

StewardAG

FOUNDATION

IMPACT REPORT 2023 & 2024



Welcome

Steward Ag Foundation IMPACT REPORT 2023 & 2024

We are pleased to present this report that outlines the Steward Ag Foundation progress towards meeting our mission to honor the integrity of the California farm worker by providing scholarships for their children, allowing them to transform their lives by pursuing higher education. This report highlights our fundraising events, donations, donors and our student scholarship program.

We want to express our deep gratitude to our generous donors, committed friends and valued partners who believe in our mission in making a difference in the lives of students and their farm worker families. We sincerely appreciate large donations from the Gesner-Johnson Family Foundation, the Ron D. Kline Foundation and Ann Kraemer.

OUR TEAM

Steward Ag Foundation 2023 - 2024 Board of Directors

Kevin Steward
President

Carlos Castaneda
Vice President

Lori Steward
Secretary

Rocio Castaneda
Board Member

Yvonne Sams
Board Member

Scholarship Committee

Kevin Steward
Vineyard manager, retired

Lori Steward
High School Teacher, retired

Richard Schmidig
*High School Career Tech
Teacher & Principal, retired*

Pam Knapp
*College & Career Readiness
Director SJCCE, retired*

Event Committee

Pam Knapp | Cameo King | Ronda Christensen | Stephanie Hitchcock | Lori Steward

Document was created by Jazmin Cauffield

Our board is excited to announce plans for an endowment initiative set to launch in 2025. More details and information to be shared in the coming year.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Agriculture has been in our lives since we both were young, through 4-H livestock projects and family farm experience with sheep, poultry and horses. We met in college where we were both pursuing agriculture majors and we began our married life living on a working cattle operation in central California. Lori navigated her way to a wonderful career teaching agriscience in high school and serving youth as an FFA advisor. After changing schools she walked into a new program called AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) where she learned how to prepare students, especially first generation students, to be ready for the rigor of university education. She especially enjoyed working closely with her Latino students and families. After almost 15 years in the cattle industry, Kevin began his new vocation in viticulture serving in Vineyard Management for Trinchero Family Estates. He spent the rest of his career working with thousands of farm workers in and around the vineyards. This premium relationship with his fellow coworkers and their families created his vision to create this foundation to reward the proud and hardworking culture that is the backbone of the agriculture industry.



Since our respective retirements in 2021 & 2022, we have devoted all of our energy and time to raising money for our student scholarships. It has been both a fun and challenging journey, learning how to secure a website, how to use PayPal for online and in-person ticket sales and donations, organizing fundraising events and establishing new relationships in the non-profit organization world. The most rewarding experience so far was traveling throughout California last spring to meet and interview our first batch of scholarship applicants and their families. We met them in their homes, at local coffee shops, libraries, and schools and we were able to navigate our conversations in both English and Spanish. Watching their honest gratitude expressed in tears of joy, as we awarded them each a scholarship, was humbling and so incredibly fulfilling, knowing that a scholarship could give them a breath of fresh air and validation in securing their place at the college of their choice.

We are excited for this next scholarship cycle! We thank you for your support and we welcome new partners to help us accomplish our mission of making a positive difference in the lives of farmworker families and their students.

Kevin & Lori Steward

FINANCIAL REPORT

2023

TOTAL REVENUE ~ \$86,590

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DONATIONS ~ \$70,450

AUGUST 2023 *SALUD TO SCHOLARSHIPS* EVENT ~ \$16,140

2024

TOTAL REVENUE ~ \$88,945

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DONATIONS ~ \$60,730
(other than events)

MAY 2024 *SPRING INTO SCHOLARSHIPS* EVENT ~ \$8,300

AUGUST 2024 *SALUD TO SCHOLARSHIPS* EVENT ~ \$19,915

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED ~ \$ 49,000

NO SALARIES ARE PAID TO OFFICERS OR STAFF OF THE FOUNDATION

EVENTS & DONORS

August 11, 2023 - *Salud To Scholarships*

Our first fundraising event was held at Klinker Brick Winery, Lodi, CA. Our special thanks to owners Lori and Steve Felten who graciously donated their winery and brick patio for our event. Each ticket buyer was given a token Steward Ag Foundation wine glass to enjoy the Klinker Brick wines. Delicious tacos, quesadillas, ceviche, tornitos and salsas were enjoyed as patrons purchased raffle tickets and bid on silent auction items. Special thanks to our friend Ronda for help setting up and to Cameo and Natana for working the registration table.

Thank you also to friends who donated and purchased items, and to the following business donations:

Silt Winery

Heringer Estates Winery

Terra d' Oro Winery

Sobon Vineyards

Lopez Ag Services

Kapahi French Macaroons

Bien Nacido Wines

Three Stix Wines

Head High Wines

Klinker Brick Winery

Burroughs Family Farms

Lawrence Knapp Law

Andis Wines

Yorba Wines

Ilisley Vineyards

Kevin Schinke Jewelers

Crane Assembly Wines

Grand Island Vineyards



May 4, 2024 - *Spring Into Scholarships*

This was a catered dinner held at the Steward home in Walnut Grove, CA. Space was limited to 80 guests due to the size of the venue inside the barn. Grilled rib eye steak and shrimp scampi dinner was prepared and served by Blodgett Catering of Escalon. Program included happy hour and appetizers, student speaker, dinner followed by outdoor entertainment.

Special thanks to wine donated by:

Silt Winery
Dillian Winery
Terra d'Oro Winery
Klinker Brick Winery

Special thanks also to the table sponsors from:

Martin Livestock
Kristi & Jack Dalton
North Delta Wildlife Conservancy

Lopez Ag Services
Koket Resort
Anderson Farms

Steve Quashnik
McCormack Farms
Todd Hirtel



August 2, 2024 - *Salud To Scholarships*

Our second annual event took place again at Klinker Brick Winery in Lodi. Two of our recent student scholarship winners spoke on behalf of the foundation. We provided personalized wine glasses to each ticket holder and served authentic Mexican food while participants bought raffle tickets and silent auction items. Special thanks to our event committee who helped secure most the items for the raffle and silent auction and for their help setting up, running the auction and for cleaning up. Thanks also to friends and businesses who donated items and to Clutch Brake Exchange for making our personalized foundation metal coasters.

Terra d'Oro Winery
Cindy Stearns Gifts
Waterloo Restaurant
Yosemite Farm Credit
Shenandoah Vineyards
Kapahi French Macaroons

Silt Winery
Woodbridge Crossing
Clutch Brake Exchange
Ilsley Vineyards
Bien Nacido Wine
Generation Growers

McSparren Auto Glass
Fiore's Floral & Gifts
Honest Fish Farm
Sobon Estates
Bogle Winery
Beyond Pots & Pans

Luxury in Home Personal Wine Tasting Experience by Stephanie Hitchcock
Luxury in Home Personal Wine Tasting Experience by Libby Schreiber



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Linden, CA

January 1st to May 10th	Scholarship Application available online
January to April	Visit schools, counselors, migrant ed family meetings to publicize scholarship as well as post flyers & signs in stores
May 10th	Scholarship Application closes at midnight
May 11th	Begin reviewing scholarship documents
May 15th	Scholarship Committee meets to review scholarships
May 16th	Begin contacting students to schedule interviews
May 20th to June 2nd	Student Interviews & Presentation of Scholarship Checks
June 12th	Mail Press Release to Steward Ag Foundation mailing list

PRESS RELEASE

The Steward AG Foundation Awards \$49,000 in Student Scholarships

The Steward AG Foundation is proud to announce the awarding of \$49,000 in college scholarships to fifteen deserving students. The mission of the Steward AG Foundation is to honor the integrity of the California farm worker by providing scholarships for their children, allowing them to transform their lives by pursuing higher education.

Scholarships are offered to recent high school graduates and current college students. Students may be pursuing career technical training, community college or university education in any major or focus area. The Steward AG Foundation board selects recipients who have demonstrated participation and achievements across multiple domains. These include a personal essay describing their educational plan and career goals, official transcript that verifies a 2.5 minimum gpa, letter of recommendation describing their character and work ethic, resume documenting work, activities and accomplishments, proof of college/program acceptance or current enrollment, and a copy of a pay stub verifying parent employment in agriculture. These scholarships were made possible through generous donations from friends and personal contacts in the agriculture community and education liaisons. The Foundation welcomes online donations on the Steward AG Foundation website: stewardagfoundation.org as well as checks mailed directly to the Foundation. Patrons may also give at Foundation sponsored live fundraising activities through the purchase of event tickets, silent auction items and on-site raffle tickets. All events are posted on the Steward AG Foundation website.

This inaugural year, seven four-year scholarships were awarded to recent high school graduates attending either a University of California or California State University campus, five two-year scholarships were awarded to recent high school students attending California community college, one scholarship was awarded to a current student attending Modesto Junior College and two scholarships were awarded to two students who have recently completed their second year of university education.

2024 High School Graduates attending Four-Year University - \$3,500 each

Fatima Alfaro, Thornton, Delta HS, UC Irvine, Criminology, Law & Society Stephanie Altamirano, Stockton, Linden HS, Sonoma State University, Education Cindy Arreola, Walnut Grove, Delta HS, San Jose State University, Public Health Anisa Gonzalez, Lodi, St. Mary's HS, San Francisco State University, Kinesiology Gabriel Guzman, Stockton, Linden HS, UC Irvine, Computer Science Francisco Herrera Cruz, Stockton, Linden HS, Fresno State University, Civil Engineering Angela Vargas, Courtland, Delta HS, Fresno State University, Architecture

2024 High School Graduates attending Community College - \$2,000 each

Jocelyn Aparicio, Fillmore, Fillmore HS, Ventura College, Education Emily Gutierrez, Stockton, Franklin HS, San Joaquin Delta College, Graphic Design Carina Gonzalez, Stockton, Venture Academy, San Joaquin Delta College, Health Sci Jasmin Gonzalez, Stockton, Venture Academy, San Joaquin Delta College, Business Carolina Martinez Perez, Hollister, Hollister HS, Gavilan College, Health Science*

Current Community College Student - \$2,500

Brianna Gonzalez, Isleton, Modesto Jr. College, IGETC Animal Science/Pre-Vet

Current Four-Year University Students

Samantha Zavala, Ione, Pacific Oaks College, BS Early Childhood Education - \$7,500

Pedro Medina Alvarez, Walnut Grove, Sacramento State University, Kinesiology, \$5,000

Our 2024 Scholarship Recipients

Clarksburg, CA



Hollister, CA



Clements, CA



Walnut Grove, CA



Walnut Grove, CA



Walnut Grove, CA



Fillmore, CA



Walnut Grove, CA



Lodi, CA



HOW CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

DONATE

Make a Financial Contribution, either one time or recurring at
stewardagfoundation.org

Donate Raffle Items or Auction Items for our events. Contact us at
info@stewardagfoundation.org



SPONSOR

Sponsor a - Fundraising Event

- Event facility/location
- Event equipment (*tables, chairs, tents*)
- Event drinks, food or dessert
- Publicity: (*glassware, bags, napkins, signs, shirts*)

Email us at info@stewardagfoundation.org or call **916-812-1933**

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer at one of our events or join a committee

Email us at info@stewardagfoundation.org or call **916-812-1933**

SAVE THESE DATES EVENTS 2025

Saturday May 17th, 2025 - Spring Into Scholarships, 5-9pm
Catered Dinner at the Steward Residence, Barn & outdoor patio
Walnut Grove, CA



Friday August 8th, 2025 - Salud To Scholarships, 6-9pm
Mexican style dinner, Raffle Tickets and Auction Items for purchase
Klinker Brick Winery, Lodi, CA



***Tickets will be available for purchase on www.stewardagfoundation.org
website or by mail starting end of February 2025