



## Cause & Effect Philanthropy: Joel & Dena Gambord

Share [f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [envelope](#)

Joel and Dena Gambord are full of life and their vitality and excitement are reflected in their passion for giving. The Gambords, who reside in Pebble Beach, met in the San Jose area and have been married for 46 years. Joel and Dena's families were hardworking. "We came from families that were not able to give. We are the first generation to do so and we see the rewards," said Dena. "We've been very fortunate. In planning our legacy, we made sure our kids were OK and then found we had a little left over," Joel added

### Partnering with the Community Foundation



The Gambords support many local nonprofits and were looking for a partner to help them create a giving plan for the future. They were drawn to the reputation of the [Community Foundation for Monterey County](#) (CFMC) and in 2013 they created the Joel and Dena Gambord Fund, a [donor advised fund](#) of the CFMC. They started with grants to service dog organizations and now support the [training of search and rescue dogs](#) to be paired with firefighters or police as a search and rescue team, certified by FEMA.

### Cause & Effect Philanthropy

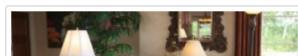
The Gambords' giving philosophy is "cause and effect philanthropy." They want to see the direct impact of their giving. By attending the graduations of their support dogs and their human pairing, they get great satisfaction in seeing the results of their investments.

### Developing Nursing Professionals

Their other giving priority is providing nursing scholarships for students at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB). They created the [Joel and Dena Gambord Nursing Scholarship Fund](#) at the Community Foundation with the mission to expand the training of nurses to a higher professional level from RN to Bachelor of Science degrees and to Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners.

They met with nursing students, many of whom had financial barriers such as child care costs, and learned first-hand the difference scholarships could make in furthering their careers. "These are amazing people and their success will give more people access to better health care," noted Dena. "The hope is that many students after achieving their advanced degrees will stay locally and make a difference in our community."

### Planning for the Future



The Gambords' philanthropic vision is

#### All Upcoming Events

**MAY 04** [CNE Office Hours](#)  
Thursday 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

**MAY 05** [Women's Fund Luncheon 2023](#)  
Friday 11:00 AM—1:30 PM  
Monterey CA United States

**MAY 11** [CNE Office Hours](#)  
Thursday 9:00 AM—12:00 PM

**MAY 12** [Meet the Funders! Nonprofit Grantmakers Panel Discussion \(AFP Monterey Bay\)](#)  
Friday 9:00 AM—10:30 AM  
Sand City CA United States

**MAY 17** [Nonprofit Board Roundtable](#)  
Wednesday 12:00 PM—1:00 PM  
CA

[View More...](#)

#### Recent Posts

- > [Giving Matters – Spring 2023 Newsletter](#)
- > [Relief, Recover, Rebuild.](#)
- > [Making A Difference: Gordon Schacher](#)
- > [Santa Cruz & Monterey Based Community Foundations Partner on Flood Relief for Pajaro](#)
- > [The Southern Monterey County Foundation Grants More Than \\$23,000](#)

#### Archives

Select Month ▼

[View all posts](#)



evolving and they worked with Dan Baldwin and Christine Dawson at the CFMC to set up a structure and giving plan through a [planned gift](#) through their estate to fulfill their wishes in the future. They plan to support people not only in health care careers but in trade schools as well. They also plan to support the arts, especially organizations involved with photography, Joel's passion, and animal rescue.

## Family Philanthropy

And they are involving their family. "We're trying to look into the future and create a structure that will last. We've got our children involved now and in the future our grandchildren and great grandchildren can be involved depending on their interests. We hope they will carry on with our priorities but we've built flexibility into the plan so family members will be able to modify the focus of giving in a way we can't possibly foresee at this time," Joel explained.

“

We're happy to have set up our plan at the CFMC. We trust the people there to carry out our wishes and work harmoniously with our family members in the future.”

“Joel and I are just ordinary people who have been very fortunate and we hope to make a difference – to leave things a little better than when we arrived here,” added Dena.

“

We hope to leave things a little better than when we came. Our giving has evolved to include our family; that's icing on the cake.” – Joel and Dena Gambord

To learn more about [involving your family in your philanthropy](#), or [leaving a legacy through a planned gift](#), contact Dan Baldwin or Christine Dawson at (831) 375-9712.

0 Comments

[Login](#) ▼



Start the discussion...

LOG IN WITH

OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS [?](#)



Name

Share

[Best](#) [Newest](#) [Oldest](#)

Be the first to comment.

[Subscribe](#)  [Privacy](#)  [Do Not Sell My Data](#)



Be the first to comment.

[Subscribe](#)  [Privacy](#)  [Do Not Sell My Data](#)

DISQUS



## ABOUT US

[Who We Are](#)

[Staff](#)

[Board of Directors](#)

[Finance & Investment](#)

[Fund List](#)

[Publications](#)

[Blog & Events](#)

[75 Years of Impact](#)

## DONORS

[Why CFMC?](#)

[Giving Options](#)

[What to Give](#)

[Plan Your Legacy](#)

[Resources](#)

[Donor Stories](#)

## ADVISORS

[Advisor Solutions](#)

[Discussing Charitable Giving](#)

[What to Give](#)

[Planned Giving](#)

[Gift Calculator](#)

[Resources](#)

[Contact Us](#)

## NONPROFITS

[Grantmaking Overview](#)

[Grants](#)

[Center for Nonprofit Excellence](#)

[Agency Funds](#)

## SCHOLARSHIPS

[Scholarships Overview](#)

[College Futures Monterey County](#)

[Apply for a Scholarship](#)

[Scholarship Resources](#)

[Scholarship Stories](#)

## STORM RELIEF

### FUND

### IMPACT

[Storm Relief Fund](#)

[Impact & Initiatives](#)

[Community Fund for Carmel Valley](#)

[Community Impact Investing](#)

[COVID-19 Collaborative](#)

[Monterey County Gives](#)

[Northern Monterey County Foundation](#)

[Salinas Inclusive](#)