



Photographs by
Chap Achen

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

45 YEARS ~ \$17 MILLION





Sheldon Theatre Brass Band's new Vibraphone played by Michaela Woods.



River Bluff Humane Society Director Liz Zolondek and Nugget, along with some of the animal shelter's adoptable pets.



Downtown housing project.



Downtown History Stroll. Scanning the QR code brings up the building's historical past.

Friends of the Red Wing Area Fund,

Among its activities last year, RWAf was privileged to help pickleball enthusiasts reach their fundraising goal and, with the City, build public pickleball courts in Colvill Park.

We also funded a new idea from the Red Wing Downtown Mainstreet organization in which 10 downtown building histories each were given a QR code. Passersby can access the codes through their phones. A list of other grants appears elsewhere in this report.

Since 1980 RWAf has made grants exceeding \$17 million benefitting the region's residents. Our founders brought their financial resources and community participants together to work "to preserve and enhance values which have always characterized Red Wing humanity's strong sense of community and its concern for one's fellow man in a way to set an example for other communities." Those words are from RWAf's early board members. Continuing they said: "The Red Wing Area Fund's approach is to seek out those causes which are not yet appropriate for municipal government action, which do not yet commend themselves for universal public support, but which point the way for the future and sustain those enduring qualities that have always made Red Wing unique."

Among the early board members were:

Wm. D. Sweasy	Ora Jones
Elizabeth Marshall	Frank Chesley
Loren Hamre	Suzanne Blue
Spencer Broughton	Joe Goggin
Philip Duff	Scott Jones
Norman Sampson	Hawley Foot

We have accomplished these investments in our community with administrative and financial guidance from the St. Paul Foundation and the willingness of each successive RWAf volunteer board. The community's donations during 45 years has exceeded \$17 million. Our priority has been to invest in projects while keeping a minimum balance invested financially for the future. This grows the fund very slowly and yet keeps much of the investment growth and current donations active and working in the Red Wing Area.

Throughout its history the Red Wing Area Fund has received \$6M in donations and turned it into \$17M of community projects.

Current Directors:

Suzanne Blue (Chair), Arlin Albrecht,
Buck Foot (Treasurer),
Marybess Goeppinger, Heidi Jones (Secretary),
Vicki Riester, Arne Skyberg, Bill Sweasy

GRANTS PAID 2024

Downtown Housing Project 42,666.25

City of Red Wing - Downtown Philanthropic Collaborative

Consultant Contract - Meyer Beckner. 9,774.45

Red Wing Downtown Main Street

Downtown History Stroll..... 4,000.00

Red Wing Downtown Main Street

**Signage, Lighting and
Security System Upgrades 3,000.00**

River Bluff Humane Society

Purchase of a Vibraphone 5,000.00

SheldonTheatre Brass Band

**Supporting the Work of the Downtown
Revitalisation 15,500.00**

Red Wing Downtown Main Street

T. B. Sheldon Sustaining Fund..... 80,000.00

City of Red Wing

TOTAL GRANTS PAID IN 2024	\$159,940.70
TOTAL GRANTS SINCE INCEPTION	\$17,002,786.95

Mission Statement

Our mission is to continue and extend the exceptional character and quality of community life in the Red Wing area. To realize this objective, the Fund shall initiate its own projects and also consider helping to fund ideas and projects brought forth by other individuals, groups and organizations.

The Fund shall be responsive to changing needs and opportunities, especially those which have the potential to impact future generations. It will manage its resources to allow participation as leader or contributor in community efforts of major significance.

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Dale & Nancy Wagner
Burt & Judy Will



Red Wing Area Fund's 45 Year Anniversary

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Since Inception • 1981 – 2024



Anderson Center – \$842,000



Universal Playground – \$100,000



Cannon Valley Trail – \$34,708



Depot – \$786,863



Trenton Island – \$817,228



YMCA – \$2,200,250



Goodhue County Historical Society – \$610,702



Red Wing School District – \$427,000



Levee Park – \$95,300

Additional Grants

American Red Cross/Goodhue County
American Ski Jumping Museum & Hall of Fame
American Wind Symphony Orchestra
Anderson Center
Artreach
Benedictine Health System Foundation
Big Turn LLC - Music Festival
Cannon Valley Trail
C.A.R.E. Free Clinic
Church of St Joseph - Friendship House
City of Red Wing - Colvill Aquatic Center
City of Red Wing - Quarry Project
City of Red Wing - Trenton Island Project

Commemorative Air Force - Wings of Freedom
Air Show
Depot - General Support - RW Property
Conservation Fund
Depot - Purchase & Improvements
Downtown Beautification
Downtown Philanthropy Collaborative
Eaglewatch, Inc.
Fairview Red Wing Health Services
Flyway Film Festival
Friedrich Center
Frontenac Township
Gamehaven Council - Boy Scouts
Give To The Max FD
Goodhue County

Goodhue County Historical Society
Grand Excursion
Habitat For Humanity
Hedin-Hartnagel Memorial Fund
Hiawatha Valley Family Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
Hispanic Outreach of Goodhue Cty
Independent School District #256
Institute for Minnesota Archaeology
Izaak Walton League - Red Wing Chapter
Jones Family Foundation - Every Hand Joined
& Sparkz Project
Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance
Levee Park
Live Healthy Red Wing
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

• Number of Grants – 465

• Total Grants – \$17 Million



Splash Pad – \$117,572



Red Wing Arts – \$364,258



Colvill Aquatic Center – \$291,216



Sheldon Theatre – \$3,605,155



Red Wing ELC – \$87,500



C.A.R.E. Clinic – \$92,500



Memorial Park – \$476,419



Habitat for Humanity – \$173,750

Minnesota Land Trust
Minnesota State College Southeast Foundation
Minnesota Womens Consortium
National Audubon Society
P-Flag Book Project – RW Operating Fund
Philip S. Duff Jr. Endowment Fund
Pottery Pond Skateboard Park
Red Wing Area Farmers Market Association
Red Wing Area Seniors
Red Wing Arts
Red Wing Area Mountain Bike
Red Wing Chapter/Catholic Charities
Red Wing Coalition For Transitional Housing
Red Wing Collectors Society (Pottery Museum)
Red Wing Diversity Festival

Red Wing Downtown Mainstreet, Inc.
Red Wing Environmental Learning Center
Red Wing Homeless (Hope Coalition Fiscal Agent)
Red Wing Ice Arena
Red Wing Ignite Project
Red Wing In Bloom
Red Wing Library
Red Wing Marine Museum
Red Wing Montessori School
Red Wing Singers
Red Wing Wildlife League
Red Wing Youth Outreach
River Bluff Humane Society
Second Minnesota Battery Light Artillery
Sheldon Theater Brass Band

Society of Orpheus & Bacchus
Sound Support for String Music
Splash Pad (City of Red Wing Fiscal Agent)
T. B. Sheldon Theatre
Three Feathers Horsemanship &
Peace Gardens
United Way
Universal Music Center
Universal Playground (United Way Fiscal Agent)
Villa Maria Center
Young Adults Association
YMCA

A Special Thank You to All of Our Contributors!

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Please cut on line and enclose in envelope. Address is below.

Act Today - Enhance Tomorrow



Yes, I want to support the mission of the Red Wing Area Fund.
Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ (other) _____

Name: _____

Please write in your name as you'd like it to appear in print or whether you would prefer to remain anonymous.

☐ Remain anonymous

Address: _____

Telephone/cell: _____

Email address: _____

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Leave a legacy to Red Wing that will last forever



The Red Wing Pickleball group at the Grand Opening of the newly constructed Pickleball Courts in Colvill Park.



Margaret Johnson and Denny Yecke (foreground) played the inaugural game as they were the first, and oldest pickleball players in Red Wing.

Act Today - Enhance Tomorrow!

By making a tax-deductible contribution to the Red Wing Area Fund you can give something back to our very special community. The Red Wing Area Fund supports preservation, youth activities, education, health care, the arts, and economic development.

Red Wing Area Fund is a community partnership which depends for its existence on public contributions and a legacy established by its founders. Its ongoing commitment is one of the features that make the city and its environs truly unique.

If you are 70 ½ or older, consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly into the Red Wing Area Fund through an IRA Charitable Rollover.

- For those 72 and older, satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year.
- Support the good work of causes or organizations while potentially minimizing your taxable income.
- QCDs can be made directly to the Red Wing Area Fund at the Foundation from traditional IRAs, inherited IRAs, inactive Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) plans or inactive Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees (SIMPLE) IRAs.

To learn more, contact philanthropy@spmcf.org

Contact us to find out more about how you can make a gift or send a donation to the Red Wing Area Fund.

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