

Social Entrepreneurs Transforming Communities



Peter deCourcy Hero

From 1989 - 2007 Peter Hero was the President of Silicon Valley Community Foundation. During his tenure, Silicon Valley Community Foundation grew from a small foundation with less than \$10 million in assets and only three staff to a regional centre for philanthropy, with current assets of around \$1 billion and annual grants exceeding \$100 million. The 50-year old Foundation was recognised in 2001 as the national "Outstanding Foundation of the Year" by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), the only community foundation ever to receive this award. In 1999, Silicon Valley Community Foundation created the Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund (SV2), the region's pre-eminent venture philanthropy giving circle, with a membership of 200 partners and nearly \$3 million in grants in the first 8 years.

Prior to this position, Peter was President of the Maine College of Art, a four year college of art and design. He holds an MBA from Stanford University School of Business, an MA (With Distinction) in Art History from Williams College, and (Honorary) Doctor of Laws from the Maine College of Art.

In 1991, Peter was appointed by President George Bush to a six year term on the National Council for the Arts. In 2002, President George W Bush appointed Peter to the National Museum Services Board. Both appointments were confirmed by the US Senate. Other recent recognition includes the John Gardner Leadership Award (given by The American Leadership Forum), Lifetime Achievement in the Arts (by Arts Council Silicon Valley), and, in state-wide recognition by the California Arts Council, Exemplary Contributions to the Arts.

Fortune Magazine, in an extensive article on Silicon Valley Community Foundation, noted that: "It is Peter Hero, more than anyone else, who has shown Silicon Valley how to give ... by channelling the area's distinctive culture into an unusual brand of charity: demanding, ambitious, self-conscious, creative, even risky - everything you'd expect from Silicon Valley."

Currently Peter is the founding Chairman of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) Foundation and on the Board of Directors of the Skoll Foundation, eBay Foundation, PBS, Stanford University's Haas Center for Public Service, the American India Foundation, and in 2004, he was appointed a Synergos Foundation Global Fellow. Peter was a founding Director of The Entrepreneur's Foundation and is a past Board member of the Council on Foundations where he chaired the National Committee on Community Foundations. He chairs the World Bank Advisory Committee on global community foundation development.

Internationally, for more than a decade Peter has been working overseas, particularly in Central and Eastern Europe, helping create a regional network of community foundations. Czech Republic President Vaclav Havel appointed him to the 2002 NATO Summit Council of Advisors in Prague. Peter is a lecturer at Stanford Graduate Business School (which has written a case study on CFSV) and his writing has been published in the United States and Europe.

Peter comes to Perth at the invitation of Western Australian Community Foundation, in partnership with Lotterywest.



The first of its kind in the state, Western Australian Community Foundation provides a unique opportunity for communities to establish long-term sustainability.

The Foundation is an independent charitable organisation created to build stronger, sustainable communities. It does this by offering a structure that WA communities can utilise to invest in their community for the long term.

As Trustee, the Foundation is the umbrella organisation for WA communities to benefit from philanthropy without the burden of administration and governance responsibilities. Donations (gifts) are accepted and managed for a particular community to earn annual income then used to provide a reliable and regular source of funds (for future generations) with the objective of self reliance and sustainability, building a stronger community over time.

The Foundation exists to create and nurture philanthropic partnerships between those living and working within Western Australia. It achieves this by helping to build, grow and distribute endowed funds for Western Australian communities, encouraging the sharing of knowledge, to meet emerging needs.

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