

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER - June 2026



GIFTS THAT BUILD THE FUTURE



Dear Friends,

As winter arrives in the Uco Valley, I've been reflecting on the many forms a gift can take.

Some gifts provide immediate support. Others become investments in the future—creating opportunities that continue making a difference long after they are given.

This month also brought Father's Day, a reminder that some of life's greatest gifts come from the values passed from one generation to the next. Throughout this newsletter, you'll find stories that reflect that spirit—from fathers honoring their daughters through lasting acts of generosity to a community coming together to create opportunities for children, families, and animals across the Valle de Uco.

As we also begin preparing for this year's Gifts for Good auction, we're reminded that every act of generosity—whether through a donation, an experience, or simply sharing our mission—helps build a stronger future for our community.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for believing in what we're building together.

With gratitude,

Carolyn Gallagher
Executive Director

A LEGACY BUILT ON CONNECTION

Two fathers, two daughters, and lasting gifts that will serve generations to come.



Father's Day offers an opportunity to reflect on the people who shape our lives and the values they pass on to future generations.

This year, two remarkable gifts to The Vines Foundation remind us that generosity often begins with the people we love most.

Jon Staenberg's donation of the land where our future Dog Rescue Center now stands was made in honor of his daughter, **Rivka Simone**. His generosity laid the foundation for a place where rescued dogs will receive safety, care, and the opportunity for a new beginning.

Pablo Giménez Riili also chose to honor his daughter through a gift that will serve the community for years to come. The **Mercedes** Bridge, named after his daughter, now provides the access needed to reach the rescue center while standing as a lasting symbol of the bond between father and child.

Though different in form, these gifts share the same purpose: creating something that will continue serving others for generations.

To all fathers, grandfathers, and father figures, we hope you had a wonderful Father's Day. Thank you for the kindness, generosity, and guidance you share with future generations.



TWO YEARS ON THE ROAD

A community-wide effort transforming animal welfare across Tunuyán.



On June 4, The Vines Foundation celebrated the second anniversary of its Veterinary Mobile Unit —two years of bringing accessible veterinary care directly to neighborhoods throughout Tunuyán.

Working alongside the Municipality of Tunuyán, local delegates, animal welfare organizations, and thousands of committed pet owners, the program has become a cornerstone of responsible pet ownership and animal welfare across the region.

Much More Than a Surgery

Every procedure helps create lasting benefits across the entire community:

» **For animals**, it means less suffering, fewer animals abandoned, and a better quality of life.

» **For families**, it provides free access to veterinary care while promoting responsible pet ownership and strengthening the bond between people and their pets.

» **For the community**, it contributes to safer neighborhoods by helping reduce animal overpopulation, lowering the risk of zoonotic diseases, and decreasing dog bite incidents.

» **For the environment**, it helps protect native wildlife by reducing the growth of unmanaged animal populations and supporting long-term biodiversity conservation.

This work reflects the One Health approach, recognizing that the health of animals, people, and the environment are deeply connected.



**SINCE
LAUNCHING
IN 2024**

ESTIMATED IMPACT METHODOLOGY

These figures are based on conservative estimates using the following assumptions: 1) Approximately 50% of all surgeries were performed on female animals (an estimated 1,651 spays). 2) Each spay prevented one potential pregnancy. 3) An average litter size of five offspring was used for the calculation. Actual impact may be even greater, particularly for cats.

This milestone would not have been possible without the generosity of donors who continue to make this work possible, the trust of local residents, the collaboration of the Municipality of Tunuyán and the support of animal rescue organizations.

We also extend our deepest appreciation to Mariano, veterinarian and Animal Welfare Program Manager at The Vines Foundation, and to Franco, Noel, Johana, Gabriela, and

Melisa of Tunuyán's Municipal Veterinary team. Together, their compassion, professionalism, and dedication make this program possible every day.

Two years later, the impact reaches far beyond veterinary care. Together, we are helping build a culture of prevention, responsibility, and compassion for animals throughout the Valle de Uco.

ADVANCING THE COMMUNITY CENTER & VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

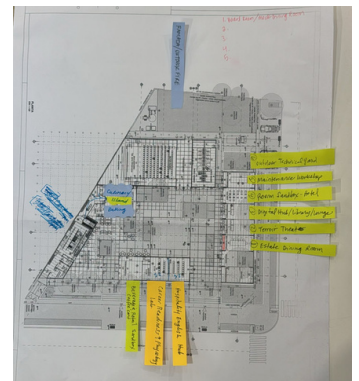
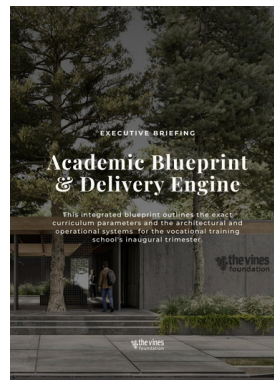
While planning continues for the future Community Center & Vocational School, important steps are helping move the project forward.

This month, The Vines Foundation received the initial round of construction bids, bringing the project one step closer to becoming a reality.

At the same time, curriculum planning continues to advance. Based on the findings from the University of Notre Dame research, The Vines Foundation is currently refining its proposed programs and gathering feedback from experienced professionals across different sectors.

This process is being informed by experienced advisors from different fields, helping ensure the programs reflect real workforce needs and opportunities in the region. Among them is Daniel Gallardo, Director of IESVU (Instituto de Educación Superior del Valle de Uco), as well as input from hospitality and wine education professionals such as Marina Beltrame, founder and director of the Argentine School of Sommeliers, and Cecilia Varas, faculty member at the same institution.

Their feedback is helping strengthen and refine the proposal as it moves forward.



Every step—from planning and academic design to construction—brings us closer to creating a space where education, workforce development, and community come together to expand opportunities across the Valle de Uco.

If you have thoughts, ideas, questions, or would like to learn more about the Community Center & Vocational School, we welcome you to connect directly with Carolyn Gallagher at carolyn.gallagher@vinesfoundation.org.

Your support helps move this project from vision to reality. **JOIN THE CAMPAIGN**

GIFTS FOR GOOD RETURNS THIS OCTOBER

Every year, **Gifts for Good** brings together generous supporters who believe that unforgettable experiences can also create meaningful change.

**OCTOBER
16-26
2026** | **SAVE
THE
DATE**

GIFTS FOR GOOD

We're excited to announce that our annual online auction will return October 16–26, 2026, and planning is already underway.

We're currently looking for unique experiences, travel opportunities, dining experiences, outdoor adventures, accommodations, and other special auction items that will help make this year's event our most successful yet.

Every donated experience helps create opportunities for families and communities across the Uco Valley while giving bidders the chance to enjoy something truly memorable.

Whether you've donated before or are considering participating for the first time, we'd love to hear from you.

Together, we can continue building opportunities that last well beyond the auction itself.

Why Gifts for Good Matters

"Participating in Gifts for Good through The Vines Foundation is something we truly value, both for the incredible causes it supports and for the sense of community it creates. We were fortunate to win the Vineyard Asado Dinner, which gave us the opportunity to share one of Mendoza's most magical experiences with friends traveling with us in Argentina. Dining among the vines under the stars, enjoying exceptional food, wine, and hospitality created memories none of us will soon forget. We feel grateful to be part of an event that makes experiences like this possible while supporting such meaningful work."

— **Zane & Mindy Holscher**



Have an idea, experience, connection, or donation to share? Carolyn Gallagher would love to hear from you at carolyn.gallagher@vinesfoundation.org.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

If you haven't had a chance to read our 2025 Annual Report, we invite you to explore the stories, milestones, and impact made possible through the generosity of our donors, partners, volunteers, and community.

See What We Accomplished Together in 2025

READ THE 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

If our work speaks to you, share our posts and stories with others. Every new person who discovers what we do is a potential partner in change. Let's grow this movement. One voice, one share, one action at a time. Follow [@thevinesfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/thevinesfoundation) y en [@refugiothevines](https://www.instagram.com/refugiothevines)

