



LINCOLN DYNAMIC  
FOUNDATION

# Annual Report

2022





# Our Mission

Lincoln Dynamic Foundation seeks to collaborate with our community in a way that co-creates positive change, to help empower and educate people within their living systems, regenerating a healthier future for children and the planet.

## Our Pillars

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- Youth Empowerment & Education
- Community Enhancement
- Environmental Sustainability

## Team

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Johnny Lincoln, Ph.D.  
*President*

Bethany Lincoln  
*Founder*

Kat Klehm  
*Executive Director*

Ciara Garden  
*Social Media and Marketing Coordinator*

Ceylan Ozdemir, CFA  
*Investment and Finance Director*

Wanessa Roham  
*Senior Accountant*



## Message from our Founders

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It's unbelievable that it has already been six years since the creation of The Lincoln Dynamic Foundation. In retrospect, the foundation has grown with a velocity that we could not have envisioned, owed jointly to our team and the community that surrounds us.

We have expanded in multiple areas, including:

- expansion of our team from two to six
- definition and revision of our RFP process
- growth of budget and impact
- growth of volunteering and fundraising participation
- expansion of outreach through social and print media
- continued support and participation in global research in sustainability
- establishment of our first college scholarship program (1st recipient, now freshman at Berkeley)
- sponsorship of three Ukrainian families that moved to town under refugee status
- first annual impact report

The experiences that organized philanthropy has brought has been both more rewarding and thought-provoking than we could've imagined at the onset. We have been emotionally moved by the difficult realities that our community faces – and it is through the many visits and discussions with grass roots leadership that we have carefully honed our collective priorities. In 2023, we look forward to the continuity of our legacy programs, as well as the closure and funding of our first targeted RFP process, aimed at a fewer number of larger programs more specific to our priorities of community, youth, and environmental conservation. We continue to be humbled by the efforts and participation of friends, family, and community partners toward the greater good, and extend thanks to all who remain supportive of LDF's journey and purpose.

*-Johnny & Bethany Lincoln*





## Message from our Executive Director

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Dear Friends,

To begin writing this letter, I personally took a pause, a moment, to reflect on the incredible year we have had at Lincoln Dynamic Foundation. A series of proud moments that I will forever hold close. So much growth, progress, and truly coming into our own. We are realizing the incredible potential of our organization and the impact that we can have on our community. 2022 has reaffirmed my commitment to LDF's mission. The Lincoln Family along with our dedicated team has put their heart into their work, and it is with strong and collaborative efforts that we have been able to accomplish what we have.

We understand the interconnection between youth, our community, and the climate, and our projects have made a great impact on elevating these pillars. We've strengthened our connection to our mission through on-the-ground community outreach and increased donations to nonprofit organizations. Our efforts were recognized at the 2022 Annual AFP awards, where we received the Outstanding Cooperation award. I believe that LDF is poised to have more impact than ever.

I am fortunate to live in the thriving city of Las Vegas and to hold the position of Executive Director of LDF. It is beautiful meeting with nonprofits, collaboratively working together witnessing the unity of our town; wanting more out of where we live. I feel lucky to be a part of this development. A huge and loving thank you to our community leaders and members who give of themselves to make our world a better place. As LDF continues to evolve, I welcome you to get to know us. Schedule a lunch meeting, let's grab coffee, introduce yourself to our team, provide feedback, and inquire on how you can assist in our efforts.

In the words of Helen Keller, "Alone we can do so little; TOGETHER we can do so much"  
Go LDF!!!

With love and warmest regards,

*-Kat Klehm*





# Statement of Support from Leverage Las Vegas

Lincoln Dynamic Foundation has dramatically shifted the traditional norms of philanthropy in Southern Nevada, going beyond a commitment to simply funding local nonprofit organizations, but to investing their time and talents in the causes that are important to them. LDF's impact in the

Las Vegas Valley is marked not only by making financial resources available to charities, but their intentional focus on moving the needle regarding the issues they are most passionate about – Children.

Community. Climate. The LDF team are true changemakers, who deliberately seek to engage with organizations that align with their values and working to effect change through impact investments in nonprofits. From volunteering with an organization before becoming engaged as a donor, to connecting with the clients of a program that they're thinking about funding, to lending their skills and expertise to organizations in addition to providing financial support.

Tony Blair once said,

“The best philanthropy is not just about giving money but giving leadership. The best philanthropists bring the gifts that made them successful – the drive, the determination, the refusal to accept that something can't be done.”

LDF certainly embraces this approach in their determination. to make a difference in their community.



## Melanie Bash

### *President/Founder*

Melanie Bash is a creative strategist in event planning, branding, logistics, and administrative management.

With over 29 years of experience, she specifically focuses on fundraising for nonprofit organizations.

Melanie is a true leader in Las Vegas and has touched many lives through her various executive fundraising positions via multiple nonprofit organizations.

Her achievements in the field come from her personal experience with her own child with a disability.

Melanie's background has not only given her the knowledge and compassion to help others, but has given her insight into everyday struggles other parents and families endure. This has been her driving force and passion to help all nonprofits succeed in their mission.

## Vivian Wright

### *CEO/Co-Founder*

Vivian Wright is a 28-year resident of Las Vegas, originally from Santa Monica, CA. A first generation Cuban-American, activist and entrepreneur, Vivian serves as a community advocate advancing and championing issues affecting the Latino and LGBTQ communities on both local and national levels.

Vivian has worked in the nonprofit sector for over 30 years, supporting numerous charitable organizations ranging from local grassroots agencies, social justice and education initiatives and national organizations, as a grant writer, development and program strategist, scaling mission impact, and advancing fundraising efforts.





# Our Values



## **Integrity**

Our relationships are built on trust



## **Diversity**

We embrace the diversity of people and ideas



## **Sustainability**

We care about our investments' impact on the environment and communities



## **Work-life Balance**

The well-being of our team is at the core of our business

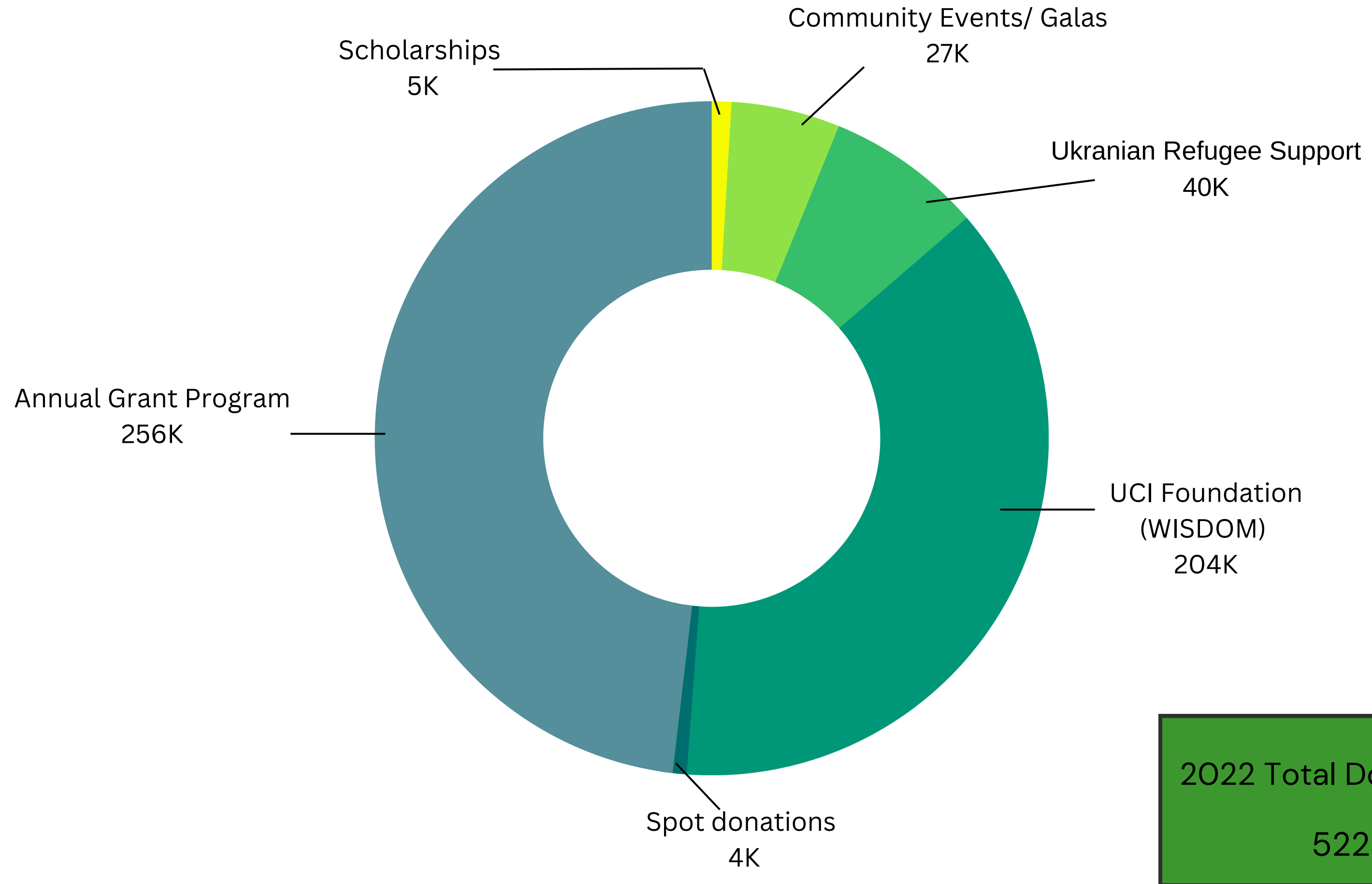


## **Curiosity**

We are always learning and challenging ourselves to grow



# 2022 Financial Support





Focus Area:

# Youth Empowerment & Education

## 2022 Grant Recipients:

- Babys Bounty
- Boys Town Nevada Inc
- Collaboration Center Foundation
- Eye Care 4 Kids Foundation
- Foster Kinship
- Future Smiles
- Global Community High School
- Grant A Gift Autism Foundation
- Leaders in Training
- NPHY
- Lullaby Connection
- Serving Our Kids
- Social CirKish
- Spread the Word Nevada
- Uplift Foundation Nevada



Team members volunteering at NPHY's Feel Good Friday



NPHY is a comprehensive service provider for the thousands of youth experiencing homelessness in our community, providing access to life-changing services for homeless youth 24 hours a day at virtually every street corner in Southern Nevada. NPHY's individualized, holistic services empower young people to not only achieve long-term independence, but to craft the futures they want for themselves. NPHY is dedicated to advocating for the Vegas Valley's homeless youth population and serves as a leader in systems-level efforts to eliminate homelessness among Nevada's youth.



Collaboration Center is a vast disability network that is focused on social inclusion, family and peer engagement, recreation, therapy and education. Today they are developing a family-centered comprehensive campus to house providers, agencies, and non-profits serving those with different and unique abilities, as well as their families. Their multidisciplinary partnerships serve individuals, peers and family members living with Intellectual, Developmental and Physical Disabilities (ID/DD/PD) over their lifespan.



Ladies of LDF at Collaboration Center Foundation 2022 Night en Blanc event.



Focus Area:

## Community Enhancement

### 2022 Grant Recipients:

- Bridge to Turkiye Fund
- HELP of Southern Nevada
- HopeLink of Southern Nevada
- Las Vegas Natural History Museum
- Lighthouse Charities
- The Just One Project
- SafeNest

### Other Financial Contributions

- Ukraine Relief Support



Building a stronger, healthier, and connected community through volunteerism while increasing access to food and services.

The Just One Project aims to attract the most passionate and talented people to represent by reinforcing strong values, work-life balance, and diversity. They know that their company culture ultimately affects client experience. Every program is designed with their clients in mind.



LDF presenting grant award check to The Just One Project's No Cost Community Market Snack Shack.



SafeNest has been at the forefront of ending domestic and sexual violence in Southern Nevada for 44 years. What sets them apart is the commitment to treating the entire continuum of violence from prevention to protection to empowerment. Not only providing a discreet, safe shelter for victims of abuse, but SafeNest is also the only nonprofit in the Valley to provide resources for batterers to address the cycle of abuse at the root.

Across all programs, SafeNest provides direct services to more than 20,000 clients across Clark County annually.



# Giving Hope to Ukraine: Our Initiatives and Progress

Requirement for support doesn't always arrive in a structured time and type format. Part of our posture has been to remain flexible and collaborative when the time for need comes. In March of 2022, Lighthouse Charities launched the Ukrainian Refugee Relief Efforts program in response to the growing requirement to support refugees fleeing from the ongoing war. Lighthouse were spearheading Ukrainian refugee efforts in Nevada and working closely with partner agencies at the U.S. / Mexico border. Refugee families, many of whom are parents or single parents traveling with their children, have been permitted to cross the border into the United States under humanitarian parole status, and scores of refugee families made their way to Southern Nevada with the support of Lighthouse Charities. When asked for support from Lighthouse, we moved quickly to adopt 3 refugee families, providing safe housing, food, clothing, transportation, and other necessities for the families. We have been humbled by the love, commitment, and resourcefulness they have shown. With ambitions to learn and improve upon their English and to become productive members of our Southern Nevada communities, the families have secured jobs, schooling, and are each now in stable positions no longer requiring ongoing support. Lincoln Dynamic Foundation is proud of how far they have come and were honored to ride along on this journey with them. For more information on how to help or participate, please contact LDF or Lighthouse Charities.





Focus Area:

# Environmental Sustainability

## 2022 Grant Recipients:

- Climate Mobilization Project
- Friends of NV Wilderness
- Green Our Planet
- The Nature Conservancy

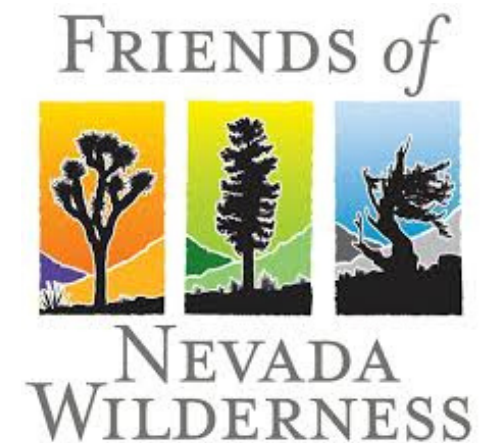
## Other Financial Contributions

- UCI Foundation (WISDOM)



The Nature Conservancy is a global environmental nonprofit working to create a world where people and nature can thrive.

Founded in the U.S. through grassroots action in 1951, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has grown to become one of the most effective and wide-reaching environmental organizations in the world. Thanks to more than a million members and the dedicated efforts of their diverse staff and over 400 scientists, they impact conservation in 76 countries and territories: 37 by direct conservation impact and 39 through partners.



Friends of Nevada Wilderness is dedicated to preserving all qualified Nevada public lands as wilderness, protecting all present and potential wilderness from ongoing threats, informing the public about the values of and need for wilderness, and restoring and improving the management of wild lands. Working together with all Nevadans, they find the common ground needed to protect our wildland heritage. They share the values and vision of wilderness with the general public, civic organizations and clubs, land managers and elected officials. You can find them tabling and talking with potential new supporters at community events, trailheads, local businesses, farmer's markets, and more.





# WISDOM

World Institute for Sustainable  
Development of Materials

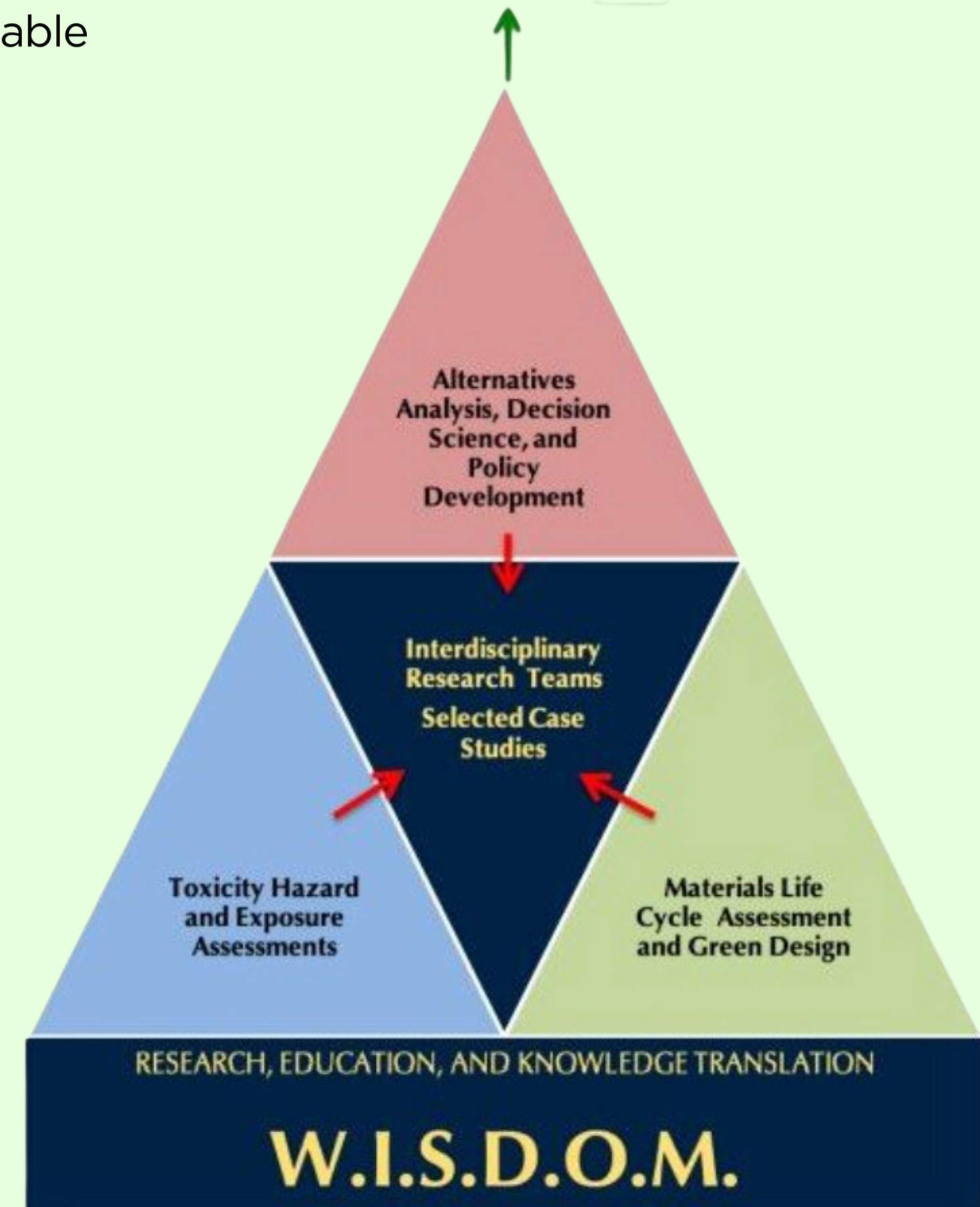
Within the field of materials science and engineering, numerous research endeavors aspire to address sustainability related issues. Many of these efforts are focused on 'sustainable technologies' such as renewable energy system technologies (e.g., solar and energy storage technologies), and energy-efficiency technologies (e.g., LED light bulbs). What is often not recognized, however, is that these 'sustainable' technologies require the use of materials and manufacturing processes that might not be 'sustainable'. Thus, there is a need to investigate 'sustainable development of materials' through the lens of not just energy efficiency, but also chemical footprint and potential human and environmental effects.

To address these knowledge gaps, 'World Institute for Sustainable Development of Materials' (WISDOM) at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) was created, with \$1M donation by the Lincoln Dynamic Foundation.

The WISDOM mission is to advance interdisciplinary research, education and knowledge translation for innovation, evaluation and adoption of technologies that utilize nontoxic, safer chemicals and generate fewer greenhouse gas emissions.

WISDOM places UCI at the forefront of discovery at the complex interface of green chemistry, materials selection and design, life cycle assessment, toxicology, alternatives assessment, and public policy.

To learn more about WISDOM visit: [WISDOM | \(uci.edu\)](http://WISDOM|uci.edu)





# Global Support



Climate Mobilization is building power for a national transformation that rapidly restores a safe climate and creates a just and democratic society.

They are committed to bold and necessary transformation and are dedicated to winning solutions that match the scale, scope, and speed necessary to avoid collapse and build a better world. They fight for what is needed to keep our communities safe.



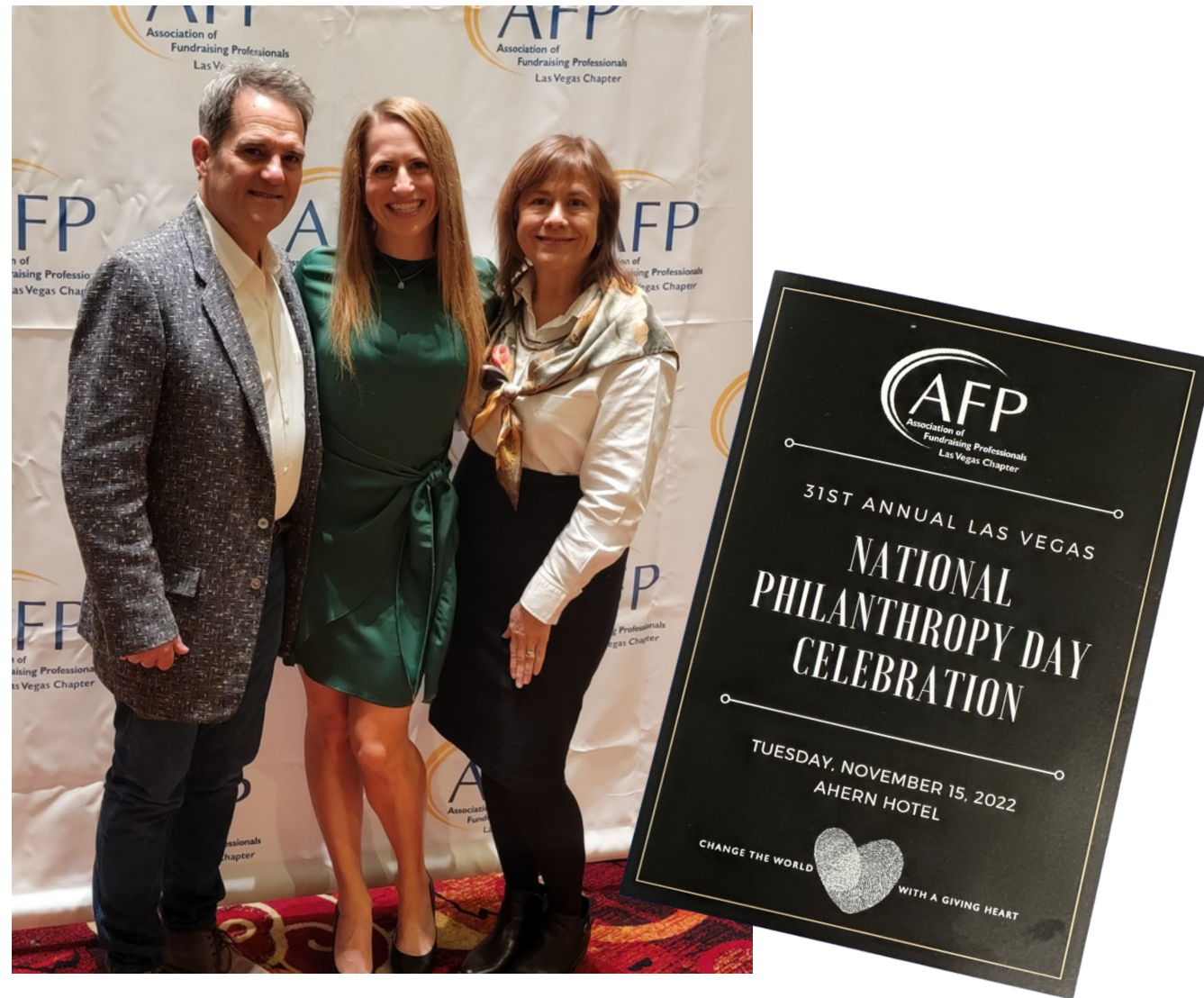
BTF was founded in 2003 by a few community-minded Turkish Americans and Friends of Türkiye with the simple desire to Give-Back. Based in the Triangle area of North Carolina, BTF quickly grew all across the US with many regional grassroots Giving Circles, and today has individual donors and supporting communities in all parts of the globe.



Thier vision is to unite people and give back as a community. They believe in the power of investing together for education and building better futures for underserved youth in Türkiye. BTF maintains a portfolio of carefully vetted Turkish NGOs and localized projects to accomplish this. This makes it possible for BTF's donors to support great causes simply and safely from abroad.



# 2022 in Review: The Year's Biggest Achievements and Moments



*The Lincoln Dynamic Foundation's Executive Director, Kat Klehm and her parents at the AFP (Association of Fundraising Professionals) 2022 Award Ceremony.*

Kat received the award on behalf of the foundation for Outstanding Corporation. This recognition highlights the foundation's commitment to creating lasting change and contributing to the betterment of society.

[Click to listen to AFP Speech](#)



Lincoln Dynamic Foundation was featured in the 2022-2023 Vegas Inc Giving Guide

[Click to view digital Giving Guide](#)



# 2022 in Review: The Year's Biggest Achievements and Moments



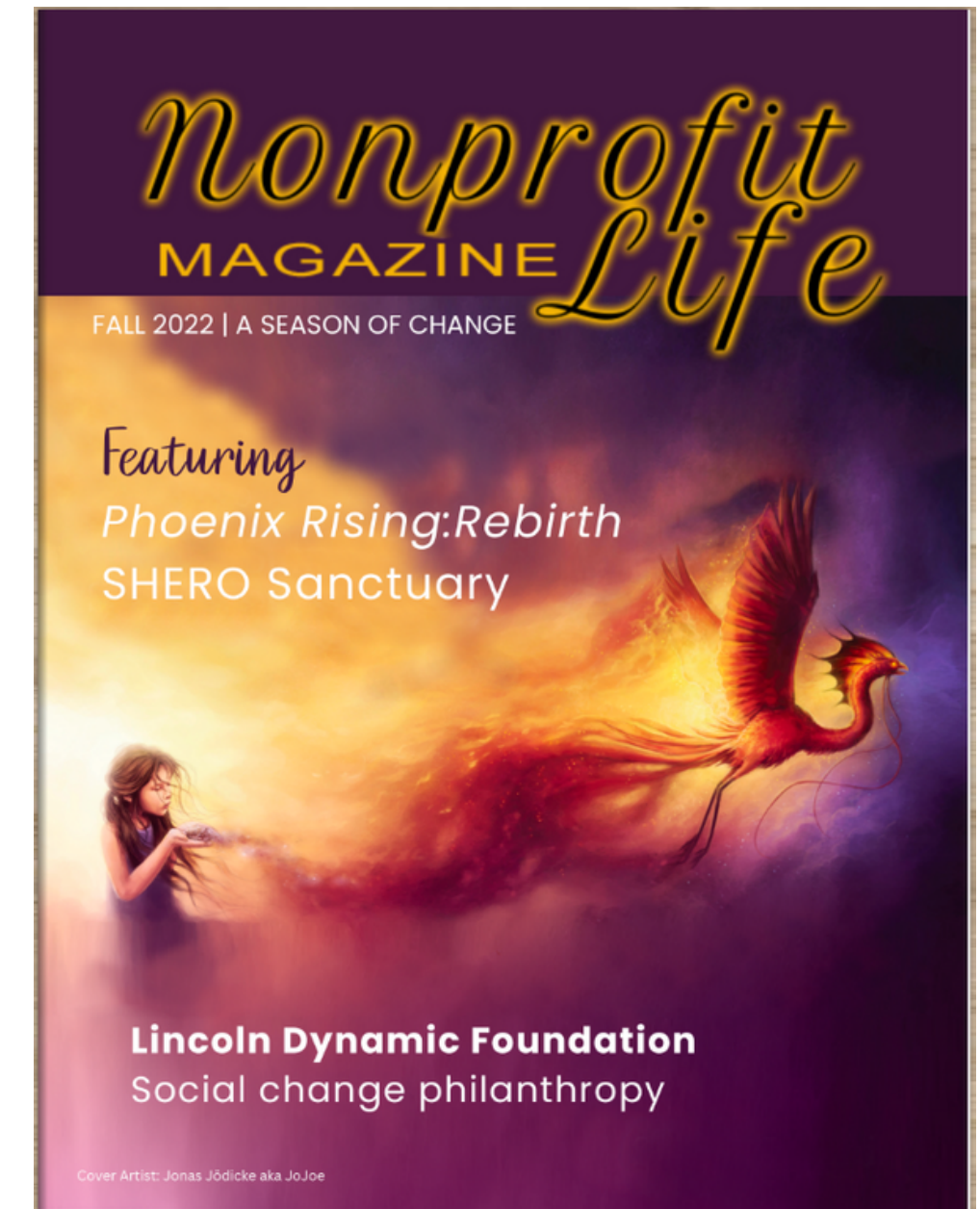
*Nikita, pictured left, is LDF's first scholarship recipient*

"I am currently studying at the University of California, Berkeley as a chemistry major. I feel incredibly grateful for the opportunity to attend such an acclaimed institution, in part made possible by the generosity of Lincoln Dynamic. This past semester, I became involved in the university's chemical engineering car team, which focuses on hydrogen fuel cell research, and we are currently preparing for competition at the Western Regional Conference. I am also participating in the College of Chemistry's Undergraduate Research Mentorship program to build-up some of the fundamental research skills that I will need as I start looking for new chemical research opportunities this year. I have really enjoyed my time at Berkeley so far, both for the academic challenge it has provided, and for its vibrant social life. I have been so impressed by the caliber of teaching professionals and by how supportive the entire community has been. I can't wait for what the remainder of the semester has in store, and for my future here at Berkeley!"

*-Nykita Rustad*



Bethany Lincoln presented award for Citizen of the Year to Nykita Rustad at the 2022 Las Vegas Sun Standout Award Ceremony.



Fall 2022 Nonprofit Life (thedigitalflipbook.com)

LDF was featured on the cover of  
Non-Profit Life Magazine



# Our 2023 target initiatives

- Development of internal youth initiative climate programs
- Higher level engagement with our community partners with more volunteering and on the ground work
- Establish a successful scholarship program for students looking to study in the sustainability, climate, and science sectors
- Educate ourselves more about public policy and how to enact change in collaboration with our community partners
- Further define our pillars
- Strategically partner with other like-minded donors to make an even larger impact with our yearly funding allowance
- To bring further community awareness of the needs of our city and impactful ways in which everyone can help
- Start an LDF podcast highlighting our incredible Las Vegas community
- Become a source of creative ideas for advancement of new building developments in the nonprofit sector
- Drive impactful projects around the interplay between our pillars
- Advanced recognition and action towards the resolution of major environmental issues
- Continue to be an example of conduct for the community and inspires others to participate and do the same
- Elevate the spirit of Southern Nevada





Connect with us



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