Dear Friends,

Community is a powerful concept. It can mean many things to many people. What we have learned over the years is that we are all better off when people don’t just think about themselves, but think beyond their own immediate needs and concerns. We fundamentally believe that people caring for their friends and neighbors builds strong, healthy, and resilient communities. It builds the social trust that holds our communities together. This is the power of community!

We were so fortunate this past year, across the communities we serve, to work with incredible and amazing individuals, businesses and nonprofit organizations that demonstrate this care and concern for their neighbors every day. We were fortunate to assist them with raising money to honor veterans, set up funds to provide scholarships, assist with their corporate giving and facilitate conversations and building relationships by deepening our understanding about diversity, equity and inclusion.

Over $17 million in grants were distributed this past year from our partner foundations to support and strengthen our communities. In addition, over $37 million in new gifts came into funds held at our partner foundations. This investment will continue to fuel even greater charitable activity long into the future. This year’s report provides some highlights of the great work happening across the communities we serve.

We know that none of this happens without YOU! Our local community foundation partners are thriving and doing good work, because people like you care about your neighbors. You care about building social trust and relationships with people living in your local community. You make all the difference, and YOU are truly the Power of Community!

Thank you for all you continue to do. We are honored to be your partner in building better communities for all.

Gratefully,

John Herges • Board Chair

Steve Joul • President & CEO
When Mother Nature Strikes Twice

On May 12, 2022 a line of severe storms caused devastating destruction to many homes and properties across the Alexandria area. Straight line winds and a tornado knocked down trees, flattened homes and tossed about boats, trailers and campers. More than 7,000 services accounts were without power. Then, on May 30 another tornado tore through the area.

The Alexandria Area Community Foundation made the decision to reactivate the Alexandria Response Fund to support all who had been affected. The AACF has been working with local agencies such as West Central Minnesota Communities Action to help disseminate the funds. Neighbors helping neighbors, and a community banding together to help those who were left with nothing, truly shows how important “the power of community” is during times of tragedy and loss.

We cannot thank our community members and businesses enough for donating more than $40,000. Elden’s Fresh Foods did a round-up at the register to help raise funds and Douglas Machine Inc. held a company-wide campaign and raised more than $19,000 from their generous employees to support the fund.

To learn more about the work of the AACF, visit www.communitygiving.org/AACF.
Leaving a Legacy

We all want to make a difference. Many leave a legacy through work, volunteerism, or their children. Others by connecting philanthropic resources with nonprofits and schools serving our neighbors and youth using donor directed funds. Others leave a legacy through a charitable bequest to create a fund. Some do both.

This year, we honored generosity with our annual BLACF Award in Philanthropy to the members and staff of Mid MN Federal Credit Union for their community work through volunteering, mentorship and charitable giving. We honored Dr. Paul Severson of CRMC with the inaugural Global Humanitarian Award for forming Project Haiti and making over 70 trips to perform surgeries while training Haitian doctors. Finally, we honored the late Jean Collins with our Legacy Hero Award. Her bequests greatly impacted her church and local nonprofits.

To see these inspiring stories and learn more about our award recipients, scan the QR code to the right.

To learn more about the work of the BLACF, visit www.communitygiving.org/BLACF.
Building Equity Through Dialogue

The ‘Power of Community’ shines through as CMCF wrapped up its six convenings of the Building Equity Through Dialogue Series. This series of convenings was designed to identify and address existing conditions of racial disparity related to health, education, housing, employment, economy, and community engagement in the St. Cloud area. In addition, these convenings helped participants explore actions they can take to build a more inclusive community.

Each convening was made possible through a grant CMCF received from the Morgan Family Foundation. With this grant, CMCF was able to collaborate with Filsan Talent Partners to facilitate all dialogues. Filsan Talent Partners is a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Consulting Firm in St. Cloud.

With the conclusion of the initial six convenings, attendees have begun forming organic action groups that are partnering with existing and new collaboration efforts to further bring about a positive change in our Central Minnesota communities. If you would like to learn more about CMCF’s DEI efforts, including the full report from the Building Equity Through Dialogue Series, scan the QR code.

To learn more about the work of the CMCF, visit www.communitygiving.org/CMCF.
Past, Present & Future of our Community

With the addition of their first Executive Director, “the power of community” at the Community Foundation for Carver County (CFCC) works toward growing the foundation. Three new funds were added this past year and the amount granted out doubled from the previous year.

The CFCC was essential to undertaking a beloved local project in Waconia. The American Legion Post 150 initiated the effort to restore the 1892 Carver County Civil War Soldier Monument, the Civil War Cannon (circa 1846) and the 1929 Carver County World War I Veterans Monument. The CFCC served as the charitable tool in a campaign to acquire funds from individuals and organizations to fully restore all three monuments.

As the CFCC continues to build momentum, a spark of passion for the city of Chaska created the CFCC’s first community fund this past year as well. The Chaska Community Fund (CCF) will work with the CFCC and their local organizations to focus on facilitating charitable giving to build a better Chaska.

To learn more about the work of the CFCC, visit www.communitygiving.org/CFCC.
When a child is removed from a home due to any number of circumstances, they are not allowed to bring anything with them. No teddy bear, special blanket, clothes, backpack, books...the list goes on. Local foster families saw the trauma this brings and informally created Foster Stitches, collecting donated clothing and supplies to distribute to children coming into foster care.

Due to their focus on Trauma Informed Care, the Willmar Area Women’s Fund decided to help Foster Stitches transition to a confidential, free store model. “We heard the need and wanted to restore control and dignity to our kids who are in scary, uncertain situations,” shares Sara Carlson, WACF Executive Director.

The WACF team began to fit the puzzle pieces together to make the store a reality. A fiscal host was found as well as a space to rent. Over $20,000 was raised via WACF and the Women’s Fund to cover the first two years of rent. Matching a dream with organizations and donors to help make this happen truly shows “the power of community.” Scan the QR code to learn more about the Foster Stitches program.

To learn more about the work of the WACF, visit www.communitygiving.org/WACF.
Awards for their years of dedication to philanthropy in the Paynesville area, Leo and Luella Louis are the 2022 PACF Philanthropy Award of Excellence recipients. Leo and Lou were instrumental in helping form the partnership between PACF and the Central Minnesota Community Foundation, which has helped grow PACF’s annual grant round and further give back to their local community. To watch Leo and Luella’s story, scan the QR code.

The RACF Community Builder Fund awarded a grant to the ROCORI Ratcheters - First Robotics Team in 2021. It was used to purchase the Shopsabre CNC machine. The machine is also available to students wishing to learn more about CNC operation. The Ratcheteers received Creativity Awards at both the Grand Forks and the Duluth Competitions. The CNC machine was used in the building of the award-winning robot pictured including its “ROCORI” engraved lettering.
In March, the first-ever Sauk Centre Civic Summit brought together over 35 local leaders to map out events and identify future opportunities. By initiating this gathering, the SCACF used “the power of community” to create a renewed energy for local initiatives and plan for the future. “It laid the groundwork for new collaborations, partnerships and big thinking,” notes SCACF Chair Neil Linscheid. “We can’t wait to see what’s next for Sauk Centre!”
Better Together

CommunityGiving’s mission is to strengthen local communities by empowering community foundations. By sharing resources, each local foundation is able to operate more efficiently and focus on local philanthropy, needs and donors.

**Benefits of being a partner of CommunityGiving:**

- Shared education and understanding of community foundations and their potential to impact local communities.
- Shared marketing, technology, human resources and financial services including shared investment pools and investment oversight.
- Support of a twenty-three person team to assist donors, nonprofits and professional advisors as they make charitable gifts, receive grants and help their clients with philanthropic goals.
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.

Cumulative Giving

Contributions Since the Beginning of the Foundation in 1985

CommunityGiving 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 (5)
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 (2)
Bernick’s
Charles Ehlen
Otto Bremer Foundation
Merle J. and Kathy Felling
Thomas† and Helen† Krebsbach
Jim† and Marion Miller
Marvin Otto†
Joseph R. Parker Foundation
Thomas Ritsche†
Joyce and Tom Schlough
Bob† and Sandy† Sexton
George† and Shirley† Torrey

$1,000,000+
Elaine M. Adams†
Anonymous (2)
Antioch Company
John and Nancy Bartlett
Sharon and Mike Bauerly
Mimi and Dick Bitzan
John† and Cindy Clemens
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
Patrick Lynch
Gordon and Michelle Meyer
Morgan Family Foundation
Harlan† and Jeraldean Palm
Tom and Theresa Ryan
Leander† and Mary Torborg
John and Mary Weitzel
Dennis† and Karen Zaun

$500,000+
Anonymous (3)
Nathan and Erica Anderson
Dorothy† and Norman† Barthel
Corey J. Bartlett
Dorothy Becker†
Kenneth and Alik Behm
Bush Foundation
Marilyn Covey Estate†
Mark and Kimberly Doman
Roger and Betty Duininck
Jeff and Melinda Gau
Janet and Tom Grones
Catherine Gustafson†
Marion Jagnielski†
Jennie-O Turkey Store, Inc.
Arnie and JoAnn Johnson
Kandiyohi County Food Shelf
Reynold W.† and Eleanor D.† Larson
Evelyn Lenander†
Tori and Glenn Leitch
Cheryl Lightle and Wade Skaja
Fred Nolan and Ellen Siewert
Park Industries
Greg and Carol Peterson
Jim and Denise Potter
Wayne and Julie Schluchter
St. Cloud Area School District 742
Robert Sullivan†
David and Darlene Thiessen
Phil Thometz† Estate
Tony and Joyce Tillemans
Mark Traut
Dennis Watkins†
Bob and Penny White
Dr. Joseph Zeleny†

$250,000+
Dean† and Gail Anderson
Irma Anderson†
James and Linnea† Anderson
Anonymous (8)
The Antioch Charitable Foundation
Harriet M. Altman Estate†
Viola Ness Ausherman†
Banker Systems, Inc.
Tim and Kristel Barber Bremer

Joan Bren and Steve Nelson
Tim Chirhart and Jeanne Soleim
Kevin and Teresa Close
Bob Coborn
Joanne and Paul Dorsher
Gary and Nancy Geiger
Walt† and Reanna Gislason
Glenn Metalcraft Inc.
Granite Partners
Barbara and Dennis Gregory
Don† and Arlene† Helgeson
Janet and Jim Knoblauch
Mary and Bob Kovell
Mark and Kathleen† Krebsbach
Scott and Dorrie Larson
Leonore T. Mahowald†
Maryanne and John Mahowald
Ruth McDonald†
McKnight Foundation
Optimist Club of Saint Cloud
Bruce and Kathleen Pohlig
Dennis† and Karol Ringsmuth
RLD Enterprises
Bernie and Linda Roberts
Gordon Rosenmeier Trust
Michael and Laurie Sattler
Mark and Atsuko Schlough
Michael Schlough and Rebecca Bastien
Jerry Setten†
St. Cloud Refrigeration, Inc.
St. Cloud Rotary Foundation, Inc.
Bob† and Mary Stangler
John† and Mildred Sullivan
Mark and Ann† Thelen
Bob and JoAnn Thueringer
Tim Wensman and
Janet Fischels Wensman
Brad and Kathy Wheelock
Dr. Daniel and Judy Whitlock
Sheelah and Gene Windfeldt
Wolters Kluwer Financial Services

† Deceased

To view the entire Cumulative Giving List, visit www.communitygiving.org/cumulativegiving.