Report to the Community

Dear Friends,

Thanks to you, last year was our best ever! We distributed $527,000 in charitable grants to the community during 2019, providing support to 68 different organizations, as well as funding more than a dozen scholarships and teacher awards. Those grants fed hungry families, supported arts and education, honored military veterans, protected the environment, and preserved local history. In addition, we received over $3.2 million in gifts; passed the $9 million milestone for assets under management; and opened 16 new funds.

The Foundation was also grateful to be honored last year with several awards for community service.

Of course, the world feels very different today than it did a year ago. But despite all of this year’s tremendous changes and challenges — health, economic, social, and political — there is one reassuring constant: your generosity, compassion, and care for your community.
Our report this year focuses on the many communities that together make up the Greater Sauk Community Foundation. On the following pages you will see the diversity of our donors' giving and the breadth of the area that we serve. Together we are making this community a thriving, vibrant place to live and work. We thank those of you who give so much and make it all possible. We salute the nonprofit staff and volunteers who work so hard for their organizations. And we welcome everyone’s participation and support.

Kind regards,

Robin
Executive Director

June 2020
A magical start to 2019 . . .

The new year got off to a magical start with the production of *Ajijaak on Turtle Island* at Baraboo’s historic Al. Ringling Theatre. The performances were the result of an inspiring collaboration among IBEX Puppetry of New York (co-directed by Heather Henson, daughter of famed Muppets creator Jim Henson); the International Crane Foundation; the Al. Ringling Theatre; and the Greater Sauk Community Foundation. The evening performances were ticketed fundraisers for ICF and the Al. Thanks to a generous $10,000 grant from an anonymous Foundation donor, however, two school matinees were free and attended by more than 1,100 schoolchildren, who traveled from all over Wisconsin to see the show.

*Ajijaak* was a remarkable mingling of art, music, history, conservation, education, and culture. The story of a lost baby whooping crane on her journey to adulthood was warm and sweet, the music was hauntingly beautiful, and the production was visually stunning. In other words, this show represented philanthropy at its very best! We were proud to be a partner in this extraordinary event.

Students attend a free *Ajijaak* performance thanks to a Foundation donor. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION.
What is a community foundation . . . and where does the money come from?

We are a public charity that manages more than 80 different charitable funds, which combined paid out $527,000 in grants to nonprofits last year. These funds were established by different donors for different purposes over the past 22 years, and the grants were paid out of a broad assortment of those funds. See below for a description of the types of funds we offer. On the following pages you can read about some of our 2019 grants and how they are making a difference here in our community and beyond. We hope you’ll enjoy learning more about our donors’ diversity, generosity, and commitment to supporting our community.

DONOR-ADVICED   A donor-advised fund offers a donor the most flexibility. The donor recommends which organizations receive grants from their fund, when grants are made, and in what amount. Grants may be made to any U.S. nonprofit regardless of geographic location. You make a tax-deductible gift to the Foundation when it is financially advantageous to you to do so, and then charitable grants can be paid out of your fund over time.

DESIGNATED   Designated funds support a specific organization. They can be established by donors during their lifetime or as a legacy through their will. It’s up to the donor to determine how the funds are distributed. Donors can create a fund that supports their favorite nonprofit, or give to a fund that’s already established for a beloved charity.
FIELD OF INTEREST  These funds are also established for a specific charitable purpose, but they support a range of organizations rather than a particular nonprofit. For example, a field of interest fund could be established to make grants to the arts, local history, veterans’ projects, children’s initiatives, or animal welfare.

ENDOWMENT  Some funds are endowed, which means the fund’s principal is protected forever. The gift continues to grow and pay out in perpetuity, even after the donor’s death, providing annual income to a favorite charity.

AGENCY  Nonprofits can create an agency fund using their own assets. They might want help managing a significant gift or want the benefit of our investment expertise or planned giving services. We can offer the protection of an endowed fund as well as the comfort of knowing the gift will be managed professionally.

UNRESTRICTED  Your unrestricted gift will be used to ensure our ability to continue our work. Gifts to the Grants Fund expand our ability to accept applications for special projects from local nonprofits. Gifts to the Founders Society support the Foundation’s operations so we can continue giving back to the community.
Where does the money go?

Greater Sauk County

Many of our grants support organizations that serve all of Sauk County and beyond. Last year’s county-wide beneficiaries included:

*Agrace Hospice* — $1,000 for the Care for All hospice program.

*Aldo Leopold Foundation* — $22,000 for the future leaders program.

*Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Wisconsin* — $11,500 to the Baraboo and Reedsburg clubs to provide a safe place for all children.

*Habitat for Humanity of Wisconsin River Area* — $7,000 for their invaluable collaboration in flood remediation projects.

*International Crane Foundation* — $5,000 in unrestricted support.
Kids Ranch — $1,500 to provide scholarships for at-risk children who receive literacy tutoring and more.

Sauk County Children’s Giving Tree — $539 for Christmas gifts for children in need.

Sauk County Disaster Relief Fund — more than $200,000 was paid out for home repairs as part of our long-term recovery fund for 2018 flooding.

Sauk County Health Department — $250 to sponsor safety education for children.

Sauk County Historical Society — $750 for local history preservation and education.

Sauk County Humane Society — $1,824 to care for homeless animals.

Scholarships — we distributed more than $15,000 in scholarships to students all over Sauk County!

Nellie — A rescued cat from the Sauk County Humane Society.
A grant to the Sauk County Historical Society supported local history education programs.
Baraboo

Baraboo Area Homeless Shelter — $6,385 to help build a new community shelter.

Baraboo Public Art Association — $10,000 for new twin baby elephant sculptures!

Baraboo Range Preservation Association — $850 for Cabin Fever Lecture series and more.

Baraboo School District — grants totaled more than $55,000 from numerous funds that benefit the BSD.

City of Baraboo Parks Department — $500 for the Ochsner Park anniversary celebration.

Friends of the Baraboo Zoo — $3,500 to support operations.

St. Clare Health Care Foundation — an unrestricted $1,000 grant.

Circus World Elephants help celebrate the arrival of twins Noah and Norah, thanks to a grant from Lucille Henry.
Reedsburg

Camp Gray — $2,000 to this beautiful summer camp and retreat center in the Reedsburg countryside.

Reedsburg Area Historical Society — an $875 grant to support a traveling history exhibit.

Reedsburg Area Medical Center Foundation — an unrestricted $1,000 grant to support the Foundation’s work.

Reedsburg United Fund — an unrestricted $1,000 grant for general support.

Reedsburg Veteran’s Memorial — $6,445 to maintain and repair this stirring monument to Reedsburg’s veterans.

Friendships are made and new skills are learned at Camp Gray’s summer camp in Reedsburg.
Sauk-Prairie

6:8 Inc. — we sponsored the new Circles mentoring program, guiding people out of poverty, with a $1,000 grant.

Badger History Group — a $1,000 community grant helped with archiving historic materials at the Badger Ammunition Plant.

Badger Honor Flight — we sent a local veteran to Washington for a day with a $1,000 grant.

Children celebrate the New Year at a 6:8 community dinner in Sauk-Prairie for the new Circles program.
Sauk County veterans visit Washington on the Badger Honor Flight - 2 November 2019
Culver’s Foundation, Inc. — $2,500 for employee scholarships.

River Arts, Inc. — our annual grant to River Arts from its operating endowment was more than $49,000.

Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry — a $1,000 grant helped to feed hungry families in the Sauk-Prairie area.

Sauk Prairie High School — we were proud to sponsor the annual Day of Service with a $4,500 grant for volunteers’ food and transportation.

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Spring Green

Community Food Pantry of Spring Green — $700 supported their Knickers 4 Kids program, providing underwear for children of families in need.

Friends of the Lower Wisconsin Riverway — $350 to preserve and protect this wilderness area.

Spring Green Community Library — $800 to fund an art workshop for adults.
A Foundation donor sponsored the Sauk Prairie High School annual Day of Service last October.
And more …

**Dane County**
The Salvation Army in Madison received grants totaling $3,000. UW-Madison Carbone Cancer Center received a $1,000 grant.

**Juneau County**
A donor-advised fund directed $1,000 to the Mauston Food Pantry and $3,000 to the Mauston School District.

**Columbia County**
The Historic Indian Agency House in Portage got an $875 community grant for their new exhibit. Reach Out Lodi received $5,000 for its community store and food pantry.

**Religious institutions**
We distributed more than $57,000 in donor-advised funds to churches, parochial schools, and other religious organizations in Wisconsin and beyond.

**National and international organizations**
Leader Dogs for the Blind $1,824
Saba International $500
St. Jude Children’s Hospital $1,000
USO $3,000
World Wildlife Fund $1,000
The new exhibit at the Historic Indian Agency House in Portage sponsored with a Foundation grant.
The Founders Society

This fund supports our operations and guarantees our future.

DIAMOND
Darlene Ballweg
Craig & Leola Culver Foundation
Dina & Paul Fishkin
Tom & Vicki Fleming
Robert & Patricia Hanes
Forrest Hartmann
Harland & Lorraine Hartmann

SILVER
Steve & Darlene Bach
Bank of Wisconsin Dells
Baraboo Kiwanis Club
Baraboo State Bank
Baraboo Wal-Mart
Culver’s Franchising System, Inc.
Helen C. & Robert C. Dewel
Douglas Legacy Farm
Jane & Roy Franzen
In Memory of Amy Hanes Friberg
Friede & Associates, LLC
Gary Gilliland, in memory of Linda
Gilliland
Bryant Hazard
Beverly L. Hoege
Carol E. Hulterstrum
Janet G. Klipp
Krunnfusz Family Fund
Harry & Nancy Machtan
George F. McArthur Family
MBE CPAs
NRG Media
Pierce’s Supermarkets
Matt & Joan Pinion
Plenke’s Pond & Outdoor Learning Center
Harry & Helen SaLoutos
Richard & Mavis Schulze
Kathryn A. Schwarz & Bruce L. White
Schwarz Insurance Agency, Inc.
Smith CPA, LLC
Alan & Laura Stanek
Terry &Una Teelin
Peter & Ann Tollaksen
WCCU Credit Union
Wells Fargo Bank
Donald H. & J. Patricia Yanke

PLATINUM
Baraboo News Republic
In honor of Jim Fishkin & Ken Fishkin
Dave & Leah Gerfen
David & Karen Sacia
Arnold & Judy Utzinger
Helen M. Ziegler

GOLD
Victor & Rita Ahlstrom
American Family Insurance
Bank of Prairie du Sac
BMO Harris Bank
Community First Bank
Eldon & Doris Johnson

BRONZE
Steve & LuAnn Blakeslee
Dr. & Mrs. Larry Pakyz
Robin Whyte

Founders Society Donor Levels
Diamond $25,000 & more
Platinum $15,000–$24,999
Gold $7,500–$14,999
Silver $3,000–$7,499
Bronze $1,000–$2,999
In memoriam . . .

We said good-bye too soon to several dear friends over the past year. In their different ways, each was a shining example of civic engagement and philanthropy. They also taught us much about the joy of giving. We remember them here and will miss them always.

Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

— Mary Oliver, American poet

Paul Fishkin was a brilliant accountant and businessman who for many years was the Foundation’s treasurer while serving on the Board of Directors. Paul was one of the first and most generous donors to the Foundation’s Founders Society Endowment Fund. He donated his expertise to numerous organizations and always had time for questions and counsel. Paul was a devoted husband to Dina and father to Jim and Ken; a wonderful storyteller; a lover of music; and a renowned stickler for proper grammar and punctuation!
Lucille Henry was born and raised in Sauk County and eventually returned home with her husband Jim to enjoy their retirement here. She was a successful entrepreneur; local history devotee; talented needlewoman; and cat aficionado. But it was her love of Baraboo’s rich circus heritage that several years ago inspired Lucille to sponsor an elephant sculpture, named Lucy in her honor, in Baraboo’s Myron Park. Lucy was followed last year by twin elephant babies Noah and Norah. Lucille derived enormous joy and satisfaction from the charitable gifts that created a lasting legacy for her at the end of her long and happy life.

Judy Utzinger was a gracious, elegant, and lovely woman who was known for her extraordinary kindness. Judy went to school in Baraboo and later married Arnie, her high school sweetheart. They returned to Baraboo to build a home and raise their children, Malynn and Scott. Judy was a tireless volunteer who served on local boards, sang in her church choir, raised money for the Al. Ringling Theatre restoration, and gave generously to countless local nonprofits. Judy and Arnie are Founders Society donors and also established a donor-advised fund. In Judy’s own words, “I believe that much peace and fulfillment comes from giving of oneself to causes and missions beyond and greater than oneself.”
Your Community Foundation at a glance

- $9.5 million in assets under management
- $11.7 million in gifts received to date
- $4.7 million in grants distributed to date
- 2019 gifts received: $3.2 million
- 2019 grants distributed: $527,000
- 98.7% of assets directly support our mission (2019 administrative costs = 1.3% of net assets)
- 88 funds managed

*Please visit our website to view our latest audited financial statements.*
2020 Board of Directors

**President**
**LAURA STANEK,** Baraboo
Third Oak Investment Services, financial advisor

**Vice President**
**JANE FRANZEN,** Baraboo
Avid Risk Solutions, client executive

**Treasurer**
**MARK GRAUPMAN,** Reedsburg
Agri-Mark, Inc., chief financial officer

**Secretary**
**ROBERT GINTHER,**
Rock Springs Cross, Jenks, Mercer & Maffei, LLP, attorney

**JEAN ALT,** Spring Green
Arena Community Elementary School, teacher, retired

**STEVEN BLAKESLEE,** Reedsburg
Blakeslee Septic Systems, president, retired; Reedsburg Bank, board chairman and vice president, retired

**CRAIG CULVER,** Prairie du Sac
Culver Franchising System, Inc., co-founder & chairman

**GARY L. GILLILAND,** Baraboo
Bank of Wisconsin Dells, chairman, president & CEO, retired

**FORREST HARTMANN,** Baraboo
Boardman & Clark, attorney, retired

**CAROL JEFFERSON,** Spring Green
American Players Theatre, development director, retired

**JENNIFER KRAEMER,** Plain
Kraemer Brothers, LLC, organizational development manager

**TIM MOY,** Baraboo
MBE CPAs, managing partner

**MARIETTA REUTER,** Sauk City
Tools of Marketing, Inc., president

**DAVE SCHULTZ,** Middleton
First Weber Realtors Wisconsin Dells/Lake Delton, former owner & vice president

**ARNOLD UTZINGER,** Baraboo
Dental Associates, dentist, retired
The Greater Sauk Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity. All gifts are tax-deductible as provided by law.

We’re here for good!