A YEAR OUT OF FOCUS BUT NOT WITHOUT PURPOSE
For the last several years the Luverne Area Community Foundation has finished with some great momentum, impactful grant giving and relationships with amazing donors. 2020 was set to start just like any other year. It was time to get in the chair and start doing great things together. So on went my bifocals to get started, but as we all know looking back on 2020 it certainly did not go in any way we expected.

The ideas and plans we had became blurred, as if I could not see where to go or what to do no matter what angle I tried to focus. The pandemic that seemed so far away on the coasts had now found its way into our communities and the world stopped for what seemed like a really long time.

Plans for reaching out and meeting with current and new donors – NOPE!

Gatherings and events to celebrate community impact – NOPE!

LACF was affected by the pandemic like other organizations/businesses but in a different way.

Our business of meeting needs through financial resources was interrupted. With the uncertainty of the pandemic donors became conservative not knowing how the next day, month or year would go. Needs in the community became greater. So as an organization that relies on donations to meet needs, we had to figure out how to respond.

From the blurriness came a vision to create a Community Crisis fund to offer emergency funds that would assist nonprofits with grants to keep their programs going and their people safe.

Marie Forloe said, “Clarity comes from taking action!”

And action we took! Thank you to those who were able to take action with us and keep people and programs going.

I can see clearly now with you!

Emily Crabtree
Luverne Area Community Foundation
Executive Director
TAKING ACTION

Evolution of the Community Crisis Fund/New Grant Impact Funding

01 Step 💡 When you don’t know how to overcome an issue like a pandemic and you are in the business of helping and sustaining others, you start by looking for grants.

- The Minnesota Council of Foundations in partnership with the St. Paul Foundation opened Covid-19 crisis grant funding to community foundations throughout Minnesota.
- The Luverne Area Community Foundation wrote and received a grant for $20,000 to give support to areas of our county that had need.

02 Step ⏳ Educate the community on the needs and new funds that will offer emergency grants to local organizations.

- Community responds with $56,000 in gifts!

03 Step 📢 Spread the word to local nonprofits that have a Covid-19 based need to apply for immediate grant funding

- 13 nonprofit organizations received funding to help keep their programs open, safe and void from financial hardship due to Covid-19.

04 Step 🎉 When you can do nothing else – show gratitude!

- Created Signs of Gratitude yard signs with the help of Quality Printing. For every sign purchased a donation went to Community Crisis Fund.
- Over 100 signs thanking essential workers and healthcare heroes were purchased and displayed.

05 Step 🌟 GROWTH! Luverne Area Community Foundation has a new opportunity to meet the needs of our communities with emergency community crisis funding.

Thank you to these donors (listed) for helping LACF respond to the needs of our community.
In 2017, voters in Luverne School District 2184 overwhelmingly supported a historic $31 million dollar school renovation and expansion project. This exciting project will be completed in 2021.

The Luverne Education Legacy Fund (LELF), formerly the Luverne School Foundation, is announcing a new opportunity for Luverne High School alumni and supporters to enhance this project and demonstrate their pride for their school through the LHS 2184 Campaign.

The LHS 2184 Campaign will provide resources over and above taxpayer dollars to ensure this once-in-a-lifetime project will be a remarkable source of pride for Luverne students, community and alumni!

You can support the following strategic areas at Luverne Public Schools.

- ALUMNI RECOGNITION
- FINE ARTS
- ACADEMICS
- ACTIVITIES
- CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION

Your generous gift supports continued excellence in Luverne Public Schools. As a thank you for this financial gift of $2,184 or more ($61 per month) donors receive a beautiful hand blown glass cardinal made by glass artist Tom Maras, LHS class of ’89. It will serve as a reminder of your generosity and connection to LHS.
Don and Lisa Dinger have always been generous people of their time, talents and financial gifts. Hard work allowed Don the opportunity to take an early retirement in 2020 which came with a financial finish that he knew may be a tax burden come April.

The Dingers have been active friends of the Luverne Area Community Foundation so a suggestion of a tax saving vehicle was presented to them called a Donor Advised Fund (DAF). This fund allows a donor to gift a sum of money to the foundation to be used for charitable giving in the future, in return lowering their tax burden with the added source of income for the fiscal year in which it was given. Don consulted his financial planner and a charitable gift amount was set to help offset the tax burden in the months to come.

The gift to LACF now sits as a charitable savings account (DAF) for future advisement.

If you asked Don and Lisa how to get started with a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) at the Luverne Area Community Foundation they would tell you it is really easy. “Emily draws up the paperwork and goes through the legality of how it works. You make your first financial commitment of $5000 (minimum to start) and LACF takes care of the rest. We advise when and who we want to send gifts to from the fund. LACF has an online fund advisor portal that we access and tell them where we want to send gifts anywhere in the world” (charities must be recognized as a 501c3).

The Donor Advised Fund option at LACF has given Don and Lisa the opportunity to create a family legacy fund that starts with them and continues through their children. The family DAF is a growth fund so the money contributed will earn interest that they will also give to their favorite charities. It is the intention of the Dingers to add money to the fund for continued tax savings each year but more importantly for the opportunity to give back to their community and teach their children and grandchildren about helping others.
The LACF and its partners are about IMPACT…

In 2020 our partners made a BIG impact enhancing the lives of our friends and neighbors. Together they added the following back into our community.

$517,700
Program Grants

$98,900
Program Service Support

LUVERNE BASKETBALL

The Luverne Basketball Association strives to provide support for and opportunities to play, learn and love the game of basketball for youth and teens of Luverne.

ROCK RANCH, HILLS

Rock Ranch provides opportunities for persons to improve themselves physically, cognitively, socially and psychologically while learning the art and skills of horsemanship in a Christ filled setting.

New Funds in 2020

Building Bridges JC
Community Crisis Fund
HBCS Fund
Luverne Education Legacy Fund/2184 Campaign
Community Endowment Funds in Beaver Creek, Steen, Magnolia, Kenneth, Hardwick, Jasper, Hills

LACF and our partners build secure, long-term funds for growth.

LUVERNE ROTARY CLUB

Our mission is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

ROCK COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The mission of the Rock County Historical Society is to preserve the history of Rock County to share with generations to come. Make plans to visit the History Center on Main Street in Luverne.

MAPLEWOOD CEMETERY, LUVERNE

Established to support the ongoing care and maintenance of the Maplewood Cemetery grounds.

#LUV1LUVALL

Uniting our community to support dignity and creating opportunities for people to move out of poverty.
BLUE MOUND AREA THEATRE-
THE HISTORIC PALACE THEATRE

BMAT serves as a regional resource providing cultural experiences that enrich, entertain and educate audiences and artists. The Historic Palace Theatre, a city owned building, is operated by the BMAT board and offers live events, movies and performances by the local Green Earth Players.

ROCK COUNTY FOODSHELF
The Rock County Food Shelf’s mission is to offer 2-3 days of emergency food to eligible Rock County residents one time per month.

LUVERNE COMMUNITY ED
Stewarded by the Luverne Education Legacy Fund this fund is intended to help support the needs of the Community Education program.

LUVERNE CHILD GUIDE
The Luverne Child Guide Program cares for all students but has a central focus of connecting at-risk students and their families with resources in our community and school.

COFFEY CONTEMPORARY ARTS
CCA is a nonprofit arts exhibition and education facility. The CCA facility includes Lord Grizzly Gallery, the large open studio, and the shop workspace.

HOSPICE OF SANFORD LUVERNE
Sanford Hospice Luverne provides quality, compassionate end-of-life care for terminally ill persons. Hospice care focuses on quality of life, comfort and dignity for patients and their families.

HINKLY HOUSE MUSEUM
The Hinkly House museum was built in 1892 by Mr. R.B Hinkly, then the Mayor of Luverne, as a home for his family. This historic four-story, twelve-room house is furnished and decorated with period items and is faced with locally mined Sioux Quartzite.

SANFORD HEALTH LUVERNE
Sanford Health Luverne is a vital partner in the health and well-being of the community. All dollars given to Sanford Health Luverne stay local to improve the quality of care received here. Dedicated to the work of healing.

SANFORD HEALING GARDEN
The Healing Garden at Sanford Luverne offers a beautiful, therapeutic garden where people can relax in nature.

Find us online at www.Luvacf.org
Big Buddies of Rock County

The mission of Big Buddies of Rock County is to promote positive family and community values by mentoring children one-to-one in the hopes of enhancing their quality of life, character development and education.

Rock County Ag Society

The mission of the Rock County Agricultural Society is to bring “the farm” and “the town” together to increase exposure to, and participation in 4-H events, industrial exhibits, the arts and in programs that preserve, promote and showcase both Rock County and the region’s agricultural, historical and cultural heritage.

Generations, Inc.

Our mission is to promote quality of life for adult generations through services, education, and programs. Activities and games offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1pm-4pm. Daily meals are served at 11:45am by Lutheran Social Services.

Southwest Crisis Center

The mission of the SW Crisis Center is to provide help, hope and safety to victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking through supportive services.

Backpack Program

Program provides at-risk children with nutritious, easy to prepare foods for the weekends. This program is staffed by volunteers and serves approximately 160 children ages pre-school to twelfth grade.

Luverne Education Legacy Fund

Formerly Luverne School Foundation, was established to allow individuals and businesses to make tax-deductible donations to the school for any purpose. There are classroom grants available for staff with program needs beyond the general budget. The Foundation also supports specific school/campus projects.

Rock County Veterans Fund

Established to support organizations within our county committed to honoring the legacy of those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Luverne Volleyball Association

Our mission is to provide support for Luverne Volleyball programming, including both the Luverne School District and the Luverne JO programs.
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DONOR ADVISED FUNDS (DAFS)

A Donor-Advised Fund, or DAF, is a charitable giving vehicle sponsored by the LACF that allows you to make a contribution to LACF and be eligible for an immediate tax deduction. But because your account is a donor-advised fund, you advise the organization on how to grant the money out to your favorite charities over time. We have options for your DAF to be a cash or growth fund.

Donor Advised Funds (DAFS) offer year round grant gifting, tax relief AND advisement for gifts!

DAFS HELD AT LACF

NEW DAFS in 2020: Dinger Family DAF (Don and Lisa) and Curt and Marilyn Bloemendaal DAF

Wayne & Ann Robinson DAF
Papik Family DAF
Jim Juhl & Brenda Winter DAF
Gene and Barb Ashby DAF
Cox Family DAF
Sanford Luverne Physician Fund
Eric Schaap Memorial Fund

Donor Advised Community Impact Gifts in 2020 equal $112,369

Gary Overgaard & Emily Lodine Overgaard DAF

Josh and Emily Crabtree DAF
Katie Hemme DAF
Eric Crabtree Memorial Family Fund DAF
LaRock Family Fund DAF
Pamela Ehde Lais Memorial DAF
William Frakes DAF
Schutz DAF
HIGH SCHOOL CEO PROGRAM
Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities is a year-long course designed to utilize partnerships that provide an overview of business development and processes. Our local business community partners with area schools to create project-based experiences. LACF is proud to be the fiscal host for this program.

LUVERNE CHAPTER DI PEO SCHOLARSHIP AT LACF
The Annual Chapter DI PEO Sponsored Scholarship(s) is awarded to a female high school senior(s) and/or a returning female student who best meet the requirements set forth by the Scholarship Committee. PEO is a Philanthropic Educational Organization where women around the world celebrate the advancement of women, educate women through scholarships and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations.

ROUND UP FOR CHARITY
Residents of Luverne on local city utilities can opt to “Round Up” their utility bill and have the extra dollars and cents given to the Community Grant Fund.

$1,355.59
Luverne Residents Rounded Up in 2019

Your IMPACT dollars can be seen throughout our community.

SOUTHWEST MN CEO
HIGH SCHOOL CEO PROGRAM
Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities is a year-long course designed to utilize partnerships that provide an overview of business development and processes. Our local business community partners with area schools to create project-based experiences. LACF is proud to be the fiscal host for this program.
Our Community Grant Fund is our GREATEST NEED AND MAKES THE BIGGEST IMPACT. These dollars are unrestricted and give the LACF the most flexibility to meet the needs in the communities in which we live.

Be part of this great list of donors.

Terrie and Linda Gulden
Lowell and Shirley Harrison
Katie Hemme
Richard and Clarice Herman
Jerry and Mary Hoff
Ron and Cathy Honken
Dave and Linda Iverson
Rhonna Jarchow
James and Paula Jelken
Jim Juhl and Brenda Winter
Tammy Jo Johnson
Shirley Klosterbuer
Carol Kuhlman
Keith and Betty Luethje
Mary Lutmer
Keith and Velda Maine
Betty Mann
Todd and Shawn Mann
George and Carol McDonald
Gordon Mulder
Gwenlyn Mulder
Daniel and Colleen Nath
Dale and Patti Nelson
Larry and Janice Nelson

20 MEMORIALS TO THE COMMUNITY GRANT FUND
IN MEMORY OF

ANNE KENNEDY
BETTY CASHIN
CHUCK FEIKEMA
CURT THORSON
DON DINGER, SR.
JOYCE WESSELS
MATT FRANKEN
PAULINE MARTIN
RYAN TOFTELAND
SHIRLEY CHRISTIANSEN

A unique way to honor someone special or remember a loved one who has passed is to make a gift to the foundation’s Community Grant Fund in their name.
GIVING OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY GRANT FUND

Luverne Community Foundation Annual Report 2020

Angela Beyenhofer
Linda Beyenhofer
Jamie and Jennifer Beyer
Brian J & Gail M Bielen
Bill and Janet Pruess
Bills Water Conditioning
Mary Beth Binford
Miles Birkett
Curt and Marilyn, Bloemendaal
Earl Blom
Blue Mound Auto Glass
Bobbie and Tracy Boelman
Allen and Elaine Boeve
Douglas and Lois Boeve
Elaine Bolt-Petersen
Bongards
George and Corinne Bonnema
Alvin Boogaarden
Keith and Randy Bosch
Melissa Bosch
Kenneth and Andy Bowen
Tyler Bowen
Dr. John and Jeanne Bowron
Tom and Sue Brakke
Everett and Jan Brandenburg
John and Mary Brands
Bernard A Brouwer
Bryan Neugebauer
Don and Lorna "Bryan"
Buffalo Ridge Insurance
Diana Buffington
Florian and Barb Bullerman
Greg and Janet Burger
Betty Burmeister
Sandy Buss
Busse Plumbing Heating & A/C
Vickie Busswitt
Marylin and Edna Buys
Becky Byrne
C & B Operations DBA
Rock County Implement
John and Brenda Call
Judy Callisen
Call's Farm Store Inc
Michael and Lori Carlson
Cattanach Insurance Agency Inc.
CEO Business Class
Dr. Tim and Carol Ceynowa
Marie Chapin
Dr. Stephen and Dr. Judy Chesley
Joan Chesley
Pamela Christensen
Vernon and Lona Rae Christiansen
Shirley Christianson
Donald and Alvina Christoffels
CHS Inc
City of Hills
City of Luverne
City of Steen
Neva Clausen
Cleveringa Construction
Merlin and Carol Cleveringa
Community Foundation of Greater Memphis
Compeer Financial
Computer Clinic
Patrick and Bridget Connell
Robert J and Sandra M Connell
Terry Connell
Tim and Connie Connell
Shirley Connor
Country Cupboards of Luverne Inc
County Of Rock
Amy Cowall
Cox Family Fund
Michael and Cheryl Cox
Dr. Joshua and Emily Crabtree
Robert and Leah Crabtree
Blaine and Marylsisa Crissman
D.L. and J.A. Daniels
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Lisa Davis
Marlyn Debates
DeBoer Chevrolet
David and Lisa DeBoer
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Designs by Stacy LLC
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Timothy and Susan Dispanet
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Eileen Domagala
Lyndon and Nancy Drenth
Phyllis J Dubbe
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Don and Lisa Dinger
Michael and Sharon Dunfield
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Douglas and Rebecca Eeten
Katelyn Enslin
Art and Carol Ehde
Eisma & Eisma Law Offices
Exitreim Property Management
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Edwin and Iva Elbers
Michael and Barb Elbers
Ellsworth Veterinary Clinic
Russell and Colleen Enga
Mike and Jennifer Engesser
Douglas and Carla Ennenga
Joyce Erickman
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Keith and Joan Erickson
Estenson Company
Ray G and Verginia K Evans
Family of Deanna O'Toole
Family of Elden Reyelts
Family of Helen Rolling
Family of Jennie VanEssen
Carol Farrar
Christine Feikes
Melanie Jo Feikerk
Amy Feit
Kevin and Kristi Grott
Ferguson
Fey Industries
Fick Seed Sales
Allen and Christine Fick
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Lyle Fick
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FDLAR Technologies
First Farmers & Merchants Bank
First Presbyterian Church
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Esther Spease Frakes
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Beth Gibson Lila
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Nathan and Molly Golla
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Phil and Denise Gorter
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Grace Lutheran Endowment Fund
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Yuvonne Graafhenneke
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Alicyn Grenz
Bonnie Green
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Norman and Darlene Gyberg
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Lorna Hill  
Hills Stainless Steel  
Jerry and Mary Hoff  
Roger and Lisa Hoff  
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Bradley and Emily Jones  
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Darold and Helen Laabes  
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Stevens and Peg Lange  
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Larry and Jane Lamphere  
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Curt and Jean Laudon  
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Lester Feed and Grain Co.  
Alan and Lois Leuthold  
James Leuthold  
Lewis Family Drug LLC  
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Dianne Lorenzen  
Keith and Betty Luethje  
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Mark and Lisa Lundgren  
Mary Luethje  
Leroy and Shirley Harrison  
Lowell and Shirley Harrison  
Eric and Cheryl Hartman  
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Adam and Tracy Hansen  
Elaine M. Hermes  
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Lowell and Shirley Harrison  
Eric and Cheryl Hartman  
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Rock-Nobles Cattlemen Association
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Sanford Luverne Medical Center
Sanford Luverne Physicians Fund
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Gladsy Siebenalner
Darrel and Eleanor Siebert
Sioux Valley Energy
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Bradley and Susan Skattum
Susan Skattum
Tom and Nan Skattum
Skattum’s Confinement and Superior
Buildings, LLC
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Harlan Smith
Mike and Mirea Smith
Sandy Smith
Marie Smook
Rita Smook
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Southwest Mutual Ins. Co.
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Gregory and Dianna Spall
Don and Myrna Spease
Mark and Lynette Springer
Austin Sproink
St. Cathrine Catholic Church
St Paul Foundation
St. John Lutheran Church
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Craig and Anne Stegeman
Rita Sterrett
Ferry and Brenda Stickling
Alan and Ruth Stobokes
Ludy Stroh
Stuart and Lori Christians
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Jill Swenson
Shirley Swenson
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Ronone First Rock County
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The Sewing Basket
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Jeffery Thorson
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Trex-Teck Inc.
Leroy and Suavin Tweet
Becky Ullik
Buck and Signe Underwood
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Loup’s Methodist Church
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Douglas and Virginia Wessels
Gertrude Wessels
Tod and Brenda Wessels
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Jere Waymire
Thomas Wierzema
Jane Wildung Lamphere
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Bill Martin
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Stanley and Karen Williamson
Wilson Manufacturing Co
Sandra Wissink
Michael W Wolter
Dr. Nicole and Kyle Woodley
Jesse Roemeling
Jesse and Natalie Wobdryck
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Zion Lutheran Church
Zion Lutheran Womans Missionary League
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James Vanderberg
Janice Vaneck
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Frances Veldkamp
Tweia and Gene Versteeg
Viking Electric
Virgil and Sarah Vlylaardams
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Lonna Vis
Phil and Louella Voigt
Katharyn Vollmer
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Pat and Kim Wotersch
Kenneth and Phyllis Vos
Voss Lumber
Joni Voss
W & N Construction
Waddell & Reed Investments
Michael Wagley
Matthew and Jill Wagner
Robert and Shirley Warren
Dr. Wens R. Beverley Wessels
Douglas and Virginia Wessels
Gertrude Wessels
Todd and Brenda Wessels
Sheila Westfield
Lee and Casey Westphal
Bob E. Wharton
Connie Wiekenke
Jere Waymire
Thomas Wierzema
Jane Wildung Lamphere
James and Jill Willese
Mark and Karen Wilpers
Bill Martin
John Williams
Stanley and Karen Williamson
Wilson Manufacturing Co
Sandra Wissink
Michael W Wolter
Dr. Nicole and Kyle Woodley
Jesse Roemeling
Jesse and Natalie Wobdryck
Woodstock Communications
Darlene G. Woolsey
Robert and Sharon Zinnel
Zion Lutheran Church
Zion Lutheran Womans Missionary League
COMMUNITY GRANT FUND
THE “CORNEA”
OF THE
LUVERNE FOUNDATION
IMPACTS GRANTS

In a year where gathering and celebrating with others for a common good was impossible we had to come up with a new idea for our annual fundraiser for the Community Grant Fund. In years past it came in the form of a concert at the Palace Theatre supported by donors of the foundation and lovers of live music. We have had a lot of fun raising money this way, but now we had to think differently.

This year it came in collaboration with GiveMN.org, a nonprofit organization that promotes growth in MN through generosity.

We challenged donors of LACF to participate in Give to the Max day through GiveMN. LACF set a goal of raising $15,000 during this 2 week period in November of 2020.

With the support of the following donors we exceeded our goal by $5000 raising $20,000 for the Community Grant Fund – our fund of greatest flexibility in meeting area needs.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Amy Feit
Gary & Barb Golla
Pat & Katie Baustian
Sam & Barb Berghorst
Jamie & Jen Beyer
Vickie Busswitz
Joshua & Emily Crabtree
Don & Lisa Dinger
Nate & Molly Golla
Katie Hemme
Jim & Paula Jelken
Dan & Colleen Nath
Cary & Karen Radisewitz
Jody & Sharla Reisch
Amy Reuter
Bill & Sherri Thompson
Darrell & LaDonna VanAartsen
John & Brenda Call
Eileen Domagala
Bill & Nancy Frakes
Lowell & Shirley Harrison
Carol Kuhlman
Dale & Patti Nelson
Larry & Janice Nelson
Gary & Janine Papik
David & Carol Svingen
Jim Juhl & Brenda Winter
Mike & Jennifer Engesser
Gary Overgaard
Isaac & Teresa DeBoer
Kevin and Leigh Thelen
Mike and Nancy Sandager
Mike and Cherly Cox
Jason and Elizabeth Schear

Find us online at www.Luvacf.org
The giving year 2020 has been an interesting one. It is in these times that local leaders are called to respond to the needs of the community. Our 3 award winners have demonstrated outstanding call to action during this public health crisis. It is our pleasure to honor them in these areas.

**2020 Outstanding Corporation or Business Award: Rock County Star Herald**

This award recognizes a corporation or business that has created a culture of philanthropy with their organization and has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to philanthropy through its: 1) financial support of one or more nonprofit organizations, 2) leadership involvement, and 3) volunteer participation and commitment of its workforce in establishing a role model for other businesses in our community, specifically during the 2020 Covid-19 crisis.

The award went to the Rock County Star Herald. The Rock County Star Herald...

- Has been at the forefront of Covid-19 prevention by supporting, promoting and modeling Covid-19 protocol.
- Kept the local public informed and up to date with current Covid-19 testing results, has been a priority in addition to laboriously working with state, county, city and school officials weekly to provide the public with the information they need to stay safe and help slow the spread of the virus.
- Created a child’s insert on hand washing, masks and what it means to be safe during Covid-19. It ran for 4 weeks in an attempt to educate and calm the questions our youth may have but are afraid to ask.
- Support to nonprofits and charitable giving now spreads into the private sector during this pandemic. RCSH manager Rick Peterson states, “We’re no different than so many local business that step up when and if they can to help others. It’s not just doing the right thing, it’s more than that, it’s the culture of the local businesses to do the right thing.”
- Rick and his staff have supported local businesses and nonprofits with low or no cost advertising spaces during portions of our lock down period when hours were reduced and in some cases closed for extended periods of time so that businesses could find a way to keep going.
- Early on during the pandemic the Rock County Star Herald partnered with The Luverne Area Chamber of Commerce and KQAD/K101 for the “Rock Solid We’re in this Together” radiothon promotion that sold over $250,000 in local gift cards that went directly to local businesses.
- The staff members at the Rock County Star Herald are involved in a whole array of different volunteer organizations, including Dollars for Scholars, Alumni News, 4-H, Palace Theatre, Rock County Pheasants Forever, Luverne Area Community Foundation, Luverne Chamber of Commerce, Community Education, Census 2020, as well as delivering Meals on Wheels.
- You will always see them first in line to role model participation in local community activities and events.
2020 Nonprofit Spotlight Award: Luverne Child Guide Program

The Nonprofit Spotlight Award Recognizes an outstanding volunteer group that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to the community through direct involvement, financial support and leadership, specifically during the 2020 Covid-19 crisis. Connie Connell launched the program in Luverne after seeing the need for connection between school and community in helping at-risk youth.

• It was not intended to run independently but rather in collaboration with other entities to work toward helping youth and families in need or at-risk.
• Now in its 20th year as a program, Lisa Dinger, the program lead, and her actively engaged board focus their work on connecting resources in the community with students and families.
• Programs such as the Backpack Program, Homework Club, Kids in the Commons, School Supply Distribution, Youth Scholarship program, Bookin Buddies, morning school greeters and a mentoring program have deep ties to the work of the Child Guide program.

2020 Spirit of Philanthropy Award: Pat and Kim Von Tersch

In 2020 the Spirit of Philanthropy award recognized an outstanding living person(s) with a proven record of exceptional financial generosity or volunteer leadership in Rock County. This year’s award honored these actions specifically during the 2020 Covid-19 crisis. This year we honor Pat and Kim Von Tersch, they

• Prioritize support for charitable organizations and others, but when they started to see the effects of Covid-19 on our community their call to give was heightened.
• A concern for finite resources such as food, production agriculture and the Ag industry has been a passion. With these resources at risk it was an obvious area to stand in to help.
• The Von Terschs feel that giving back to the community is important to help those that find themselves in a situation out of their control, especially in a year like 2020.
• They share, “We live in a community that is so willing to help others and our hope is to build upon the momentum that others have started to continue sustainable giving and support in the community.”
• In the midst of the Covid pandemic they helped:
  – The Luverne Baseball Association with hand sanitizers for safe play at all levels.
  – Donated funds for oximeters to Sanford Luverne for use by Covid patients to monitor oxygen levels while home
  – Provided meat bundles to the Rock County Food shelf and as appreciation gifts to First Responders in the area.
  – Supported the 2020 senior class with graduation banners in downtown Luverne
  – Supported many local benefits and generously supported the LACF Community Crisis Fund with the offer that if more help was needed to please let them know.
2020 GRANT AWARDS

Did you know that last year LACF granted out:

$78,466 in grant dollars to Rock County organizations
Served 5 communities
Helped 21 different nonprofit organizations

WANT TO APPLY FOR A GRANT?
Apply online at www.luvacf.org
Grants open in September and March

Making an Impact in Rock County

Arts & Culture, $825, 1%
Community Development, $10,148, 15%
Education, $2,285, 3%
Recreation, $15,915, 24%
Human Services, $11,022, 17%
Healthcare, $22,794, 35%
Nutrition, $3,000, 5%
$24,868 in Community Fund Grants

Luverne Child Guide: Youth activity scholarships
City of Magnolia: New signage
A.C.E.: Resource Brochure update
Hardwick American Legion Auxiliary: chairs for community center
Luverne Public School: Symphony trip
Luverne Hockey Club/Blue Mound Ice Arena: Arena Live Stream
Rock County Sportsman’s Club: Replacement Windows
Blue Mound Area Theatre: Facility Signage
Luverne Hockey Club: updated nets for youth, HS and adult hockey games
Luverne Baseball Association: Field Prep Equipment
Southwest Youth Services (SYS): online education curriculum and technology
City of Hills: baseball field improvements
City of Beaver Creek: community splash park

$53,598 in Community Healthcare Grants

Hills Beaver Creek School with Sanford Luverne - Flu Shot Clinic
Luverne Public School with Sanford Luverne - Flu Shot Clinic
Hills Fire Department - AED
Lutheran Social Services - Shelf Stable Meals for Seniors
Rock Ranch - Rider Lyft Assist
Sanford Luverne - Bladder Scanner
LIFT/Power of Produce - healthy eating and living program for kids
Luverne Fire Department – new face hoods and extraction gloves
Sanford Luverne – At home Meta Lab/Sleep Apnea Machine
RCO – washer and dryer for community laundry services
Did you know that you can help your community build an endowment for healthy visions of the future? Luverne Area Community Foundation gives sight to all communities within the border of Rock County. To aid in our commitment we are challenging communities outside of Luverne to build an endowment that LACF will match.

You raise the first $5000, LACF will match the 2nd $5,000 and your community has the start of a $10,000 endowment for future projects and needs directly related to your community. How much bigger it grows is up to your vision for community.

**COMMUNITY FUND GIVING**

Hills $5000 + LACF $5000 = $10,000  
Hardwick $1000  
Kenneth $1000  
Beaver Creek $0  
Steen $0  
Magnolia $0  
Jasper $0  

Contact Emily Crabtree to learn about how to give and how to get your community excited about supporting this opportunity.  
507-220-2424 or Emily@luvacf.org