DEAR Friends

Technology has made our world much closer but also our communities more divided. Few institutions are positioned as well as locally-based community foundations to Strengthen Community and Create Opportunity. At CommunityGiving we believe it all starts with community, knowing and understanding our neighbors and the common vision we all share to live in a healthy and vibrant community.

The Board of CommunityGiving this past year declared its new strategic intent to “empower community foundations everywhere.” In this bold declaration, CommunityGiving seeks first to empower its core partner foundations and from there reach out and empower any community foundation who shares our mission of engaging people, connecting resources and building community.

This past year, CommunityGiving made significant progress towards fulfilling its strategic intent with almost $24 million in gifts and distributing almost $12 million in grants. Numerous initiatives brought people together and supported vital community building activities across the many communities we serve. The accompanying report shares with you just some of the great work being done.

Even more exciting, though, is what is yet to come. But it all starts with people like you and others banded together for the common purpose of making your local community better for all. We look forward to partnering with you and many others in the days, weeks and months ahead as we collectively advance this important work.

As always, thank you for ALL that YOU do to support your local community foundation. We are honored to be a partner in supporting your great work.

Sincerely,

Jim Roelofs • Board Chair

Steve Joul • President & CEO
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY, CREATING OPPORTUNITY

CommunityGiving creates opportunities for local community foundations. By working together, local community foundations can work more efficiently and focus on the needs of their community and their donors. Check out the new opportunities that CommunityGiving is working on below!

Assessment Tool –
Developed by the CommunityGiving Consulting Group, the Community Foundation Assessment Tool is a questionnaire to help community foundations measure and plan for growth. The Assessment Tool is divided into five focus areas to help narrow down the strengths and weaknesses of that community foundation. Release and implementation of the Assessment Tool will begin this year and we look forward to using it to help community foundations across the region reach their full potential.

CommunityGiving Day: Annual Conference for Empowering Community Foundations –
The third annual CommunityGiving Day is set to take place on November 20, 2019 at the Park Event Center in Waite Park, Minnesota. This event offers specialized community foundation training for board members, volunteers and anyone who has a passion for community-based philanthropy. We look forward to another exciting day of education, training and networking.

Community Foundation for Carver County –
We are excited to welcome the Community Foundation for Carver County (CFCC) to the CommunityGiving family. The CFCC supports Carver County and the communities of Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Cologne, Hamburg, Mayer, New Germany, Norwood-Young America, Victoria, Waconia and Watertown. They currently have 11 funds totaling $1.5 million in assets. We look forward to working alongside CFCC to promote philanthropy and help them serve as a catalyst of positive change for those living and working in Carver County.
CommunityGiving unites the Alexandria, Brainerd, Willmar, greater St. Cloud areas and beyond under a single framework to create efficiencies that maximize donors’ impact. This partnership is built on three core values: respect for the autonomy of each of the partners, a focus on economies of scale to achieve greater operating efficiencies and a willingness of all partners to collaborate with one another. CommunityGiving allows us to help donors achieve their charitable goals and ensure their legacies are remembered for generations to come. We envision a family of thriving communities that find inspiring ways to turn goodwill into great success stories.

ENGAGING PEOPLE. BUILDING COMMUNITY.

2018 - 2019 BOARD
Jim Roelofs • Chair
Bruce Pohlig • Vice Chair
James Ringwald • Treasurer
John Herges • Secretary
Terri Barreiro
Brenda Felling Jennissen
Maryanne Mahowald
Sonja Merrild
Steve Peterson
Bob Sweeney
Terry Tone
Ken Warner

COMMUNITYGIVING CONSULTANTS
Barbara Carlson
Terri Foster
Susan Lorenz

STAFF
Jeanne Blonigen • Grants and Scholarships Coordinator
April Burton • Administrative Coordinator for CMCF
Sara Carlson • Executive Director of WACF
Karina DeJong • Donor Services Coordinator for WACF
Abbie Flock • Administrative Coordinator
Christine Frank • Operations and Human Resources Manager
Kathy Grochow • Director of Community Programs
Sandra Henley • Finance Associate
Steve Joul • President and CEO
Sherri Koslofsky • Administrative Coordinator for WACF
Kathy Pfeffer • Executive Director of AACF
Karl Samp • Executive Director of BLACF
Courtney Schmidt • Marketing and Communications Manager
Amy Sprout • Office and Events Coordinator
Greta Stark-Kraker • Director of Donor Relations for CMCF
Caryl Turnow • Executive Director of CMCF
Elise Wiener • Director of Finance and Investments

3 ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018
FINANCIALS
As of June 30, 2018

783 TOTAL FUNDS
$141M TOTAL ASSETS
$23.6M TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS

2,440 TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED 2017-2018
$12M GRANT $$ DISTRIBUTED 2017-2018
95.5% OF ALL GRANTS AWARDED STAY IN MINNESOTA

WHERE DID OUR GRANTS GO?

- Animals • $38,072
- Arts & Culture • $212,729
- Civic Affairs • $977,275
- Diversity • $23,600
- Education • $4,949,373
- Health • $539,595
- Human Services • $2,231,749
- Religious/Ministry • $1,581,475
- Scholarships • $218,225
- Youth • $750,302
- Philanthropy • $445,130

3,006 DONORS $$$$$ • 540 VOLUNTEERS
The mission of the Alexandria Area Community Foundation is to engage people, connect resources and build community.

**2018 - 2019 BOARD**

Jason Pohlen • Chair  
Joshua Tatge • Vice Chair  
Bruce Pohlig • Treasurer  
Kelly Jenzen • Secretary  
Tom Anderson  
Bill Flaig  
Paula Jackson  
Ben Miller  
Jenny Odland  
Jeff Restad  
Sally Smith  
Catherine Stine  
Dave Vagle

**AACF STAFF**

Kathy Pfeffer • Executive Director  
Judy Radil • Foundation Assistant

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**FINANCIALS**

As of June 30, 2018

- **1 SCHOLARSHIP**
- **$1,000 GIVEN IN SCHOLARSHIPS**
- **30 TOTAL FUNDS**
- **TOTAL ASSETS $3.4M**
- **$3M GRANTS SINCE FOUNDING**

To learn more about the Alexandria Area Community Foundation visit CommunityGiving.org/AACF.
MISSION
The mission of the Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation is to engage people, connect resources and build community.

2018 - 2019 BOARD
Tom Anderson • Chair
Janelle Riley • Vice Chair
Tim Bergin • Treasurer
Ray Charpentier • Secretary
Ruth Gmeinder
Mary Jetland
James Kraft
Kevin Larson
Rene Millner
Darrell M. Paske
Bob Sweeney
Dr. Carol Winegar

BLACF STAFF
Karl Samp • Executive Director
Terri Foster • CommunityGiving Consultant

FINANCIALS
As of June 30, 2018

8 TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS
$12,000 GIVEN IN SCHOLARSHIPS
95 TOTAL FUNDS
$10.4M TOTAL ASSETS
$4.8M GRANTS SINCE FOUNDED

To learn more about the Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation visit CommunityGiving.org/BLACF.
MISSION
The mission of the Central Minnesota Community Foundation is to engage people, connect resources and build community.

2018 - 2019 BOARD
Steve Laraway • Chair
Debra Leigh • Vice Chair
John Herges • Treasurer
Dan Steil • Secretary
Jason Bernick
Stefanie Brown
Janet Grones
Dr. Mary Dana Hinton
Joanne Kudrna
Maryanne Mahowald
James Schlenner
Tohow Siyad
Paul Thompson
Brad Wheelock
Steve Windfeldt

CMCF STAFF
Caryl Turnow • Executive Director
Kathy Grochow • Director of Community Programs
Greta Stark-Kraker • Director of Donor Relations
April Burton • Administrative Coordinator

FINANCIALS
As of June 30, 2018

107 TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS
$189,850 GIVEN IN SCHOLARSHIPS
551 TOTAL FUNDS
TOTAL ASSETS $105.9M
$100.5M GRANTS SINCE FOUNDING

To learn more about the Central Minnesota Community Foundation visit CommunityGiving.org/CMCF.
The mission of the Willmar Area Community Foundation is to engage people, connect resources and build community.

**2018 - 2019 BOARD**
Sarah Klaassen • Chair
Pastor Jon Dahl • Vice Chair
Wayne Nelson • Treasurer
Heather Thompson • Secretary
Duaine Amundson
Ron Holmgren
Tori Leitch
Steve Linder
Andrew Lindquist
Christine Newcomer
Jon Schmidt
Jeffrey Schultz
Diane Shuck
Terry Tone
Andy VanDerBill

**WACF STAFF**
Sara Carlson • Executive Director
Karina DeJong • Donor Services Coordinator
Sherri Koslofsky • Administrative Coordinator

To learn more about the Willmar Area Community Foundation visit CommunityGiving.org/WACF.
COMMUNITY FUNDS

CommunityGiving hosts a number of Community Funds that strive to strengthen their local communities through philanthropy. Each Community Fund is supported by a local advisory board.

Community Funds partner with one of the four affiliate foundations in Alexandria, Brainerd, Central Minnesota or Willmar to give them access to our staff’s charitable giving, fund accounting and investment management expertise.

We applaud these community leaders and volunteers for taking the first step in leaving a legacy in their local communities.

FINANCIALS
As of June 30, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOARD MEMBERS</th>
<th>BOARD MEMBERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Becky Howard • Chair</td>
<td>Clark J. Vollan • Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Neubauer • Treasurer/Secretary</td>
<td>Bill Taunton Jr. • Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bernie Peterson</td>
<td>Pat Berg</td>
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<td>Doug Scott</td>
<td>John Bergman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alyssa Stewart</td>
<td>Bill Gossman</td>
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<td>Dr. Cliff Stiles, (Emeritus)</td>
<td>Ed Huseby</td>
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<td>Cindy Koll Tengwall</td>
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<td>Marilynn Tiede</td>
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COMMUNITY FUNDS
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CUMULATIVE Giving

Contributions since the beginning of the Foundation in 1985

Community Giving donors are recognized for their cumulative lifetime gifts to the foundations that we serve. This includes gifts to the foundation and gifts to funds that are managed by the foundation. Their sustained giving is important to the overall mission and vision of our organization.

$5,000,000+
Anonymous
Jim and Lois Anderson
William E.† and Virginia† Clemens
Alice Cox†
Nancy Ehlen
Norman C. Skalicky Foundation

$2,000,000+
Harold† and Jeanette† Anderson
Anonymous (3)
Bernick’s
Otto Bremer Foundation
Thomas† and Helen† Krebsbach
Jim and Marion Miller
Marvin Otto†
Thomas Ritsche†

$1,000,000+
Elaine M. Adams†
Anonymous (2)
Antioch Company
John and Nancy Bartlett
Sharon and Mike Bauerly
John† and Cindy Clemens
Merle J. and Kathy Felling
Dr. Philip Halenbeck†
Leo T. Henkemeyer†
G.R. Herberger’s, Inc.
Andy† and Carol Hilger
Kevin and Teresa Hilger
Dr. Severin† and Ruth† Koop
Hope Lindman†
Leo and Luella Louis
Gordon and Michelle Meyer
Morgan Family Foundation
Harlan and Jeraldean Palm

Bob and Sandy Sexton
Leander† and Mary Torborg
John and Mary Weitzel

$500,000+
Anonymous (2)
Dorothy† and Norman† Barthel
John and Nancy Bartlett
Dorothy Becker†
Kenneth and Alix Behm
Mimi and Dick Bitzan
Bush Foundation
Mark and Kimberly Domon
Roger and Betty Duininck
Charles Ehlen
Catherine Gustafson†
Marion Jagielski†
Jennie-O Turkey Store, Inc.
Reynold W.† and Eleanor D.† Larson
Evelyn Lenander†
Cheryl Lightle and Wada Skaja
Fred Nolan and Ellen Siewert
Park Industries
Jim and Denise Potter
Joyce and Tom Schlough
St. Cloud Area School District 742
Robert Sullivan†
David and Darlene Thiessen
Phil Thometz Estate
George and Shirley† Torrey
Dennis Watkins†
Dr. Joseph Zeleny†

$250,000+
Anonymous (8)
Dean† and Gail Anderson
Irma Anderson†

The Antioch Charitable Foundation
Viola Ness Ausherman†
Banker Systems, Inc.
Tim and Kristel Barber
Cory J. Bartlett
Bremer
Bob Coborn
Joanne and Paul Dorsher
Walt and Reanna Gislason
Glenn Metalcraft Inc.
Barbara and Dennis Gregory
Don and Arlene† Helgeson
Dr. Jerome Hilger†
Arnie and JoAnn Johnson
Janet and Jim Knoblach
Mary and Bob Kovell
Leonore T. Mahowald†
McKnight Foundation
Optimist Club of Saint Cloud
Dennis and Karol Ringsmuth
RLD Enterprises
Gordon Rosenmeier Trust
Michael and Laurie Sattler
Wayne and Juli Schluchter
Jerry Setten†
St. Cloud Rotary Foundation, Inc.
Bob and Mary Stangler
John† and Mildred Sullivan
Mark and Ann Thelen
Bob and JoAnn Thueringer
Michael and Ann Tighe
Tony and Joyce Tillemans
Tim Wensman and Janet Fischels Wensman
Brad and Kathy Wheelock
Bob and Penny White
Wolters Kluwer Financial Services
Dennis and Karen Zaun
$100,000+
Keith Adams†
Kathleen E. Allen
James and Linnea Anderson
Nathan and Erica Anderson
Anderson Trucking Service, Inc.
Ruby Anderson Trust
Anonymous (8)
Gilroy and Virginia Arvig
Elaine and Jerry Bauerly
Rick and Helga Bauerly
Myron and Myra Behm
Tim and Ann Bergin
Jason K. and Dr. Jen Bernick
Tim and Sharon Berscheid
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation
Joan Bren and Steve Nelson
Adelle Burrus
Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation, Inc.
CentraCare Health
Tim Chirhart and Jeanne Soleim
City of St. Cloud
City of Willmar
Kevin and Teresa Close
Close-Convex Commercial and
Preferred Properties
Coborn’s Incorporated
Alex† and Ann† Didier
Dick Dillon
Anton B. and Elizabeth A. Dingmann Trust
Douglas C. and Gerri Elietson
National Exchange Club
Bob and Nancy Ferche
Ford Foundation
Lois E. Fredrickson†
Lawrence J. Gill Estate
St. Cloud Times/Gannett Foundation
Granite City Dental Lab, Inc.
GNP Company
Dale and Elvis Grau
Janet and Tom Grimes
James and Pauline Hall
Reverend Lloyd Haupt†
Patrice Hedlund and Ennis Arntson
Brenda Felling Jennissen
and Patrick Jennissen
Cindy Faye Johnson and Tom Moore
Galen and Bonnie Kabe
Mike and Joni Karl
Earl and Rhita Keskey
Roger and Darlene Klein
Kevin and Amy Kluesner
Mark and Kathleen† Krebsbach
Richard and Carol Langdok
Steve and Peggy Laraway
Scott and Dorrie Larson
James and Mary Jane Lauerman
John and Arlene Leisen
Helen Liljedahl†
Patrick E. Lynch
Mathew Hall Lumber Company
Maryanne and John Mahowald
Dave and Geri Marquardt
Scott and Mary Kay May
Michael and Gail McCarty
Mary Agnes and Al McQuinn
Asha Morgan Moran and Marty Moran
Mott Foundation
Louise Muggli
Brian and Karla Myres
National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
Marty and Jamie O’Link
Gerald and Carole Otto
Kenneth and Janet Panger
Bruce and Kathleen Pohlig
Mary Sue and Randy Potter
Preferred Credit, Inc.
Rays of Hope Donors
Bernie and Linda Roberts
Nicholas T. Roloff Trust
Barry and Sandy Ross
Ron and Darlene Schaefer
Dr. Edward L. Silker
Andrew and Cynthia Staiger
St. Cloud Truck Sales
Ruth M. Stewart Family Foundation
Stonehaven Company LLC
Kimberly Dodds Thompson
and Paul Thompson
Mark Traut
Theodore and Andrea Truitt
US Bank-St. Cloud
Dr. David and Catharine Van Nostrand
Venture Allies, LLC
General John W.† and Avis† Vessey
Richard Walls†
Irene T. Walsh Estate
Wells Fargo Bank
Willmar Electric Services
Diane and John† Wojtanowicz/
Prairie Farm Company
Xcel Energy Foundation
Donald and Clara Zachman
John W. Zapp†
† Deceased

To view the full cumulative giving list, visit CommunityGiving.org/cumulativegiving.
STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY, CREATING OPPORTUNITY

CommunityGiving and our partner foundations continue to engage people and connect resources which will provide the catalyst for strengthening our communities and thereby creating opportunity for all.

AACF
After 25 years of existing without an official leader, the Alexandria Area Community Foundation completed its first full year of operation with part-time Executive Director Kathy Pfeffer. Although not familiar at first with the workings of a community foundation, she was acquainted with the area residents and the non-profit world. The past year saw an increase in the visibility of AACF as well as an increased understanding of the work of the Foundation. Some of the highlights of the year were a successful annual dinner with over 300 attending to honor community philanthropic leaders, the development of a video which has helped engage professional advisors, receiving over $2.5 million in contributions and distributing $48,000 through Difference Maker grants and gifting an additional $2.1 million to other local charities through donor funds. All of this activity strengthens the community and creates opportunity for the greater Alexandria community.

BLACF
At a time when our employers are desperate for workers, we know too many of our young adults are not actively participating in the workforce. Out of home placement costs and addiction rates are steadily increasing. Through grants and fund holder education, the Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation (BLACF) hopes to help close the opportunity gap for our youth from low income families and those with adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). In 2018, BLACF supported the launch of the Self-Healing Communities Model (SHCM) project led by Bridges of Hope in Brainerd. SHCM will help address the challenges of young people and their parents by building supportive community networks, local capacity, and resiliency. We are investing in other initiatives that help support and build the skills and futures of those youth that tend to stay in our community after high school and make up our workforce. We believe all deserve a strong community, a bright future and the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.
**CMCF**

In the past year, the Central Minnesota Community Foundation made six grants through the Central Minnesota Opportunity Grant. These grants support people of color in the greater St. Cloud area in three different focus areas: housing, education and economic growth.

Grants to Lutheran Social Service and Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid addressed lack of adequate housing or issues between the tenant and landlord. Future entrepreneurs are learning about how to run a successful business through the Emerging Entrepreneur program at the Initiative Foundation. United Way, Promise Neighborhood and Yes Network are helping students succeed in school with programs that center not only on after school tutoring but many other family issues in disadvantaged neighborhoods. For example, Yes Network focuses on leadership training, fellowship, making new friends, English proficiency, art, recreation, music and making sure there is a meal.

Creating opportunity to succeed for all our residents benefits not only the individuals, but also the entire community!

**WACF**

This year, the Willmar Area Community Foundation (WACF) announced its strategic initiative around the ‘Opportunity Gap.’ The ‘Opportunity Gap’ refers to the vast and growing differences in opportunities available to poor and well-off children and families nationwide described by Dr. Robert Putnam in his bestselling book “Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis.” The WACF kicked off this initiative by launching a $20,000 investment and showcasing a community book club of “Our Kids” at the annual celebration in October.

Looking to address the Opportunity Gap border to border in Kandiyohi County, WACF is creating awareness through community education sessions, engaging the community through hosting a poverty simulation, and supporting programs and pilot efforts that undertake adverse experiences and unequal opportunity. Through this continual work, WACF hopes to not only create new opportunities for all our kids, but also strengthen our community by working together to “raise all our kids to rise.”
PARTNER FOUNDATIONS
Alexandria Area Community Foundation
Brainerd Lakes Area Community Foundation
Central Minnesota Community Foundation
Community Foundation for Carver County
Willmar Area Community Foundation

101 7th Avenue South, Suite 100
St. Cloud, MN 56301
Phone: (320) 253-4380 | (877) 253-4380
Fax: (320) 240-9215

CommunityGiving.org