future in Sight | \$50,000

Enable FIS to strategically market and grow their Volunteer Program across New Hampshire to better serve the needs of individuals who are blind and visually impaired, affording them the independence they deserve and the desire to face their vision loss with confidence and dignity.

Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind Foundation Inc. | \$5,000

Funding to provide certified staff (TSBLV/O&M, certified nurse, and team) to work with the blind/low vision population at a summer BELL and Beyond Camp.

InTandem Cycling Inc. | \$5,000

Funding for the development, launch, and maintenance of a new website, improving reach and accessibility for the visually impaired community.

LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired - San Francisco | \$50,000

Funding for their Orientation and Mobility (O&M) programs to train people who are blind or have low vision to safely, independently, and confidently travel at home, in their neighborhoods, and throughout their communities and beyond.

MAB Community Services Inc. | \$49,568

Support for innovative adjustment to vision loss services, including clinical and related programs for older adults who experience difficulty adjusting to vision loss (e.g., depression, anxiety, and reduced independence).

National Ability Center | \$30,000

Funding to enable two groups from The Daring Sisters to take part in a 5-day trip to share tips, tricks, and resources for navigating outdoor recreation while living with visual impairments.

Northwest Association for Blind Athletes | \$50,000

Funds to support the expansion of their Sports Adaptation program which will provide equipment lending, consultations and educational videos for blind and visually impaired individuals across the nation.

Outdoors for All | \$34,000

Funding to enhance and expand adaptive recreation programs for individuals with visual impairments.

GRANTS

*Support for People with Visual Impairments Continued

Rutgers, The State University | \$25,000

Funding for the Eye2Eye Peer Support Program to develop an online training curriculum designed to prepare peer support specialists to deliver high-quality, person-centered support to individuals adjusting to vision loss.

Safe Toddles | \$10,000

Support to develop and test larger, ergonomically designed belt canes for older children with mobility visual impairments or blindness (MVI/B).

Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired | \$50,000

Funding for staff to visit 25 states to attend conferences and meet with students to facilitate connections between states, to recognize SAAVI's services as an approved provider.

The Carroll Center for the Blind | \$48,000

Year two of funding for an Employment Specialist who will implement a multifaceted approach that addresses both systemic challenges and individual empowerment to adults with disabilities to gain employment.

The Research Foundation for SUNY, The College at Brockport | \$30,000

Funding for Blind Tennis programming to eight Camp Abilities, write a Blind Tennis manual, develop a Blind Tennis assessment, and record Blind Tennis instructional videos to be used as resources for teachers, coaches, and families, as well as the United States Tennis Association (USTA) and USBTA websites.

University of New Hampshire - Wildcat Blind Sports Camp | \$28,750

Support to create a summer sports camp for visually impaired children and youth at the University of New Hampshire.

Utah School for the Deaf and Blind Education Foundation | \$30,000

Funding to provide new technology and assistive devices to blind students to aid in independent living skills.

Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired | \$30,000

Funding to offset the cost of a new website designed for accessibility and a new Apricot database.

Total Grant Funds: \$755,202

Total Number of BVI Grants: 26

UMASS BOSTON

Over the past two years, thanks to the generous support of The Gibney Family Foundation, the Vision Studies program at the University of Massachusetts Boston has made significant progress in expanding the nation's capacity to serve children with Cerebral/Cortical Visual Impairment (CVI) and Deafblindness. What began as an effort to support 38 practitioners ultimately grew to 46 educators representing 16 states, Puerto Rico, and Quebec, due to high demand.

Participants enrolled in either the CVI or Deafblindness graduate certificate completed rigorous, research-grounded coursework designed specifically for experienced professionals in the field who work with children with brain-based visual impairments or complex sensory profiles. These fully online programs allowed teachers to build advanced expertise while remaining active in their school communities, where they immediately applied new assessment and instructional strategies.

A key emphasis of the project was broadening access to high-quality preparation. Tuition support drastically reduced financial barriers, allowing practitioners who might never have pursued advanced study to engage in this work. As districts tighten their belts, funding for teacher professional development has been severely cut, often placing the onus back on teachers to pay. This puts graduate-level coursework out of reach for many teachers, impacting both students and teachers' ability to advance their careers, increasing the risk of teacher attrition and burnout.

In addition to coursework, participants took part in bi-monthly leadership development sessions aimed at preparing them to serve as resources in their districts and states. We anticipate all scholars will complete their program of study and be ready to lead improvements in practice, policy, and outcomes for students with CVI and Deafblindness across North America.

GRANTS

*Support for Families, Children and Adults

Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Association Inc. - CT Chapter | \$35,000

Funding for social engagement activities and support to those individuals living in the early stage of Alzheimer's disease or related dementia and to provide opportunities for these individuals to have a voice, impacting stigma and providing them with a sense of purpose and a place in the community.

Children's Center | \$12,500

Enable staff at Children's Center to attend monthly Staff Wellness Programs, without taking time off, to foster a sustainable, engaged, and more diverse workforce.

Committee on Temporary Shelter | \$25,000

Enable COTS to provide daily nutritious meals to an estimated 1,800 unique guests who visit.

FriendshipWorks Inc. | \$15,000

Funding to enhance volunteer education and preparation, to confidently fulfill their role and support the well-being of older adults.

Game Changers Idaho Inc. | \$12,000

Support for a Program Specialist to expand inclusive sports opportunities for children with disabilities.

Healing Meals Foundation Corporation | \$27,000

Enable Healing Meals to engage a Development Manager to build corporate relationships that are intended to lead to increased donations and grants.

HomeShare Vermont Inc. | \$20,000

Funding to execute a multi-platform marketing strategy to reach and inform more participants about HomeShare's services.

Hope Community Services Inc. | \$5,000

Support for vital transportation services that directly impact family reunification and stability, and the development of community-informed, trauma-responsive solutions that address root causes and build stronger families.

Idaho Youth Ranch Inc. | \$30,500

Support to provide pathways and services by Hays House and Idaho Youth Ranch to bring opportunities for increased stability in the lives of these at-risk youth.

GRANTS

*Support for Families, Children and Adults Continued

Minding Your Mind | \$35,000

Support to provide 65 mental health education and suicide prevention programs in Maine and Rhode Island.

Ralston House | \$10,000

Funding for Forensic Interviewing staff who provide specialized interviews of children who have been abused or witnessed a crime.

Shredders MTB Inc. | \$18,000

Support to build a tiered coaching system that ensures consistent, high-quality coaching for all youth participants, including those with special needs, behavioral challenges, or IEP accommodations.

Southern Outdoors Dreams | \$5,000

Funds to improve the accessibility of their River Retreat home to allow more use by veterans, heroes, and youth with disabilities.

The Refuge Utah | \$10,000

Enable The Refuge to offer weekly group counseling for adults who have experienced domestic violence or sexual assault, providing a supportive and confidential setting to process trauma, share experiences, and gain coping strategies.

Triumph Foundation | \$5,000

Funds to award their Keep Moving Forward (KMF) grants that remove immediate barriers to safety, mobility, and community living for people with spinal cord injury/disorder (SCI/D).

Valley Housing Coalition | \$4,100

TGFF grant funds will be used to pay for Valley House's annual subscription to Sumac, our client tracking and monitoring software.

Veterans Community Project | \$15,000

Funding to better support Veterans in transition to stable housing, including case management, life skills development, and mental health resources.

Total Grant Funds: \$284,100

Total Number of Grants for Families, Children and Adults: 18

GRANTS

*Support for People with Disabilities

East Coast Assistance Dogs Inc. | \$20,000

Funds to support the compensation of ECAD Service Dog Instructors.

Friends in Action | \$15,000

Support to hire a Program Director full-time to meet the demands of increased programming needs and to begin succession planning for the outgoing Executive Director.

Kids on the Move Inc. | \$15,000

Support for KOTM's Respite Care Program to provide safe, engaging, and supportive care for children with disabilities, giving families essential time to rest and recharge.

Partners for Youth with Disabilities | \$20,000

Funding to recruit youth and mentors to expand the number of mentor matches for youth who are blind/have low vision.

Special Kids Special Families Inc. | \$15,000

Funds to support low-income children at Zach's Place Program for children with developmental disabilities and high needs.

Wasatch Adaptive Sports | \$15,000

Funding to support participants through scholarships.

Zebra Crossings | \$10,000

Funding to support the growth of Camp Blue Sky, an overnight family camp for children with Down syndrome and their families.

Total Grant Funds: \$110,000

Total Number of Grants for People with Disabilities: 7

2025 DONATIONS



Achilles International - CT Chapter*, Adaptive Sports New England Inc*, Age Well Inc, Ainsley's Angels of America, Anchor Center for Blind Children*, Blind Travel Foundation*, Bridge II Sports Inc*, Camp Summit Inc, Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired*, Committee on Temporary Shelter, Exponent Philanthropy, FLUD Inc, Future in Sight*, Go Team Therapy Dogs, Guiding Eyes Outdoors Inc*, Healing Meals Foundation Corporation, Higher Ground USA Inc, Himalayan Cataract Project Inc*, HomeShare Vermont Inc, Idaho Youth Ranch Inc, Inspiration Golf Inc, InTandem Cycling Inc*, Loving Thunder Therapeutic Riding Inc, MAB Community Services Inc*, Miracle League of Connecticut Inc, National Braille Press*, National, Center for Family Philanthropy, New England Ski for Light*, Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany Inc*, Northwest Association for Blind Athletes*, Outdoors for All, Prescribed Pets AAT, Inc, Ride for Joy Therapeutic Riding Program, Inc*, Seedlings Braille Books for Children*, Ski for Light Inc*, Southern Arizona Association for the Visually Impaired*, Special Surfers, Spectrum Youth and Family Services, Strong Girls United Foundation, Sun Sounds Foundation*, The Refuge Utah, The Road Home, University of Massachusetts Foundation*, University of New Hampshire - Wildcat Blind Sports Camp*, US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants Inc, Utah School for the Deaf and Blind Education Foundation*, Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports*, Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired*, Vermont Lions Charities Inc*, VisionServe Alliance*, Visually Impaired Preschool Services*, Warm Springs Care Farms Inc, Wasatch Adaptive Sports Inc.

*Denotes a donation to a project or organization supporting the blind and visually impaired.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Members

Joan Whittaker, Founding Member
Sue Young, Founding Member
Frank Gibney, Founding Member
Tracy Wasden
Sue DiFatta
Rob Whittaker



Staff

Tracy Wasden, CEO
Sue DiFatta, COO, Corporate Secretary
Mallory Bair, Grant Manager
Brian DiFatta, Treasurer
Molly Whittaker, Logistics Coordinator
Allison Rowley, Publication and Design Specialist
Riley DiFatta, Family News Correspondent

Directors

Ken Wasden, Board Chairman
Celeste Beazer
Jennifer Boyd
Brian DiFatta
Natalie Hansen
Rob Samsel
Molly Whittaker



BOARDS & COMMITTEES



Grant Officers

Mallory Bair - Grant Manager
Hayden DiFatta
Sue DiFatta
Frank Gibney
Natalie Hansen
Madi Reid
Allison Rowley
Dillan Rowley
Nathan Wasden
Tracy Wasden

Investment Committee

Jennifer Boyd
Brian DiFatta
Sue DiFatta
Frank Gibney
Tracy Wasden
Chris Whittaker
Stan Young



TGFF FAMILY

1st Generation & Founder

Albert Gibney

2nd Generation & Founding Members*

Chris and Joan Whittaker*

Stan and Sue Young*

Frank Gibney* and Diane Muhr

3rd Generation

Jerry and Jennifer Boyd

Ken and Tracy Wasden

Jim and Adria Kolsen

Rob and Molly Whittaker

Brian and Sue DiFatta

Rob and Joyana Samsel

Todd Young

Andrew and Lisa Young



4th Generation

Age 18+

Jackson and Celeste Beazer

Mason Summers

Cache and Aubrey Summers

Chris and Natalie Hansen

Tate and Mallory Bair

Brayden and Ashlyn Weeks

Tyler Samsel

Bailey Dyson

Dillan and Allison Rowley

Justin and Madison Reid

Ryan Sumsion

Nathan and Kendra Wasden

Beau and Amber Bernard

Dean and Lillian Fields

Ethan and Mary Sumsion

Brooke Jensen

Hayden DiFatta

Riley DiFatta

Heidi Young

Gwen Young

Dane Jensen

Adyson Young

Logan DiFatta

