

Newsletter

December 2017

Jan's Note

GETTING CLOSER - The Watertown Area Community Foundation office at 211 E Kemp is under construction. The



remodel is on schedule and should be completed soon. During the interim, the WACF office is on the 3rd floor of the Redlin Art Center. We look forward to continuing as your steward of the community's endowment both at our temporary location and in our downtown office once the remodel is complete. Whether you are a donor, a grantee or someone who wants to learn more about the Foundation's good works, we want to hear from you in 2018 and beyond. Happy New Year!



HAPPY NEW YEAR! I look forward to seeing what 2018 has in store for the Watertown Area Community Foundation and the greater Watertown region.

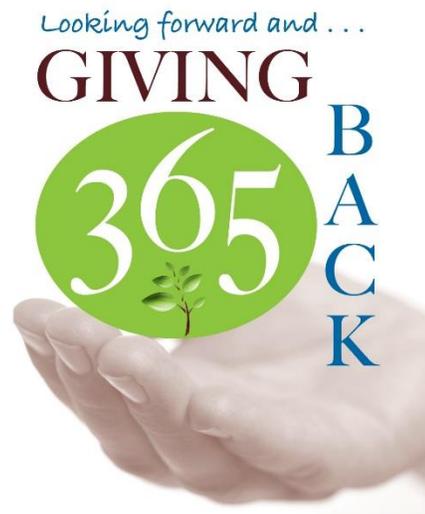
Generous donors of their time, talent and treasure have helped make 2017 amazing for our community. A new wellness center, new skatepark, new ballpark and the expansion/renovation of the Boys & Girls Club are just a few examples of your efforts and dollars at work to make a better "home" for all of us.

Many of you have donated to the annual WACF ChristmasTree Fundraiser at the Watertown Regional Library. The results are being tallied and will be released soon. Watch for more details.

There are many more ways that donors make a difference. Some choose to start a fund or donate any amount to the Foundation to support the community's most pressing needs. Many are joining the Foundation's Giving Back 365 program which you can read more about in this e-newsletter.

February will bring the annual Watertown Winter Farm Show. Congratulations to the Hurkes family for being chosen this year's honorees. The Foundation will again present a panel to answer questions about estate planning. The hour-long presentation will be Friday, Feb. 9, in Classroom C at 11 a.m.

The 2018 program is just beginning. If you haven't already done so, we urge you to consider joining this giving circle by giving \$1 a day to make your community better. Half of your contribution is used for grants in the current year and half is placed in an endowed fund to support future grants. As a member, you are eligible to participate in the grant-making process. There are several ways to join or make a donation. You can donate by check or go to: www.watertowncommunityfoundation.org to use your Visa, Mastercard or Discover card. For more information on how you can join Giving Back 365, please contact us at 605-882-3731 or: foundation@iw.net



2017 Giving Back 365 Grants Awarded

“Giving Back 365 donors continue to prove that \$1 a day can make a difference,” said Jan DeBerg, executive director of the Watertown Area Community Foundation. “ This year the positive impact means more programming for the Boys & Girls Club, a new computer for Habitat for Humanity, support for the Wildlife Warrior program, supplies for PACH and more.”

In 2017, Giving Back 365 donors awarded \$16,420 with the following grants:

- \$1,739 to purchase an Automated External Defibrillator to have onsite at the Beacon Center.
- \$1,400 to support a digital literacy program at the Boys & Girls Club which focuses on new skills as well as online safety.
- \$1,363 to Divine Providence of South Dakota to help fund start-up costs for its Pulpit Supply program which provides volunteer ecumenical lay preachers for area pastors and churches.
- \$1,390 to Habitat for Humanity Greater Watertown Region for laptop, printer, wireless phone and software.
- \$1,920 to Joy Ranch for materials to construct a wheelchair accessible lift for the horse riding area.
- \$1,363 to Lake Area Zoological Society to support the Wildlife Warriors boys’ Roots & Shoots program at Bramble Park Zoo. This is the fifth consecutive year for GB365 support of this program!
- \$1,000 to PACH for a cart for the packing area and totes for outgoing snacks.
- \$1,244 to REACH (Respond-Educate-Advocate-Counsel-Heal) to purchase a Bluetooth speaker which will enable team to monitor forensic interviews. Part of the grant will be used to also purchase educational books to give to families that are seen at the child advocacy center.
- \$2,000 to the Salvation Army to support a music program for youth.
- \$2,000 to Watertown Area Transit to update telephone system.
- \$1,000 to Watertown Artwalk to cover printing costs in 2018 which includes 4,000 brochures distributed to residents and visitors.

“These grants will touch hundreds of lives,” DeBerg said. “Thank you 2017 Giving Back 365 donors for making all of this possible

Watertown Area Community Foundation



From Left: Angie Reppe, Lee Schull, Charlie Ewalt, Dr. Jeff Danielsen, and Laurie Benson.

Trustee Representatives: Scott Olson, Great Western Bank; and Tyler DeBoer, Wells Fargo Bank, NA; Staff: Jan DeBerg, executive director; Greg Blow, donor development; Julianne Endres, marketing/donor services; Jill Slobotski, administrative assistant.

As of January 2015 our assets were approximately \$16 million. We have over 100 funds that provide grants and scholarships each year to residents and organizations in Watertown.

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