

# Newsletter April 2018



**WOMEN & GIVING - ON A MISSION** - Approximately 100 women attended the 15th annual Women & Giving event at Joy Ranch last week. Keynote speaker was Cris Linnares (left photo, with Chris Carter, emcee). Linnares gave an inspirational presentation, "Fearless Giving." Other speakers included: Barb Struwe (bottom left), who

shared the impact of Women & Giving's grant to Girls Rule; Hailey Aldren (bottom center), who shared her personal story as a Women & Giving scholarship recipient; and Kathy Witte-Holmes (bottom right), Women & Giving supporter. Special thanks to Prudy Calvin and Ann Sigelman for their underwriting support. The event raises funds each year to pursue its ongoing mission to help area women and children to overcome barriers and achieve their goals.



## DIRECTOR NOTES

April may have begun with snow and cold, but it is ending a lot more like the spring we enjoy. Regardless of the weather, the month was a busy one for the Watertown Area Community Foundation.

Foundation Board members met in April at the Foundation office.

### Grants awarded include:

- \$5,000 to Watertown Area Transit to support the Saturday transit service.
- \$16,000 to the Mellette Memorial Association to fund the re-shingle of the roof and installation of new gutters.

### Area School Partnership Grants:

- \$2,499 to Castlewood school to purchase a robot.
- \$2,400 to Estelline High School to purchase six iPads for music composing class.
- \$2,500 to Hamlin school to supplement purchasing robotic kits and iPads for the 4th and 5th-grade STEM curriculum and 3D printer and drones for high school students.
- \$2,500 to Henry School District to purchase VexEDR robot kits and coding curriculum for STEM labs in grades 5-12.

We had another successful and meaningful Women & Giving event at Joy Ranch. Thank you to speakers, sponsors and helpers as well as the attendees!



## Youth Council Awards Grants



The Watertown Area Community Foundation Youth Council has awarded \$7,500 in grants this spring to youth-serving organizations and programs. Those receiving grants were:

- \$1,274 to Beacon Center for two desktop computers and monitors.
- \$1,150 to the Boys & Girls Club for a 150" drop-down screen and projector for its theater room.
- \$1,125 to Chief Jo's Hope, Healing and Hoof prints effort to help sexually abused children by assisting with the cost of creating an informational video.

- \$600 to Habitat for Humanity to purchase building tools and equipment.
- \$750 to Joy Ranch for fishing equipment and life jackets for campers.
- \$500 to Lake Area Zoological Society for bee boxes, a starter kit, signage and other miscellaneous materials to educate zoo visitors about pollinators.
- \$600 to My Happy Place to help purchase tools and equipment for bedroom makeovers for ill children.
- \$700 to the Watertown Police Department Camp Chance program to purchase supplies and T-shirts for participating kids.
- \$401 to Watertown Area Transit to supplement the cost of DAWG Daze of Summer program which helps children and families get to various summer activities, etc.
- \$400 to Watertown Volunteer Center to purchase supplies for making blankets for the Salvation Army.

The Youth Council consists of graduating seniors: Jenna Buechler, Maryn Stacey and Rachel Holien; and juniors: Alyssa Roby, Sydney Walker and Braeden Kluver.

The group elected new members for the 2018-19 school year. They are: Gracie Ebsen, daughter of Jeremy and Christine Ebsen; Tessa Holien, daughter of Ried and Tonya Holien and Allison Kluver, daughter of Wayne and Wendy Kluver.

### Watertown Area Community Foundation



**Front Row:** Angie Reppe, Laurie Benson, Kristen Henderson Liam Culhane  
**Back Row:** Dr. Jeff Danielsen, Joel Vockrodt, Charlie Ewalt

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.

*The Watertown Area Community Foundation is governed by a volunteer board who broadly represent the Watertown Community. These board members are appointed by the: City of Watertown, Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce, Watertown School District, Great Western Bank, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*

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.