

## The Richard & Virginia White Educational Fund

This year, the Tillamook Bay Community College (TBCC) Foundation was gifted \$773,000 from the family estate of Richard and Virginia White—the largest single donation in the Foundation’s history. As artists, supporters of education, and Tillamook locals, Richard and Virginia wanted this generous gift to have a lasting impact on the community.

Richard White grew up in Tillamook on McCormick Loop and attended South Prairie School when it was an all-grades school. He graduated from high school there, joined the Navy, and then came home to work and save money for college. An artist at heart, Richard was also a passionate cartoonist and submitted some of his cartoons to the Headlight Herald. When he had saved enough money, Richard went on to enroll at Lewis & Clark College.

Donna Kaser, Richard’s sister and trustee of the White Family Estate, recalled when Richard left for college, “We couldn’t wait for him to come home. He had a dog that would lie out on the street waiting, sometimes two or three days at a time.” She also remembers Richard’s passion as an artist and how that passion connected him with his wife, Virginia.

“They met at Lewis & Clark, they were both studying art, and



*Pictured: Richard and Virginia White*

married before they graduated,” said Donna. Richard taught Virginia how to draw cartoon characters, and in 1964, they traveled to the World’s Fair in New York from their home in San Diego, drawing along the way. Richard also designed stamps, did glassblowing, and made dummies as a hobby. “He was such a creative man; he could do anything and could always find a way to fix or make something.”

While there was no community college in Tillamook when he was growing up, education was always important to Richard, and this value was also shared by Virginia. “When [he] passed, the trust was split, and his half was always meant for TBCC. He felt it was something he would like the college to have, something to help students,” Donna said.

The TBCC Foundation will honor Richard and Virginia White’s generosity by using this remarkable gift to strengthen opportunities for local students for years to come. “We are deeply grateful for the White family’s belief in our mission,” said Britta Lawrence, the Executive Director of the TBCC Foundation. “This incredible gift will open doors for generations of TBCC students.”

The funds will support scholarships for TBCC students and open doors for learners in Tillamook County, ensuring that Richard and Virginia’s passion for education and the community continues to shape futures.

## Remembering Van Moe

"Patsy and I remember Van Moe as a man who believed that availability of higher education was a key element to the success of our community. Van was a member of the Northwest Regional Economic Team who believed that economic development and education were partners in the success of our community. He worked with State Senator, Betsy Johnson continuously to promote TBCC. The opportunity for local citizens to better their lives was ingrained in Van.

As the owner of Radio Stations KTEL and KMBD, Van Moe was a strong advocate for Tillamook Bay Community College. With the help of Mildred Davy, the two of them took every opportunity to promote the college as a gem for Tillamook County. Mildred Davy hosted the show "It's a Women's World" every weekday and TBCC was a topic on the show several times each month.

In 1997 Van was instrumental in creating the Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation to support the college and its mission. Van was a founding member of the Foundation and from that day on he believed TBCC was very important to Tillamook.

At Van's insistence, the Mildred Davy Endowed Scholarship, was established in 2002. With the help and support of generous donors, \$25,000 was raised; the minimum investment for all TBCC Foundation endowments. The Mildred Davy Luncheon was created that same year, and the scholarship was awarded for the first time. The Foundation has since grown to its present level, with over \$2 million dollars in

endowed scholarship funds.

When the college decided to put a bond measure on the ballot in 2007 to build a new campus Van was at the forefront of getting the bond measure passed, which it did. In 2010 Van was proud to see the new campus on Third Street open for students, and we now have a beautiful, wonderful campus that serves Tillamook County citizens. All people in Tillamook County can get a higher education right here without leaving the area. Van was the main reason I joined the Foundation Board in 2008.

A lot of the success of TBCC dates to Van Moe. His strong support for the college will be remembered. Thank You Van Moe."

- Chris & Patsy Weber  
Former TBCC Foundation Board Member 2008-2025

"Van was such an icon in Tillamook County. I always felt so lucky to have him on the Foundation board. He was passionate about Tillamook County students having a local opportunity to learn skills, advance themselves, and earn a degree. He never missed an opportunity to advocate for the college. Many families and civic groups chose to start scholarships and to support the Foundation because of him. Like Chris and Patsy said, he was also instrumental in passing that first bond to build the main college building. We all have much to thank him for when we look at how far this community college has come. Much of it came through a connection with Van Moe."

- Heidi Luquette  
Former Executive Director of Advancement and TBCC Foundation 2014-2023



*Pictured: Van and Joyce Moe*

## Your Generosity Makes A Difference

Dear Benjamin G. Nunez,

Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the Benjamin G. Nunez and Priscilla Gleason Nunez Endowed Scholarship. I truly appreciate your generosity and support it has made a big difference in my ability to focus on school without worrying so much about financial stress.

Attending Tillamook Bay Community College has been a life-changing experience for me. This scholarship is helping me stay on track with my studies and continue working toward my goals. Your kindness is not only a source of financial support, but also a reminder that there are people who believe in students like me.

Thank you again for your generous gift. I'm excited for the future and hope to give back to my community just as you have.

Sincerely,

TBCC Foundation Scholarship Recipient

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## Season of Giving Campaign Update

This past winter, we launched our Season of Giving campaign with a goal of raising \$25,000 in support of the Career-to-Career (C2C) Scholarship Program at Tillamook Bay Community College. We invited our community to join us in giving the gift of education by pledging \$25 a month for 7 months—an investment in brighter futures and a stronger community.

While we didn't reach our full goal, we are incredibly proud and grateful for the generosity of our community. Your contributions to the Career-to-Career scholarship program have made a meaningful impact and brought us more than halfway to our target, raising a total of \$13,000!

Your support of the C2C Program has empowered students to pursue and achieve their career goals and created opportunities for Tillamook County residents to enhance their skills and improve their lives

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed. Your commitment to education and community transformation is inspiring. Your generosity fuels the mission of the TBCC Foundation and helps us continue to provide quality, accessible education to all.

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## How to Make a Donation

If you would like to make a donation to support a scholarship, program, student emergency funds, adult literacy, or other area of need, please contact the Foundation office. We are happy to talk with you and consider ways you can work with the TBCC Foundation to support higher education in Tillamook County. You can reach us in whichever way works best for you.

**Make a Donation Online** Visit [tillamookbaycc.edu](https://tillamookbaycc.edu). Click foundation at top of page Click 'donate now' button or scan this QR code



**Visit:** 4301 Third Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

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## A Message from TBCC's President

Dear Friends and Supporters of Tillamook Bay Community College,

As we move through the summer months, I find myself reflecting on both the challenges and the opportunities that lie ahead for TBCC. These are times of uncertainty in higher education, and yet, they are also times of resilience, community, and renewed purpose.

At the federal level, impacts on the Department of Education have reduced its capacity to oversee civil rights protections, administer student aid, and support rural programs. This has created new hurdles for institutions like ours. Funding freezes have disrupted key grants, threatened English-language learning programs that support our migrant community, and impacted many vital programs for K-12 students throughout our county. Policy shifts have also stripped away protections for some of our most vulnerable students, many from low-income or first-generation families who already face steep barriers to success.

At the same time, state-level discussions about budget priorities remain unsettled. While there is hope for targeted investments in mental health, workforce training, and rural education, there is also pressure to tighten spending. The state budget allocation to community colleges is approximately 6% less than that needed to maintain current service levels. These realities remind us that public policy can both enable and restrict opportunity, and that those who live in rural areas often feel the effects most acutely.

These changes are not abstract. They are real. They touch the lives of our students every day: students who are the first in their families to attend college, students who juggle work, family, and school, and students who have long fought to feel like they belong. For so many of our students, the obstacles are even steeper now.

And yet, even in the face of these challenges, I remain hopeful and this is because of you.

Your support through the TBCC Foundation has been a lifeline. When federal aid is delayed or denied, your generosity ensures students can stay enrolled. When grants disappear, you help us keep vital programs running. When our most vulnerable students feel uncertain about their future, you remind them they are seen, valued, and supported. You have helped fund emergency grants for families in crisis, supported students when their access to financial aid is limited, and supported TBCC so that we can support ALL students. In so many ways, your gifts bridge the gap between what policy provides and what our students truly need.

I also find hope in the resilience of our college community. Faculty and staff continue creating new pathways to living-wage careers, adapting to a changing landscape with creativity and care. Our local partners are stepping up to advocate for education at TBCC. And every day, we see the power of education reflected in the determination of our students; whether they're earning a GED, completing a certificate, or transferring to pursue their

dreams.

Yes, these are challenging times. But they are also a reminder of why we exist – to open doors, to build opportunity, and to change lives. And with your continued partnership, that is exactly what we will keep doing.

Thank you for believing in TBCC, in our students, and in the promise and power of education. Together, we will persevere, and together, we will create a brighter future for Tillamook County.

With much gratitude and hope,

Dr. Paul Jarrell, TBCC President



*Pictured: Dr. Paul Jarrell, TBCC President*

## ROCCS: 1,500 miles, 17 Community Colleges, 50 Days, 1 goal



*Pictured: Senator Suzanne Weber, Dr. Paul Jarrell, TBCC President, and Dr. Tim Cook, Clackamas Community College President*

The Running for Oregon Community College Students (ROCCS) campaign is a statewide awareness and fundraising initiative to highlight the challenges facing today's students and to advocate for increased state funding for essential support services. Funds raised through ROCCS will be distributed directly to participating colleges to support students' basic needs, such as food, housing, childcare and transportation.

Community college students represent some of the most vulnerable populations in the state. A survey from The Hope Center highlights the pressing needs of Oregon's community college students:

- **Food insecurity:** Approximately 41% of students reported experiencing food insecurity within the previous 30 days.
- **Housing insecurity:** About 52% of students faced housing insecurity in the past year, which includes difficulties such as affording rent, utilities, or frequent moves.
- **Homelessness:** Nearly 20% of students experienced homelessness in the past year, indicating a lack of stable and safe housing.

You can make a donation to support students' basic needs by using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/mp79u47x>

## Simple Ways to Make a Planned Gift

**BARBUR  
LAW<sub>LLC</sub>**

1. Make a bequest in your estate plan. A will or living trust benefits you and your family and can easily include a bequest to an organization you wish to support.

Work with a qualified attorney to include working in your will or trust such as:

"I give and bequeath the Tillamook Bay Community College Foundation, Tax ID 93-1232961, located in Tillamook, Oregon 97141, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars OR \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate OR the follow described property: \_\_\_\_\_."

2. Name the TBCC Foundation as a beneficiary of your investment account, retirement plan, or life insurance policy.

3. Set up a charitable remainder trust. Use cash, stock, or real estate to fund a charitable gift annuity to receive fixed and guaranteed income during your lifetime and tax benefits upon your death.

4. Lifetime gifting. Sometimes it makes sense for your estate plan to make a charitable gift during your lifetime. Be sure to check with your legal and tax experts before making any significant gifts.

## Join Us for a Free Planned Giving Workshop at TBCC

Barbur Law, LLC is partnering with the TBCC Foundation this fall to host a free **Planned Giving Workshop**—a unique opportunity to learn how you can make a lasting impact through thoughtful estate and charitable planning. Whether you're just beginning to think about your estate plans or you're ready to explore how charitable giving can align with your values, this workshop will provide practical tools, expert insights, and personalized guidance.

**Who Should Attend?** Anyone interested in estate planning, charitable giving, or learning how to make informed decisions about their financial future.

**Fall 2025 – Lookout for your official invitation!** Don't miss this opportunity to take control of your future and give back in meaningful ways. **We look forward to seeing you there!**

**1000 N Main Avenue, Suite 7, Tillamook, OR 97141 (503)842-2553**

*This list is for information purposes only, and not intended to be legal advice. Seek qualified legal and financial counsel before taking any steps above.*

## Alumni Highlight: Maria Leos

Obtaining a GED and continuing her education had always been a dream for Maria Leos. When she moved to Tillamook in 1989, it was among the many goals she set for herself and her family. Born in Mexico and raised in the U.S. from the age of seven, Maria's story is one of resilience. She raised five children on her own while keeping her educational dreams alive. After an on-the-job injury left her unemployed, she saw it as the opportunity to fulfill a long-standing promise—to go back to school.

Maria began her GED journey at Tillamook Bay Community College by tackling math first. Drawn to its simplicity from childhood, where "two plus two" had always made sense, but algebra and geometry posed new challenges. She admits she might have quit if not for GED instructor Judy Palamores. Judy offered patient, one-on-one support, ensuring Maria grasped each concept until she passed her exams. Instructor Robert Potestio also played a key role, especially in helping her learn to write essays. "He gave me every single essay he had in his box," she said. "He made up stories just to help me learn." Their

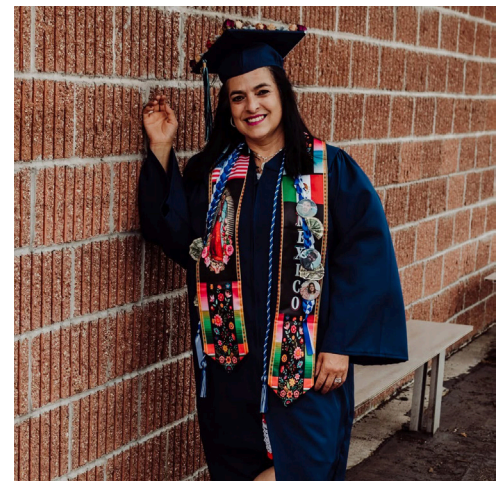
encouragement helped turn her doubt into motivation.

"TBCC provided not only the materials I needed but the personal support I never had before," Maria shared. Tutors like Nikole Clark made a lasting impact, meeting her where she was. At age 51, Maria received her GED and walked across the graduation stage in June 2024.

Inspired to continue, she enrolled in TBCC's phlebotomy program. Her passion for healthcare was reignited while caring for her father. "He passed thinking I was his nurse," she said. "That moment made me realize I had to go for it."

Balancing school, work, and family was difficult, but with support from instructor Jodi Richardson and continued encouragement from Judy and Robert, Maria persevered. "Judy and Robert were my cheerleaders," she said. "Jodi even let me practice my first blood draws on her. I did it successfully the first time. For her to trust me, that meant the world." She graduated again in June 2025 with her Phlebotomy certificate.

Maria describes the support she received at Tillamook Bay Community College as nothing short of life changing. "TBCC made me feel so welcomed. Everybody, the staff, the teachers, from the moment I walked in here, make me feel like I'm part of the family." Now, Maria dreams of becoming a traveling phlebotomist with the Red Cross. But more than anything, she wants to inspire others to follow their dreams of receiving an education—from young people to older adults who think it's too late. "Don't let anyone tell you that you can't. If you have dreams, chase them!"



*Pictured: Maria Leos*

*Interested in sharing your alumni story with us? Email us at: [alumni@tillamookbaycc.edu](mailto:alumni@tillamookbaycc.edu)*

## Alumni and Friends Program

*TBCC Alumni and Friends Program connects our alumni with the College, current students, industry, and other alumni. Connections like these make our current students, alumni, and our community stronger and more successful.*

Our Alumni have:

- Taken college courses – one or many
- Received a certificate or degree
- Received a GED, ELA
- Continuing-education classes
- Professional development training

Our Friends are:

Family members that have utilized TBCC resources through a college event (presentation, social events, arts or cultural exhibit or performance). They are employees or community members that love TBCC!

*For more information, visit: [tillamookbaycc.edu/alumni](https://tillamookbaycc.edu/alumni)*





# 2024 Giving Circle Members

## Legacy Society

American Association of University Women	Hampton Lumber	Near Space Corporation	Robert Riggert Family Foundation
Dr. Paul & Carolyn Betlinski	Dale Harmer	Benjamin Nunez	Roundhouse Foundation
J.M. Brown	Hummingfrog Fund	Oregon Community Foundation	Spirit Mountain Community Fund
Columbia Pacific Economic Development District	James F. & Marion L. Miller Foundation	Denny & Chris Pastega	Janet Stahl
Esther Milne Living Memorial	Ruth & Kathy Jensen	Pelican Brewing Company	The Nunez Living Trust
Fauna-June Fauth	Juan Young Trust	Judson Randall	Tillamook County
The Ford Family Foundation	Kiwanis Club of Tillamook	Bob & Alicia Reed	Tillamook County Creamery Association
Helen Gienger	Loren E. Parks Trust	Reser Family Foundation	TLC, a Division of Fibre Federal Credit Union
CHS Foundation	Mario and Alma Pastega Family Foundation	Janet Riedel	Patsy & Chris Weber
Connie & Randy Green	Mildred Davy	Robert J. and Leona DeArmond Foundation	

## Executive Circle

Donald & Sylvia Burk	Margaret Ogle	Tillamook Masonic Lodge No. 57 AF & AM
Cheryl Davy	John & Marilyn Rigterink	Ivy & Ronald Timpe

## President's Circle

Tom & Shannon Atchison	Tom Lackaff	Angelica Ortiz	Tillamook County Master Gardener Association
Barbur Law, LLC	Laurie Lamb	Marilyn Phegley	Tillamook People's Utility District
Ann Batchelder	Britta & Dane Lawrence	Michael Randall	Ross & Joanne Tomlin
Kathleen Blevins	Les Schwab Tire Center	Martha Rhea	Jerry & Sally Underwood
Chuck Bridge	Stephanie Lewis	Marilyn Roossinck	Michael Weissenfluh
Paul Daniels	Van & Joyce Moe	Rotary Club of Tillamook	Eileen & Jim White
Grocery Outlet	Nesko Women's Club	Pat Ryan	Doug Wright & Susan Lynch
Lorraine Hallman	Netarts Community Club Charities	John Sandusky	Walter Yungen
Nathalie Heger	Oceanside Community Club	Bonnie Schroeder	
Sally Jackson	Robert & Carolyn Ollikainen	Tillamook Coast Visitors Association	
Paul Jarrell			

### PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

**\$250 – \$4,999**

Renewed annually

### EXECUTIVE CIRCLE

**\$5,000 – \$24,999**

At least once within a three-year period

### LEGACY SOCIETY

Donors who have contributed **\$25,000** in their lifetime or have included the TBCC Foundation in their Estate Plan

The TBCC Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit. Tax ID# 93-1232961. TBCC invests all endowments with our investment management partner: The Oregon Community Foundation [www.oregoncf.org](http://www.oregoncf.org).

# Don't Miss Out, Save the Date!

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration  
*OCTOBER 2025*

Mildred Davy Event  
*OCTOBER 17, 2025*

Healthcare Education Building  
*OPENING LATE 2025*

North Coast Throwdown  
*SPRING 2026*

Giving Circles Appreciation Event  
*APRIL 2026*

TBCC Open House  
*APRIL 2026*

Commencement  
*JUNE 13, 2026*

*Save the Date*  
*October 17, 2025*

*Mildred Davy Scholarship*  
*Recognition Event*



4301 Third Street, Tillamook, OR 97141

The Foundation's purpose is to engage the entire community and increase the level of philanthropic support for student scholarships and the growth, innovation, and overall fiscal strength of Tillamook Bay Community College.

TBCC Foundation Board Members: Ann Batchelder, Dr. Paul Betlinski, Chuck Bridge, Cheryl Davy, Dawn Mendez, Marilyn Phegley, Marilyn Roossinck, and Michael Weissenfluh.