

Newsletter June 2018



Learn About Grants

Chances are you've been touched in some way by a grant awarded by the Watertown Area Community Foundation. Grantmaking is part of how the Watertown Area Community Foundation invests in the vitality of our greater Watertown area. This year, that investment will be more than \$400,000. The Foundation Board has already awarded many grants in the first half of 2018. Some of the organizations/projects supported thus far this year include Artwalk, the Watertown Initiative to Prevent Sex Trafficking, the Lake Area Technical Institute Governor's Luncheon, Thursday Night Live, Bramble Park Zoo, the Mellette House, Watertown Area Transit and the Senior Center.

Due to donors' generosity, the Foundation has awarded more than \$6.5 million in grants over the years! Many grants are awarded from the Foundation's General Endowment Fund from unrestricted gifts to support a wide array of ever-changing and immediate community needs.

The grant application and guidelines are on our website: watertowncommunityfoundation.org. Final determination on all proposals is made by the Board with consideration for donor's wishes, community needs and the proposing organization's capacity to provide effective service to our area.

- Only programs and projects in the Watertown area are eligible for funding.
- In general, grants are made for start-up costs for a new program, acquisition of equipment, one-time projects and for capital improvements.
- With the exception of scholarships, the Foundation does not make grants to individuals.
- The completed application must include the Grant Application Summary and a brief narrative which describes the program or project and shows the budget for the proposal. Evidence of approval of the governing Board of the requesting organization is recommended. Letters of support or other relevant materials may also be included.

DIRECTOR NOTES

Summer is well under way. I hope you and your family plan to attend the City Fireworks Show set for July 3, on the Redlin Art Center grounds. The City, and Redlin Art Center have partnered with many businesses and organizations, including the Foundation, to bring the public a spectacular event.

Another show slated for July is the Town Players Youth Theater production of "Beauty and the Beast" also supported by the Foundation. Performances will be July 10-14 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at HyVee and Town Players.

Remember Thursdays throughout the summer are full of fun and music, too, with Thursday Night Live.



Foundation Board members met in June at the Foundation office. A grant of \$1,050 was awarded to Northern Prairie Arts to support a plein air event in Watertown this August.

The Board also discussed ideas for celebrating the Foundation's 40th anniversary in 2019.

WACF Board members and staff plan to conduct strategic planning sessions this fall.

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 2018 our assets were approximately \$18 million. We have over 100 funds that provide grants and scholarships each year to residents and organizations in Watertown.

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