



PRESS RELEASE

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Community Health Trust awarded \$2 million from Yield Giving

[Watsonville, California – March 19, 2024] Today, MacKenzie Scott's Yield Giving announced the Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley as one of the Yield Giving Open Call's awardees working with people and in places experiencing the greatest need in the United States. The Community Health Trust received \$2 million.

Facing poverty and other challenges, Pajaro Valley residents suffer high rates of chronic illness and are twice as likely to be enrolled in government food programs. The [Community Health Trust](#) is addressing community health needs by providing resources to empower people to make lifestyle changes that help them live longer and fuller lives. Although the Community Health Trust manages several [endowments](#) that support the organization's programs, those funds cover only about a third of the organization's annual expenditures. Additional revenue from donations, grants, and fundraising events are critical in providing financial stability and the continuation of services.

The Yield Giving award will support the Community Health Trust's mission of fostering a healthy and equitable community for all in the Pajaro Valley. The [Diabetes Health Center](#) has been open for 25 years and newer initiatives include a [produce prescription program](#), [new community gardens](#), [free exercise classes](#), and a drop-in [mental health center for youth](#) in Watsonville. The Community Health Trust also awards [grants to community-based](#)

[organizations](#) serving the Pajaro Valley and [scholarships to students](#) seeking careers in healthcare.

"We are so incredibly grateful to be recognized on a national level for our work," said DeAndre' James, Executive Director of the Community Health Trust. "If you focus on doing good things for the right reasons, the money will follow."

In March 2023, Yield Giving launched an Open Call for community-led, community-focused organizations whose explicit purpose is to enable individuals and families to achieve substantive improvement in their well-being through foundational resources.

The Open Call received 6,353 applications and initially planned for 250 awards of \$1 million each. In the Fall of 2023, organizations top-rated by their peers advanced to a second round of review by an external Evaluation Panel recruited for experience relevant to this cause, and underwent a final round of due diligence. In light of the incredible work of these organizations, as judged by their peers and external panelists, the donor team decided to expand the awardee pool and the award amount.

"We are excited that our partnership with Yield Giving has resonated with so many organizations," said Cecilia Conrad, CEO of Lever for Change. "In a world teeming with potential and talent, the Open Call has given us an opportunity to identify, uplift, and empower transformative organizations that often remain unseen."

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Community Health Trust of Pajaro Valley: The Community Health Trust has focused on health equity in the Pajaro Valley for 25 years. The organization's Diabetes Health Center was established in 1998 in response to an overwhelming number of patients seeking emergency care for uncontrolled diabetes. Today, the Community Health Trust's strategic direction focuses on health equity and wellness through the promotion of activities and lifestyle choices that prevent illness and improve quality of life. The organization

prioritizes the elimination of health disparities for low-income individuals and others in need in the Pajaro Valley. Learn more at pvhealthtrust.org/.

Yield Giving: Established by MacKenzie Scott to share a financial fortune created through the effort of countless people, Yield Giving is named after a belief in adding value by giving up control. To date, Yield's network of staff and advisors has yielded over \$16,500,000,000 to 1,900+ non-profit teams to use as they see fit for the benefit of others. To learn more, visit www.yieldgiving.com.

Lever for Change: Lever for Change connects donors with bold solutions to the world's biggest problems—including issues like racial inequity, gender inequality, lack of access to economic opportunity, and climate change. Using an inclusive, equitable model and due diligence process, Lever for Change creates customized challenges and other tailored funding opportunities. Top-ranked teams and challenge finalists become members of the Bold Solutions Network—a growing global network that helps secure additional funding, amplify members' impact, and accelerate social change. Founded in 2019 as a nonprofit affiliate of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Lever for Change has influenced over \$1.7 billion in grants to date and provided support to more than 145 organizations. To learn more, visit www.leverforchange.org.