Did you know that SPIE has a **Good Corporate Citizens Committee**?

SPIE seeks to be a responsible, positive contributor to our local community. Beginning in 2002 SPIE established a fund to provide monies to local non-profits and charities. Between 2002-2017 thus far, SPIE has donated a total of **$214,626** to various organizations within Whatcom County.

The GCCC’s purpose is to evaluate proposals and allocate funding. We do this by:

- Establishing guidelines for “giving”
- Dialog to reach a consensus on funding decisions
- Manage and monitor the annual funding budget
- Maintain historical records of donations
- Maintain reports outlining giving activities located on SPIE’s intranet
- Insure the giving protects SPIE 501(c)(3) status

What needs do we try to meet? Our charter provides guidelines for funding.

- Strong emphasis is to provide basic human needs such as food, housing, medical aide, daycare or child support, safety and mental health. Funding should assist the local community in a direct way.
- SPIE staff that are personally involved with an organization receive funding priority. The GCCC wishes to promote active volunteerism within our community.

In 2017 thus far, funding and support has been provided to:

- American Cancer Society
- Animals as Natural Therapy
- Whatcom Literacy Council
- ALS Foundation
- Sean Humphrey House
- United Way
- Breast Cancer Research/Pink Boat Regatta
- Women Sharing Hope/Skoocum Kids &Family
- B’ham Public School Foundation/Beds for Children in Low Income Homes

- Interfaith Coalition
- FGBA Makayla’s Street Jam
- Opportunity Council-Dorothy Place
- Northwest Youth Services
- Whatcom Hospice
- Whatcom Hospice
- Max Higbee

- Brigid Collins
- Lydia Place
- Secret Harbor
- Tree House
- YWCA

At SPIE, funding is not done to create a “footprint” in our community, nor is it done for publicity. Part of the purpose of the Good Corporate Citizens Committee is to provide an additional benefit in support of our staff that already donate their own time and energy toward important needs within our community. In order to prevent conflicts with SPIE’s non-profit status, we cannot donate money for educational purposes unless the purpose of the organization is to promote optics and photonics. SPIE cannot fund disaster relief outside of Whatcom County or fund non-local charities.