Mission:

The mission of the Bakersfield College Foundation is to enhance the quality of the educational experience at Bakersfield College by raising funds for scholarships, capital projects and educational programs. The Foundation does this by engaging the community through public relations, personal contacts, relation-building and special events. The Foundation oversees the investment of the Foundation’s endowment and manages scholarship funds, departmental accounts and endowments to maximize Foundation revenue.

The Bakersfield College Foundation is a non-profit corporation organized for education, scientific, cultural and charitable purposes under and pursuant to the laws of the State of California. The purpose of the Foundation, which is an auxiliary of Bakersfield College and registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt, non-profit corporation under Section 501 (c) 3 of the federal tax code, is to promote the general welfare of Bakersfield College by:

- Assisting and supporting Bakersfield College in fulfilling its role in serving the community of which it is a part
- Soliciting, raising and distributing money, property and other assets for the construction of buildings, the purchase of equipment and for other capital outlay needs
- Soliciting, raising and distributing money, property and other assets for the awarding of scholarships, loans and grants to students.

Accomplishments:

- Loaded 150,000 new alumni records into the Foundation database after receiving permission from the KCCD
- Purchased AcademicWorks (AW) stewardship software (Engage) to facilitate production of donor reports
- Foundation staff increased their computer skills by taking classes regarding Raisers Edge, Excel, SAGE and AcademicWorks
- Working with Financial Aid, our combined offices were able to award more scholarships than in previous years
- Hired replacement Executive Secretary and filled two Donor Relations Coordinator positions, increasing the Foundation’s capacity to fulfill its mission
- Helped secure passage of Measure J, $503 million bond initiative for KCCD
- Elected two new vice chair positions for BC Foundation Board, Jeffery Bell and Marko S. Zaninovich
- Working with the BC Alumni Association, the Student Government Association and Athletics, held “Tailgate” in front of the gymnasium at BC’s Homecoming football game, providing an enticing game-day experience for our alumni, friends, students, faculty, staff, and fans.
- Held Honors Celebration on campus for approximately 500 people; included donor dinner for 130 people before main ceremony
- Held Sterling Silver event on campus to recognize Measure J Leadership – approximately 170 people attended
- Upgraded and refreshed BC Foundation web-site
- Foundation assets exceeded $39.3 million, up from $36.1 million the previous year
- Completed comprehensive audit of Foundation accounts
- Reached out to all scholarship donors to update scholarship files and to encourage them to add to their scholarship funds...with significant success
- Worked with Business Services operation to improve financial reports and to speed up abatement process for scholarships
- Reinvigorated Foundation Board Nominating Committee to improve recruitment of new board members
- Changed audit firm resulting in more comprehensive audit process and results
- Worked with the Foundation board to broaden the Norman Levan Scholarship Endowment so that it includes Kern Promise students, greatly expanding the number of students benefitting from Dr. Norman Levan’s generosity
- Working with College and District to update MOA among District, BC and the Foundation
- Working with Financial Aid Office to hire a Scholarship Coordinator to improve scholarship process. (This was the result of a facilitated retreat sponsored by the Foundation to work through unresolved issues involving the Foundation, Financial Aid and Business Services.)
- Working with outside counsel to simplify ICA process

2017 – 2018 Work Plan:

See attached

Summary:

In 2017 the Foundation made significant strides in improving the scholarship award and donor reporting process. Work will continue into 2018. Expanding and “cleaning” the alumni database will enhance the Foundation’s ability to engage its alumni and friends in a way never before possible. Fully staffing the Foundation office for the first time in three years with excellent people enables the Foundation to achieve many of its goals and objectives that were tabled in
the past for lack of staffing. We look forward to a productive 2018 where the Foundation can continue to support the College and its students in the manner in which it was envisioned.