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Cal Poly Humboldt
Foundation
Annual Report and
Campaign Report
2023-24



Dear Friends of Cal Poly Humboldt,

The Cal Poly Humboldt Foundation proudly presents the 2023-24 Foundation Annual Report and Boldly Rising Campaign Report, exhibiting your invaluable support in building a strong footing for future growth and success at Cal Poly Humboldt.

Over the last four years, generous donors like you have played a vital role in helping Cal Poly Humboldt successfully complete its first comprehensive fundraising campaign, "Boldly Rising: The Campaign for Cal Poly Humboldt." Thanks to your incredible generosity and support, the University surpassed the \$50 million goal one full year early, raising more than \$59 million. Thank you to all 10,743 of you who donated.

From the very start, the campaign has ignited a rise in scholarships and endowments, while also playing a crucial role in developing new student programs and resources. Alongside the historic \$468 million state funding to establish Humboldt as the newest polytechnic university in the California State University system, the funds raised for Boldly Rising have decisively supported this exciting growth, including new Athletics programs, the research at the newly established Pacific Offshore Wind Consortium, the growth of the Nursing program, Humboldt First scholarships, funds for Art & Film, among many others.

Your dedication to Cal Poly Humboldt has sparked exciting opportunities, and we deeply appreciate your partnership throughout this journey.

With gratitude,

Robin Smith '78
Chair, Cal Poly Humboldt Foundation

Dan Phillips '91
Chair, Boldly Rising Campaign Cabinet

Mark Johnson
Acting Vice President, University Advancement
Executive Director, Cal Poly Humboldt Foundation



Robin Smith



Dan Phillips



Mark Johnson

Cal Poly Humboldt Foundation

The Cal Poly Humboldt Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that exists to support and advance the purpose of Cal Poly Humboldt by securing private support, developing and managing entrepreneurial activities, overseeing philanthropic activities, and managing endowed and other assets as requested by the University.

Foundation Board 2023-24

Robin Smith '78, Chair

Jack McGurk '66, Vice Chair

Jason Carlson, Treasurer

Frank Whitlatch, Executive Director & Secretary

Tom Jackson, Jr., Cal Poly Humboldt President

Eden Donahue '09, '10, Faculty Representative

Jordan Kemme, Student Representative

Carla Ho'a, University CFO as Staff Representative

Philip Anton '98

Ken Fulgham '70

Scott Hunt

Carin Kaltschmidt '90

Jennifer Keller

Robin Quigley '11

BOLDLY RISING

The Campaign for Cal Poly Humboldt

In October 2022, the Cal Poly Humboldt Foundation and the Campaign Cabinet publicly launched Humboldt's first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign. **Boldly Rising: The Campaign for Cal Poly Humboldt** builds on the momentum of Humboldt's polytechnic designation. The campaign prioritizes scholarships and other financial support for students, hands-on learning and applied research, new and emerging technology throughout the curriculum, enhancement of academic programs, and creation of more equitable communities.

Campaign Cabinet

Dan Phillips '91, Chair

Philip Anton '98, Vice Chair

Carin Kaltschmidt '90, Vice Chair

Jack McGurk '66, Vice Chair

John Ballard '80

Ed Bowler '79

Sherie Cornish Gordon

Ceva Courtemanche '07

Jacob Furgatch '82

Jenny Harris

Tom Jackson, Jr., Cal Poly Humboldt President

Amine Khechfé, Parent

Robert Miller '85

Rebecca Pardoe '93

Barbara Perry-Lorek, Parent

Robin Quigley '11

Sharon Redd

Dan Sealy '75

Robin Venuti '79

Frank Whitlatch

Cal Poly Humboldt FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

The 2023-24 fiscal year showed a dramatic increase in philanthropic giving to Cal Poly Humboldt. The month of May 2024 alone saw over \$4.8 million in gifts and pledges.

Thank you!

Total Raised
\$17.3 Million

Average Gift Size
\$1,496

Individual Donors
4,996

New Donors
2,044

Alumni Donors
2,118

**Donor-funded
Scholarships Awarded**
801

**Endowment as of
June 30, 2024**
\$44 Million

**Endowment
Distribution in 2024**
\$1.86 Million

Total Number of Gifts
11,559

Giving Day 2024

Cal Poly Humboldt Giving Day is a 24-hour fundraising campaign that brings faculty, staff, alumni, donors, friends, and family together in support of our students. Giving Day is held on the first Wednesday of April to commemorate Cal Poly Humboldt's first-ever classes, held the first week of April 1914.

Total Donors
1,405

Total Raised
\$325,259

Funds Supported
126



BOLDLY RISING

The Campaign for Cal Poly Humboldt

Charting a Bold Future: The Transformative Journey of Cal Poly Humboldt

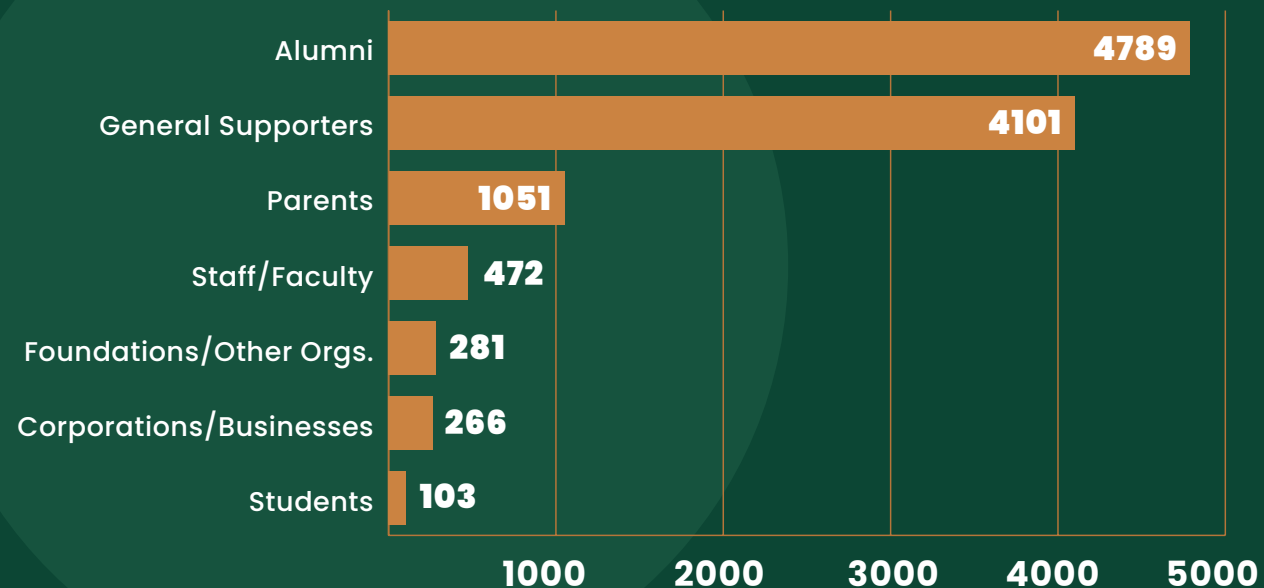
In 2020, before proudly becoming the first polytechnic university in Northern California and only the third in the California State University system, Cal Poly Humboldt set an ambitious goal: to raise \$50 million and chart a new course for the future. Thanks to donors, the University achieved its goal, expanded emergency housing, funded the campus food pantry, and created essential programs that help students navigate unexpected challenges.

Over **275** donors gave **\$10,000** or more, and the average gift during the Campaign was **four times higher** than the average during the years leading up to it.

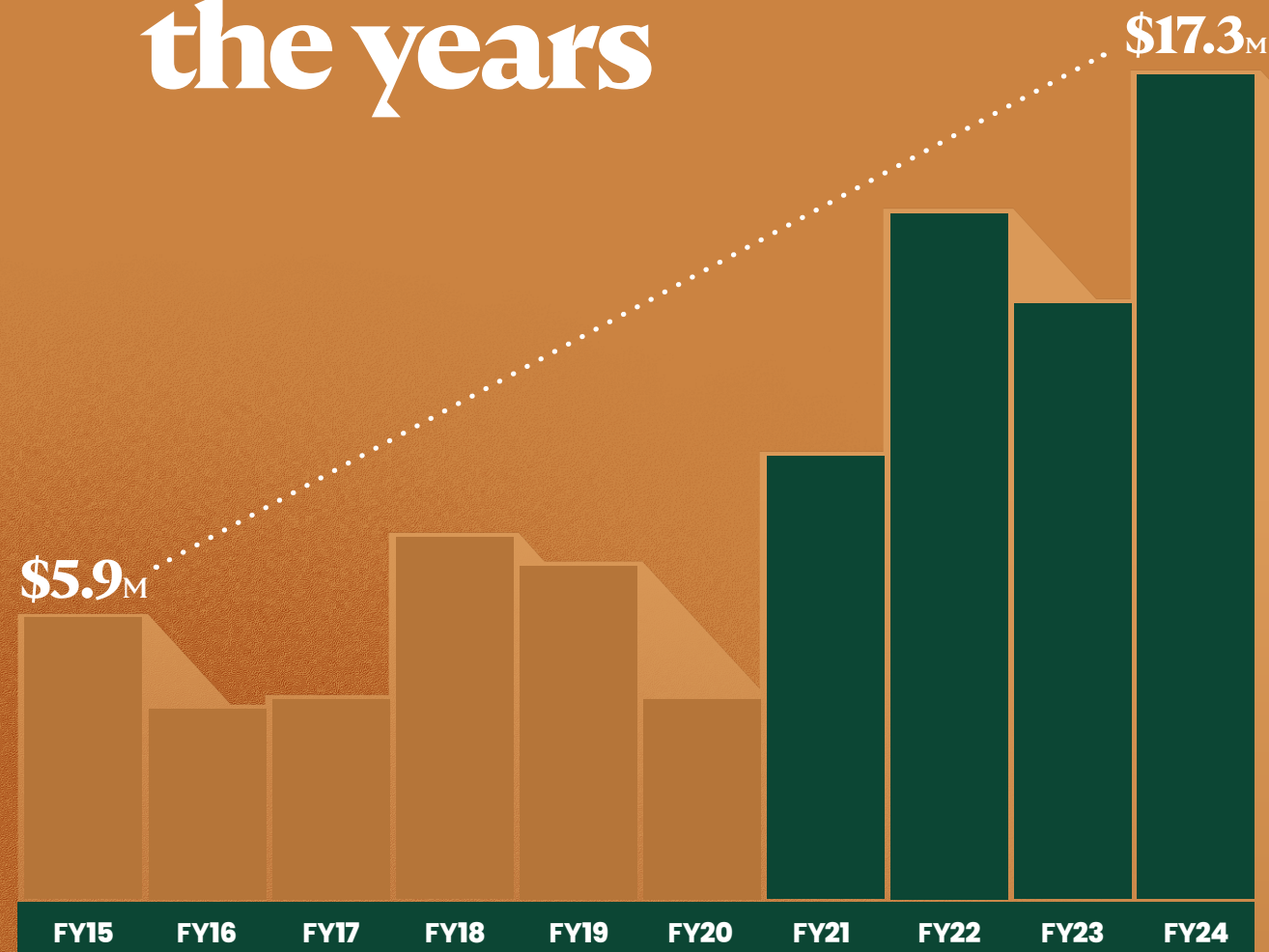
Donors range in age from **18-102**

Age 53 is our most common aged donor

DONOR COUNT BY TYPE

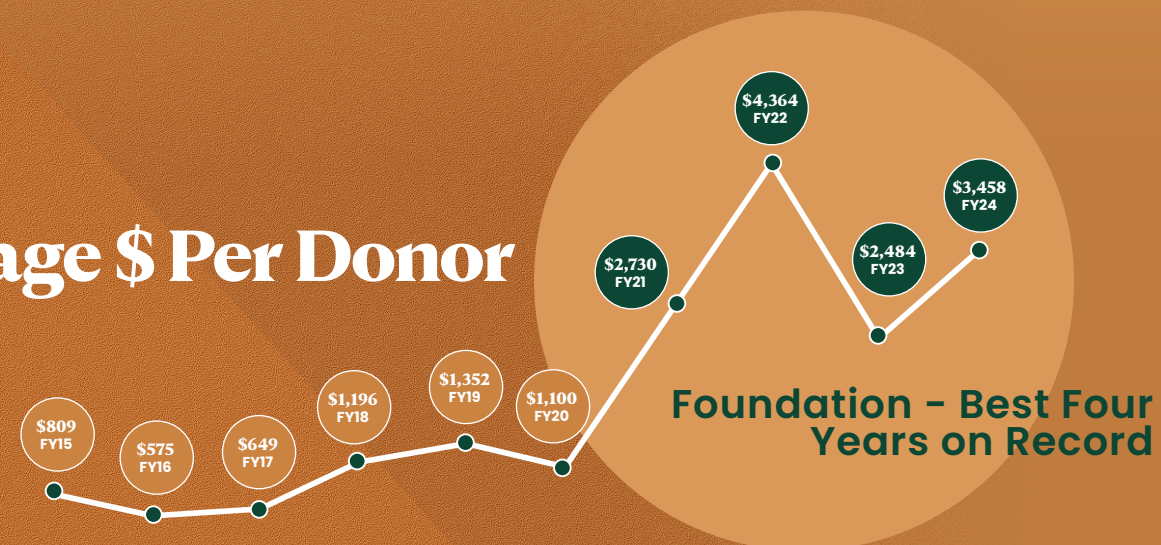


Giving through the years



Boldly Rising Campaign

Average \$ Per Donor



Foundation - Best Four Years on Record

BOLDLY RISING

The Campaign for Cal Poly Humboldt

Thanks to generous donors like you, we doubled the campaign goal to \$50M and still ended a year early, raising over \$59M.

Total Raised
\$59,037,848

Average Gift Size
\$1,226

Individual Donors
10,743

New Donors
5,532

**Total Number
of Gifts**
44,723



**Donor-funded scholarships
increased from**
508 to 801

Funds Supported
653

316
Corporate & Foundation gifts
totaling \$15.9 Million

1913 Legacy Society

The 1913 Legacy Society is made up of donors who have designated Humboldt in their estate plans and whose generosity will support a bolder future for generations. Over the course of the campaign 72 donors committed a total of \$21.4 million in planned gifts.

Looking Ahead

Donor support is truly transforming the Cal Poly Humboldt student experience. The generosity shown since the Boldly Rising Campaign started has already led to the four highest years of donor support in our University's history, showcasing the deep commitment of alumni, parents, friends, and community members. As Humboldt continues this bold journey, ongoing donor support will be essential to advancing the University's ambitious vision and empowering students to thrive for generations to come.

How Generosity Shaped A Bolder Future

Generous gifts have forged new scholarships, enriched existing ones, and unlocked a world of research and internship opportunities, hands-on experiences, specialized equipment, athletics, and beyond. This journey toward a bolder future began four years ago, and today, the progress is evident across the campus community. Here are a few examples of giving across campus.

Investing In Futures and Helping Local Students Thrive

Cal Poly Humboldt believes that access to education is essential for meaningful change. Early in the campaign, generous donors raised \$250,000 for the Humboldt First Scholarship, which offers up to \$4,000 to local high school graduates from Humboldt, Del Norte, Mendocino, or Trinity counties who enroll at Humboldt. The goal is to empower North Coast students to pursue four-year degrees while staying close to home. Transfer students from College of the Redwoods are also eligible.

Furthering this commitment, Dan ('91, Business and Computer Information Systems) and Cindy Phillips donated \$1 million to support Southern Humboldt graduates at Cal Poly Humboldt. Inspired by their generosity, Sherman Shapiro ('86, Environmental Systems) established a similar endowment, in the amount of \$400,000, for graduates of McKinleyville and Eureka high schools, together fostering future leaders and expanding educational access.



Researching Power for the Future of the Pacific Coast

Cal Poly Humboldt has launched the Pacific Offshore Wind Consortium (POWC) to enhance its focus on environmental and social responsibility and to help develop the workforce. The initiative has raised over \$1.6 million from donors, along with \$12 million in state and grant funding.

This is a joint effort between Cal Poly Humboldt's Schatz Energy Research Center, the Pacific Marine Energy Center at Oregon State University, and the Center for Coastal Marine Sciences at Cal Poly San Luis

Obispo. Each institution contributes specialized knowledge in environmental monitoring, interdisciplinary research, and technical evaluations of offshore wind.

"We are coming together as a consortium because we know we need to take bold action to address climate change, and offshore wind has the potential to play an important role," says Arne Jacobson, director of the Schatz Center.

Uniting to Build A Resilient North Coast Nursing Workforce

Cal Poly Humboldt is focused on improving the health of the North Coast community through its Nursing program.

Donors, including Providence St. Joseph Hospital Eureka, Sutter Coast Hospital, and the Humboldt Area Foundation's Orvamae Emmerson Endowment Fund, with the help of state funding championed by California State Senator and President Pro Tempore Mike McGuire, helped the University launch the RN to BSN program in Fall 2020. The mostly online program helps prepare nurses for leadership roles while allowing them to continue to work in the community.

"We are truly grateful for donors stepping up and making a major investment in advancing educational opportunities in our nursing workforce," McGuire says.

Several Nursing Scholarships have been created. Jack McGurk ('66, Biology) donated over \$100,000 to the Diana M. McGurk Memorial Scholarship Endowment. Robin Smith ('78, Nursing) gave \$150,000 for an endowed nursing scholarship, while Jacob Furgatch ('82, Nursing) committed \$100,000 for the Eden Rubio Furgatch Memorial Scholarship. Eden ('09, Nursing) and Michelle Donahue also contributed \$25,000 to the Donahue Joseph Scholarship Endowment.



CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

Library Special Collections Endowment received over **\$500,000** in funding

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

Over **\$200,000** donated to the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences' John S. and Lona B. Edwards Visiting Artist Endowment

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

Library Fund received **314** gifts

Driving the Growth of Humboldt Athletics

Donor support has significantly enhanced Cal Poly Humboldt sports teams like Women's Rowing and Men's Wrestling, benefiting student-athletes and their programs.

A \$250,000 gift from retired Women's Rowing Coach Robin Meiggs ('89, Physical Education) and her husband Scott Heller—alongside over \$25,000 from alumni and community members—established the Robin A. Meiggs Scholarship for Women's Rowing athletes. Heller noted the scholarship will positively impact student-athletes for years. This funding contributed to the team winning their third national championship in 2023.

The revival of Cal Poly Humboldt's NCAA Division II Men's Wrestling program was also made possible through contributions from dedicated alumni, including \$10,000 from Tom Jones ('74, Physical Education), \$50,000 from Virgil Moorehead ('83, Education) and Craig Vejvoda ('80, Business Administration), and over \$300,000 from Dan Phillips ('91, Business and Computer Information Systems).



CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

Humboldt's first endowed professorship and a new student research program were created in Psychology
Dr. David R. Shaffer Endowed Professorship

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

193 gifts to the Music Department Benefit Program totaling over **\$167,000**

Supporting Independent Student Filmmakers

The student-run Humboldt International Film Festival (HIFF) has leveraged Cal Poly Humboldt's commitment to experiential learning, allowing students to gain invaluable hands-on experience and actively engage in the intricacies of running a film festival.

David Phillips ('69, Theatre Arts) donated over \$50,000 to create the David Phillips and Don McKenzie Humboldt International Film Festival Endowment in memory of his friend and fellow filmmaker, Don McKenzie ('69, Theatre, Film & Dance).

"I'm thrilled the Humboldt International Film Festival is still strong today. I needed to support this program financially so more students can have the real, hands-on experience of having their films screened in a public setting with a live audience," Phillips says.



CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

Native American Studies received **761** gifts during the campaign

CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

Library Textbooks on Reserve: Over **\$23,000** from **88** different gifts

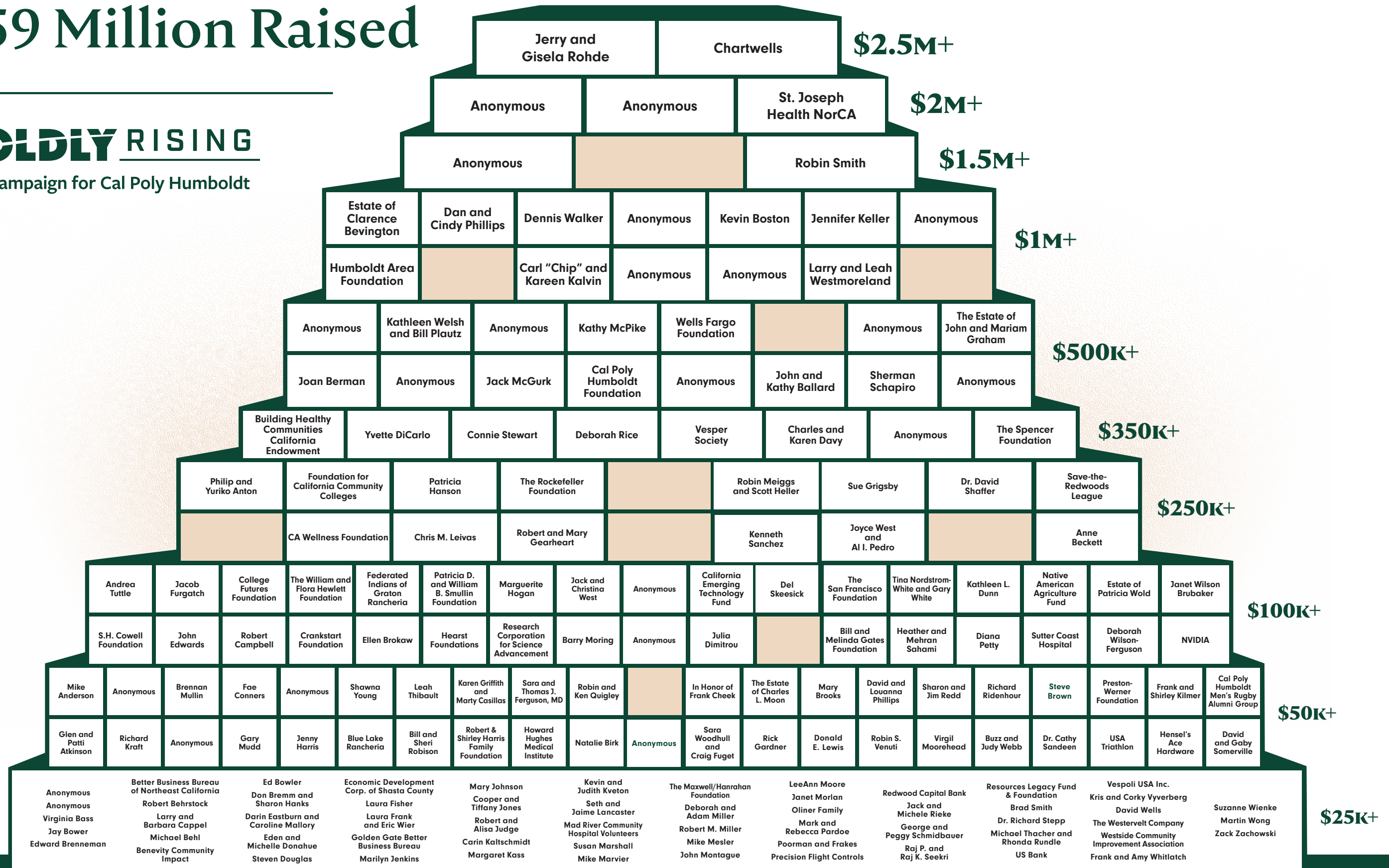
CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

CNRS giving totaled **\$14.2M** including **\$6.8M** in planned gifts

\$59 Million Raised

BOLDLY RISING

The Campaign for Cal Poly Humboldt



Cal Poly
Humboldt.

**We are Cal Poly Humboldt.
This is our time.**

Rise with us.

Give online at giving.humboldt.edu



**Cal Poly Humboldt
Foundation**

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