





Partners, Colleagues and Friends,

I am proud to share with you The Russell Family Foundation's 2019 Year in Review.

Our 20th year in operation, 2019 was a year of transition with the departure of our longtime CEO, but also one of continued commitment to many people, places and partners we've collaborated with over the past two decades. Alongside TRFF, our grantees, fellows and community partners have remained steadfast in our shared commitments to meaningful change. We are inspired by their dedication and are enthusiastic about what's to come.

In this review, you will find highlights of the community-centered change and place-based efforts we are honored to support throughout the region. It is the stories of individuals and communities impacted for the better that remind us what this work is all about. We also encourage you to watch the recently debuted ["Our Story" film series](#) that further captures TRFF's vision and impact over the past 20 years.

As we reflect on our past successes, we must also look to build on lessons learned and continue to reach for impactful solutions for a more peaceful and sustainable region.

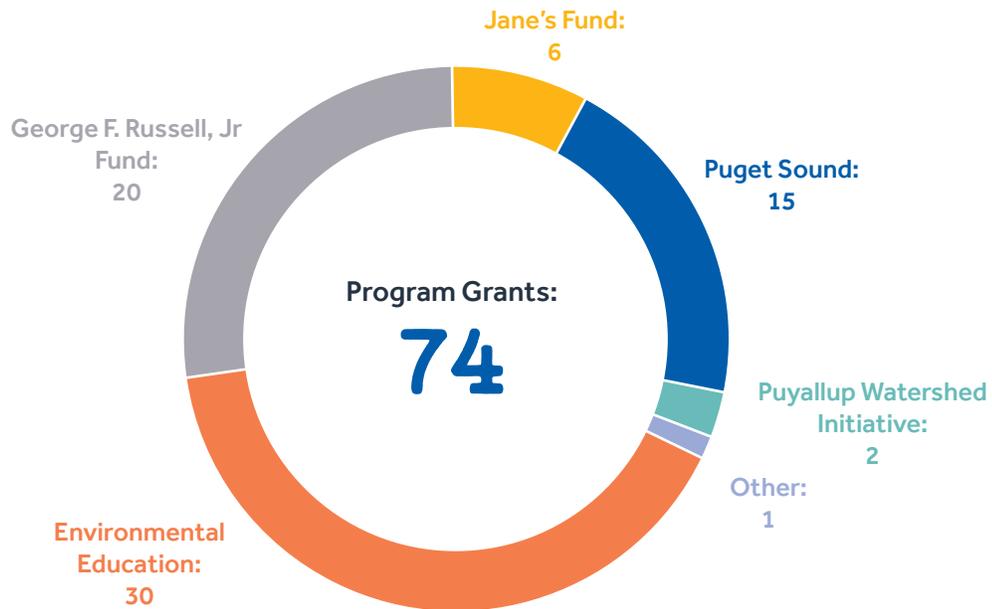
Thank you for partnering with TRFF in this work and in sharing a vision of sustainability and peace for our world.

In gratitude,

**Kathleen Simpson, CPA, CGMA**

Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Executive Officer

# 2019 BY THE NUMBERS



**10** GRANTEES PROVIDED WITH TARGETED CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT

**12** GRASSROOTS LEADERS ENGAGED IN JANE'S FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM CLASS 8

**75** TOTAL NUMBER OF JANE'S FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM GRADUATES

Total Impact Investments:  
**\$124,142,038**  
OR 83.8% OF PORTFOLIO (AN INCREASE OF 11.6%)

Salish Sea Collective:  
**20 ORGANIZATIONS CONVENED TOGETHER 5 TIMES TO FORM 1 REGION-WIDE COLLABORATION FOR CHANGE**

# STORIES OF COMMUNITY IMPACT

## JANE'S FUND



### Empowering Pierce County youth with education, scholarships, housing and basic needs.

With a \$50,000 grant from TRFF, Palmer Scholars continued supporting students of color to overcome financial, cultural, and social barriers in their pursuit of higher education. Palmer Scholars employs a "Whole Scholar" model, which extends beyond financial scholarships with supports including college readiness training, mentoring, dorm room kits with bedding and school supplies and visits from Palmer staff.



*"Education is the primary means through which we achieve upward social mobility. It is imperative that we provide all students with access and the supports needed to succeed."*

— Jonathan Jackson, Executive Director, Palmer Scholars, Jane's Fellowship Program Graduate

## JANE'S FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



### Developing grassroots leaders poised to impact Pierce County communities.

Class 8 Jane's Fellows embarked on journeys of self-exploration and discovery, including a fellow-designed three-day retreat engaging with White Center Community Development Association on systemic issues impacting communities and grassroots leaders. The group also met with residents of Camp Second Chance, a shelter for homeless individuals in White Center featured in Class 8 Fellow Melinda Raebyne's documentary *Stories of Us: Camp Second Chance*.



*"During my JFP experience, I've rediscovered what it takes to design a bold vision and make it a reality. Every leader has a true north, a direction unique to their values, mission and vision. JFP taught me how to appreciate the 'true north' of ten beautiful individuals and my own."*

— Filiva'a "Bojie" Mageo III, Class 8 Jane's Fellow

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION



### Creating access to outdoor education and engaging the next generation of environmental stewards.

With a \$20,000 grant from TRFF, the Nisqually Tribe was able to purchase kayaks and develop programming for its Nisqually Environmental Teen Team. NET teaches youth about shoreline habitats, getting them out on the water to experience the environment and help with clean-up activities, including one project at McAllister Creek, to preserve the health of this vital source of salmon and water.



*"Getting our youth outdoors and active, cleaning up the McAllister Creek area, was a highlight of our 2019 summer youth activities. We are so happy to see this Nisqually Environmental Team teen program underway - the long-term health of our salmon, and our Nisqually homeland, depends on youth involvement, now and forever."*

— Willie Frank, Nisqually Tribal Council Member

## PUGET SOUND



### Protecting and restoring Puget Sound for present and future generations.

With a \$100,000 grant to the Latino Community Fund of Washington, a fiscal sponsor of Front and Centered, TRFF funded the work and vision of the Salish Sea Collective, a membership-based coalition of 20 environmental sustainability and social justice organizations, all organized around the importance of equity, water quality and the health of the Salish Sea and its communities.



*"Recovering Puget Sound is about people. We want future generations to experience the vibrant salmon runs and thriving orcas that are fundamental to our rich cultural and regional identities."*

— Mindy Roberts, Puget Sound Director, Washington Environmental Council, Salish Sea Collective Member

## PUYALLUP WATERSHED INITIATIVE



### Launching the largest place-based effort uniting community around the health of the Puyallup Watershed and its people.

With a \$1,585,000 grant from TRFF in 2019, the Puyallup Watershed Initiative expanded its capacity at staffing, board and operational levels to be more responsive to Communities of Interest (COIs) and their members' input. This new capacity is helping COIs dig deeper into the social and environmental conditions that shape our region, especially around their six areas of interest: active transportation, agriculture, environmental education, forests, just and healthy food systems and stormwater.



*"We envision the Puyallup watershed as a thriving natural and social environment where all people can participate, prosper and reach their full potential."*

— Jennifer Chang, Executive Director, PWI

## GEORGE F. RUSSELL, JR. FUND



### Tackling disparities and emphasizing community building and family-first initiatives.

With a grant from the George F. Russell, Jr. Fund, Communities in Schools of Peninsula's partnerships and case management connected 424 students with community-centered resources, helping 92% of those students increase attendance, 88% better navigate their coursework and 75% improve their behaviors.



*"I am so thankful for Communities in Schools of Peninsula. They helped me find the resources that I needed and supported me every step of the way."*

— Kayci Guiberson, CISP Student and Henderson Bay High School Graduate

## IMPACT INVESTING



### Investing with purpose for a more sustainable and equitable region and world.

With the help of a \$250,000 loan guaranty from TRFF, Forterra and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group purchased a 297-acre property at Big Beef Creek along the Hood Canal. A hub of biodiversity and once home to University of Washington fishery research labs, Forterra's acquisition will preserve the site for conservation and environmental program purposes.



*"Big Beef Creek provides critical spawning and rearing habitat to our region's salmon. Stewarding our region's most precious resources—its communities and its ecosystems—is at the core of what Forterra does. The purchase of Big Beef Creek was a major milestone and a conservation win."*

— Michelle Connor, President & CEO, Forterra

## SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT



### Pursuing opportunities to support work at the nexus of multiple interest areas.

A grant of \$150,000 to RAIN Incubator, a life science innovation hub in Tacoma, helped to provide accessible, hands-on educational experiences for Tacoma's students. This special opportunity grant aligned with multiple TRFF program and interest areas of education, leadership development and entrepreneurialism.



*"RAIN believes in hands-on education and training for our community's students. When we foster community investment in young people, giving them space to learn, invent, and innovate, they become active contributors to helping solve collective problems and generate the solutions of tomorrow."*

— David Hirschberg, PhD, Founder, RAIN Incubator

THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD, STAFF AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
FOR A TREMENDOUS YEAR.