

marshfield area community foundation inc.

2025 impact report

marshfield area community foundation inc.

A community foundation is a non-profit, publicly supported, philanthropic institution composed primarily of permanent funds established by many separate donors for the charitable benefit of the residents of a defined geographic area. Community foundations provide an array of services to donors who wish to establish endowed funds without incurring the administrative and legal costs of starting independent foundations. *Learn more at https://cof.org/*

CFNS

ACCREDITED FOUNDATION

Platinum Transparency 2026

Candid.

Dear Friends,

Since 1993, the Marshfield Area Community Foundation has strengthened our community through local philanthropy. From the beginning, our board established guiding principles for grantmaking in conservation, community development, education, recreation, and the arts. Those principles continue to shape our work as we respond to evolving needs and opportunities across the Marshfield area.

Through partnerships with generous donors, support was raised for local emergency services, securing a vehicle equipped to transport patients in wooded and difficult-to-access areas. Investment was made in the well-being of veterans through an equine-assisted program, a new opportunity for healing. History is coming to life through an educational film honoring the Adler family, whose economic and personal influence shaped Marshfield, building connection and strengthening civic understanding. Grants helped address critical rural health needs, including transportation access, one of the most pressing priorities identified in state and county health assessments for our west-central region. Read on and be inspired by the good being done within your community; it surely inspires us.

We remain deeply committed to improving quality of life in the Marshfield area with partners like you, ever grateful to the donors, non-profits, and volunteers whose generosity makes this work possible.

With gratitude,

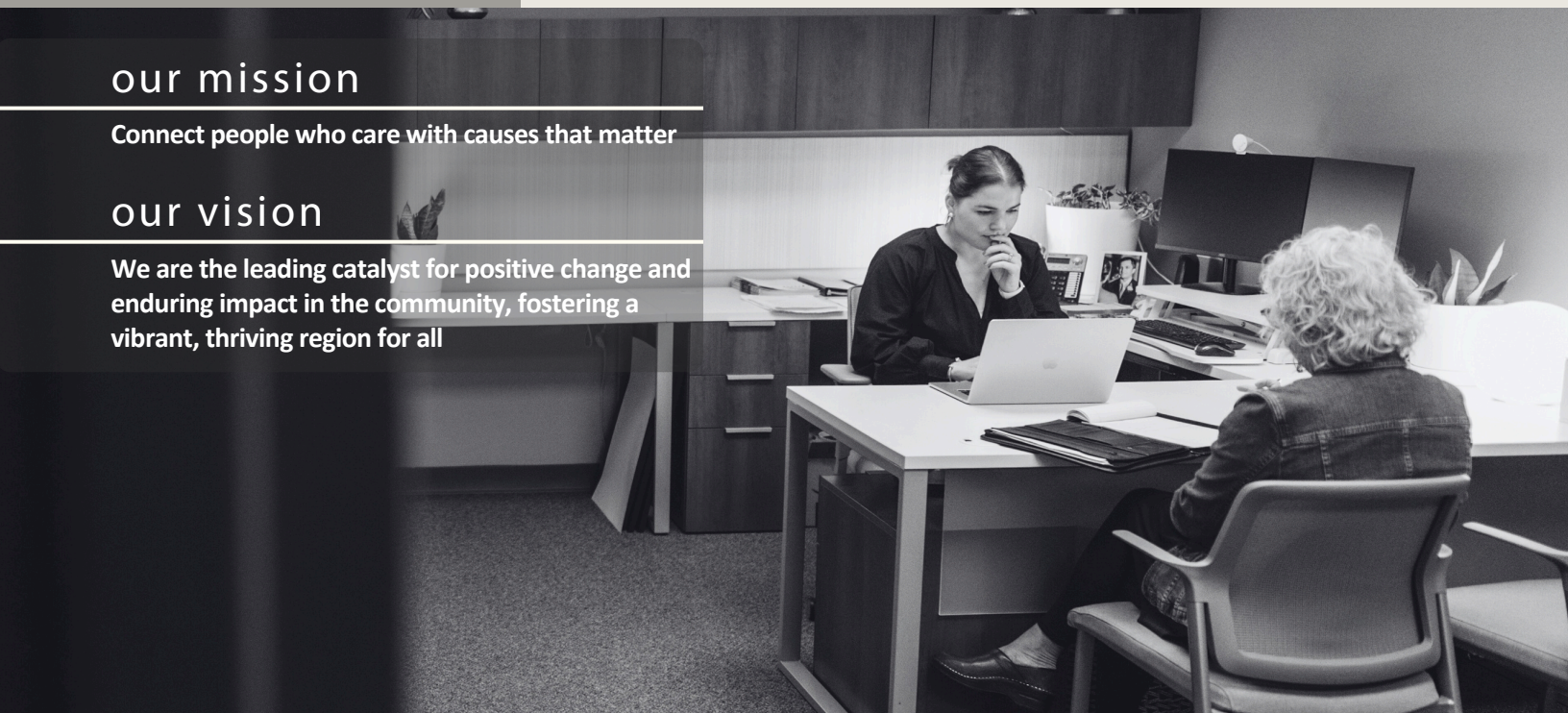
President Carolyn Schulein Executive Director Kaelie Gomez

our mission

Connect people who care with causes that matter

our vision

We are the leading catalyst for positive change and enduring impact in the community, fostering a vibrant, thriving region for all



2025 board of directors



Anthony Andrews



Ben Bauer



Lori Belongia
Secretary



Justin Casperson



Ryan Christianson
Past-President



Chris Damerell
President-Elect



Terry Frankland



Lori Gropp
Treasurer



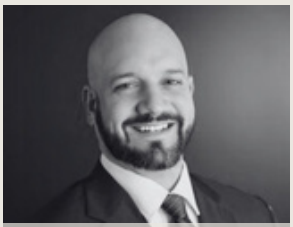
Nicholas Kumm



Alex Lendved



Brian Parker



Andrew Reigel



Carolyn Schulein
President



Nate Smith



Rachel Stankowski

2025 staff



Trinity Linzmeier
Scholarships Assistant

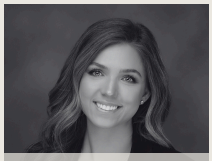
Leslie Schoen
Program Assistant

Kaelie Gomez
Executive Director

2025 advisory & committee members



Jim Bartelt



Isabell Grethen



Bill Heiting



Errin Kolden



Pam Nikolai



Ashley Winch

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Wildwood Zoo Endowment Fund benefits the Zoological Society, (and exhibits like the Prairie Dog Coterie)

ripple effect, lasting change

After completing 3 3-year terms each (a combined 18 years of service), two past board presidents reflect on their time serving the Marshfield Area Community Foundation. Community leadership through board service contributes to the foundation and every nonprofit we serve. Skilled leaders identify creative solutions, passionately care for local needs, enhance donor relationships, and invest as local philanthropists themselves.



When asked about the future, Past-President Ben Bauer hopes the Foundation will continue to serve as a connector that brings people, ideas, and resources together to create meaningful, lasting impact, and he envisions its future rooted in a sense of belonging—helping families, small businesses, and emerging leaders see their role in shaping what comes next for the community. For him, strengthening a community begins with everyday participation, whether that's volunteering, supporting local efforts, or simply showing up for one another in ways that, over time, build shared resilience and pride.



When asked about the future, Past-President Justin Casperson hopes the Foundation will continue to act as a catalyst for projects that make Marshfield an even better place to live, especially by enhancing parks, trails, recreation programs, and community events. He values projects that expand access, embrace inclusivity, and use forward-thinking design, believing that improving a community is not only about infrastructure but also about helping people take pride and ownership in the spaces they share. Small, consistent actions and mutual respect for those places can spark a ripple effect that strengthens the entire community.

2025 impact at a glance

Community foundations play a pivotal role in aggregating capital from individuals, families, and businesses to address evolving community priorities and enhance regional quality of life. Partnerships with generous donors, community partners, and board members drive impactful stories like those featured in this report over our 32-year history.

As stewards of charitable assets, the foundation prudently invests funds with long-term sustainability in mind. Flexible giving structures and robust governance provide a unique opportunity for donors seeking a measurable and enduring impact in their communities. Distribution supports both immediate needs and long-term initiatives.

The Marshfield Area Community Foundation holds over 200 funds, with 13 new funds added in 2025.

Assets
$27M

Distributions into the Community
$2.1M

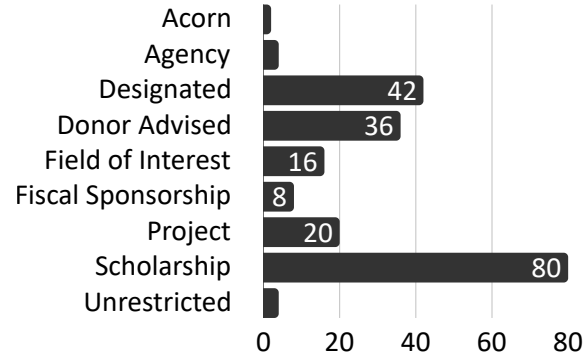
Total Number of Disbursements
416



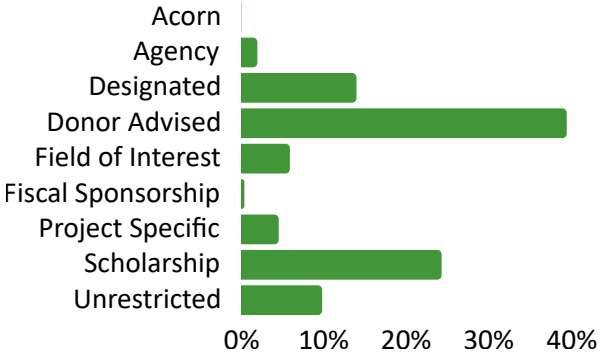
Community Grants support programming for seniors in respite care

foundation **funds**

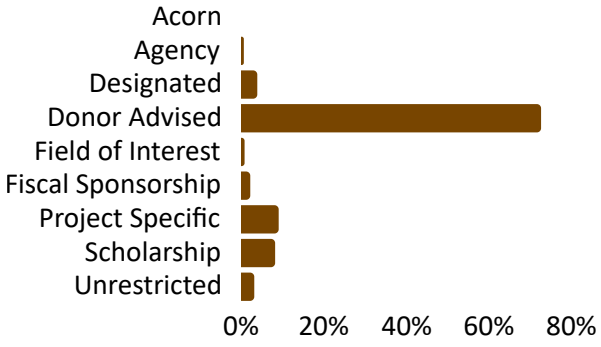
Number of Funds by Fund Type



Percent of Assets by Fund Type



Percent of Disbursements by Fund Type



The asset size, duration, and purpose of funds at a community foundation vary widely to reflect the diverse intentions and capacities of donors.

Fund sizes range from modest contributions that may grow over time to substantial gifts from individuals, families, or businesses, depending on donor resources and goals. Funds may be established as permanent endowments, where only the earnings are disbursed, and the principal remains intact to support causes in perpetuity. Funds may also be established as expendable (non-endowed) funds, where both principal and earnings can be spent, often to address immediate or time-limited needs.

Our largest fund category by dollar amount is donor-advised, followed by scholarships.

Donor-Advised funds (DAFs) led disbursements in 2025. DAFs hosted by community foundations broadly and consistently maintain high distribution rates compared to other fund types. *(https://cof.org/cfinsights/results/2024/funds)*



legacy society

Legacy Society members have arranged for a gift to the Foundation in their estate plans, providing the opportunity to give beyond a lifetime. We are deeply grateful to the donors who have entrusted their values and vision for our community's future through legacy gifts. Their enduring commitments create resources for generations.

Donors noted with an asterisk are honored in memorium.

Anonymous II
Bill & Sue Heiting
The Boernke Family Trust
Brenda Weiss
Carol Tomke
Dehn Family
Jerry* & Diane Meissner
Floyd* & Pat Hamus
Gary & Patti David
Harlan & Laurel Clements
Jim & Emily Bokern
Kelly & Jill Kirn
Mary Stanley
Mitzi Moh
Paul & Joann Schreiner
Richard Rix
Robert Poehnelt
Ronald & Ellen Maurer
John* & Susan Harrington
Tom & Amber Leifheit
The Toyama Family

lifetime giving

Lifetime Giving donors have graciously given to unrestricted funds, which provide essential flexibility to local giving. Unrestricted funds keep the foundation's capabilities resilient and responsive to changing community needs.

$50,000 and Above

Anne & Bette Adler
Bill & Pat Reigel
CMMA Forward Bank Donors
Dennis & Roberta DeVetter
Marshfield Clinic
Security Health Plan of Wisconsin

$20,000 - $49,999

Dental Clinic Of Marshfield
Joyce & Ken Billings
Partners Bank of Wisconsin
Pat Hamus
Ron & Robin Safford
Terry & Allean Frankland
The Weber Charitable Foundation, Inc
Thomas & Bonnie Umhoefer
William & Sue Heiting
Wipfli LLP

$10,000 - $19,999

Alan & Pat Billings
Harold L Dolan III & Kathleen Meyer
James & Sherrie Weber
John & Ann Browell
John & Stephanie Hayes
St. Joseph's Hospital
Thomas Leifheit & Amber Kiggens-Leifheit
Umhoefer Foundation
William & Darlene Berry

$5,000 - $9,999

Aaron & Donna Staab
Associated Trust Company
Carla & Rowland Stebbins
City of Marshfield
Dan Umhoefer
Fergus & Ann McKiernan
Generation Partners, LLC (Lifescape Wealth)
Hamilton Roddis Foundation, Inc.
Irwin Rusch
James Conterato & Lynn Deuser
Jean Steck
Joseph & Virginia Mazza
Lois A. Umhoefer
Martin & Laurie Reinhart
Mike & Gerri LeGrand
Orin & Linda Toltzman
Patricia Anderson
Paul & JoAnn Schreiner
Robert Radtke
Ted & Kathy Praxel
Venerable Insurance & Annuity Company
William Mork & Mary James-Mork

$1,000–$4,999

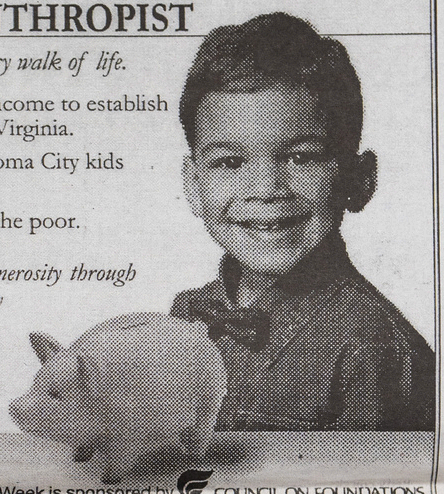
Ali & Dana Bseiso
Anthony & Jill Martin
Arlan & Priscilla Ferch
Barb E. Bartkowiak
Barry & Tammy Ott
BMO Harris Bank
Bob Heck & Barbara McDermid
Brian H. Ewert & Kathleen Rulka
Brian & Beth Kief
Carl L. Meissner
Charlotte Kruse
Cheryl & Tim Deets
Clarence Topp
Curt & Sarah Hanson
Daniel & Julie Horton
David & Joan Weber
David & Tina Cleveland
Dennis & Brenda Dillenburg
Dennis & Deborah Janz
Dennis & Kathleen Anderson
Don & Lyn Zais
Donna Kundinger
Doug & Sue Wendlandt
Earl & Carol Nelson
Ed & Deb Englehart
EDP Renewables North America LLC
Edward C. Denny & Laura J. Nelke
Efstathios Beltaos
Ellen Maurer
Everett & Dolores Roehl
Forward Bank
George & Marian Schmoller
Geraldine Smith
Goodwill Industries
Gretta Nickerson
Hope Kuehner
Jake & Lori Gropp
James & Janet Cain
James & Teri Sherburne
Janet Bujalski
Janet Stewart
Janice M. Rasmussen & Linda Fenske
Jean Ebbe
John & Jane Wagner
John & Kutzie Wing
John & Linda Melski
John & Susan Twiggs
Karen Reyes
Keith & Kris Strey
Keith & Michelle Boernke
Ken & Jean Swenson
Ken & Norma Zittleman
Kenneth E. Noble
Krystal Bowman
Lee & Linda Nafziger
Leroy & Sandra Egstad
Lori Belongia & Ken Wood
Margo Berrier
Margaret Leonard
Mark Borchardt & Gwen Stone
Mark T. Nelson & Bridget A. O'Brien
Mark & Rosemarie Weber
Marshfield High School Student Council
Mary & Joseph Ousley
Matthew & Susan Jansen
Medtronic Foundation Volunteer Grant
Michael & Jane Ryan
Mike & Carolyn Schulein
Nancy Jo Patterson
Nelson Jameson, Inc.
Paul & Jan Liss
Paula Minder
Richard & Gretchen Kamps
Richard & Maureen Mercier
Rita Meier
Rob & Joann Roehl
Robert & Jean DeVita
Robert & Mindy Gribble
Robert Kay
Ron & Donna Martin
Ronald Knuth
Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc.
Russell Lewis
Schreiner's Plumbing & Heating, LLC
Schwalbe Memorial Money
Simplicity Credit Union
Stephen & Patricia Wagner
Susan Harrington
Susan Neve Ramey
Teresa Silberman
Theresa & Ronald Richards
Thomas & Darlene Krake
Thomas & Rebecca M. Bartow
Tim & Robyn Coen
Troy & Christy Rens
Vernon F. & Clara Baltus
Warren & Beth Olds
William & Kathryn Manor
Wood County Medical Society

PORTRAIT OF A PHILANTHROPIST

Today's donors come in all shapes and sizes, from every walk of life.

- Two retired educators donate their retirement income to establish scholarships for needy students in Florida and Virginia.
- A 26-year-old gives up a year's salary for Oklahoma City kids who lost parents in the bombing.
- A 6-year-old collects cans to launch a fund for the poor.

Thousands of people are making the most of their generosity through community foundations. Learn how during Community Foundation Week, November 18-22.



Marshfield Area Community Foundation
PO Box 456
Marshfield, WI 54449
715 384-9029

Community Foundation Week is sponsored by COUNCIL ON FOUNDATIONS

During Community Foundation Week, the above ad was sponsored by: Associated Bank North, Pioneer Bank, M&I Central Bank and Trust, Marshfield Savings Bank and Witfli, Ullrich Bertelson, CPAs.. We thank them.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO YOUR COMMUNITY

A financial gift can last forever if it is given to the Marshfield Area Community Foundation.

The Foundation works with you to provide funds which will make a difference in our community.

Your donation or bequest today produces investment earnings - a long term income - for tomorrow.

No donation is too small. Each helps pay for the programs and services the Marshfield area needs now... and will need in the future.

Enclosed is a gift of $_____ for the continuing work of the Marshfield Area Community Foundation.

Name_____ Phone_____
Address_____
City, State, Zip_____

Make checks payable to Marshfield Area Community Foudation.
Gifts to the Foundation are tax deductible as provided by law.
Mail to: Marshfield Area Community Foundation
PO Box 456
Marshfield, WI 54449

Friend	**$10**
Associate	**$50**
Partner	**$100**
Benefactor From	**$500**

Call for information:
715 384-9029

1995 Marshfield Area Community Foundation Appeal

give today

Contribute to an existing fund designated to a local charity or cause, or start a fund to benefit an entity or project meaningful to you. The Marshfield Area Community Foundation accepts a wide variety of assets:

- **Give Now:** Cash, stocks, and mutual fund shares, or real estate.
- **Give Through Your Estate:** Through your will, or name The Marshfield Area Community Foundation as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement account. *In doing so, you'll join the Legacy Society.*
- **From Another Account:** Your retirement account, commercial donor-advised fund, or private foundation.

Learn more at marshfield.foundation/giving.

Nonprofits like Soup-or-Socks benefit from the Community Grants program

kenneth & ardyce heiting

Kenneth and Ardyce Heiting dedicated much of their lives to bettering their community. You may recognize their names as lead donors behind the Kenneth and Ardyce Heiting Community Stadium, the modern multi-sport facility adjacent to Marshfield High School, or through their work in foster care, or as quiet neighbors in a local Marshfield historic district. Following their passing, Kenneth and Ardyce's legacy was formalized through the remarkable establishment of seven endowment funds closest to their hearts, ensuring their commitment to Marshfield would continue to support the community long after their lifetimes; a continuation of values, community focus, and a meaningful difference for generations.

Their legacy gift started 7 uniquely impactful endowment funds, gifts for good, forever:

- Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Children
- Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Hewitt Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Marshfield Immanuel Lutheran Church
- Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Our Lady of Peace Church
- Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Opportunity Development Center
- Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Sacred Heart Church
- Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Scholarship Fund

Below, Our Lady of Peace Catholic Parish Office Aide Corine Johnson receives an initial donation from the Heiting’s Fund from Executive Director Kaelie Gomez.



To provide perspective on just one of the funds established through the Heitings' legacy, we visited with staff and client of the Opportunity Development Center (ODC), a local nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering individuals with disabilities and mental health needs to achieve their work and life goals. The ODC has long been known for meeting people where they are, and is, as CEO Erin Smith describes, "always looking to innovate, grow and meet needs." This responsiveness is made possible in part through private investment, which provides them with the necessary flexibility to provide employment services, mental health support, and life enrichment.

Every day, thanks to the ODC, new pathways for independence and connection come to life through partnerships with local employers. Individuals like Mark gain meaningful work and a sense of belonging. His initial small role helping keep a shop area clean has continued into over a decade of increased work with Staab Construction Corporation. Mark now maintains multiple areas, operates specialized equipment, and is considered an essential part of the Staab team.

The Heitings and all Legacy Society members give the gift of their generosity, living on long after their time. We're grateful to steward these gifts and see how they better our community each day.







The ODC connected Mark with Staab Construction Corporation, a company that displays a cheerful bobble head in the likeness of each employee.





My time with the Keep Kids Warm program has been fueled by the gratitude of the families who utilize this service. Hearing parents share how much it helps not having to worry about how they will afford new coats for their children each winter makes it all worthwhile.

- Keep Kids Warm Volunteer Coordinator, **Elise Hahn**

keep kids warm

The Keep Kids Warm (KKW) fund was launched in 2013 in response to a significant need for winter clothing among students in the Marshfield School District. The early program provided winter clothing deliveries, later featuring a regular one-day event where families could visit the Oak Ave Community Center and pick up gear needed, complimentary to Soup-or-Socks' "Best Snow Day" event. Over time, the program has become a trusted resource for families, offering children the opportunity to choose winter gear that fits their needs and preferences. Volunteers who have sorted and distributed gear note the joy and relief experienced by both children and parents, reflecting the program's impact in providing warmth, dignity, and care. Longtime volunteer and Marshfield Area Community Foundation board member Lori Belongia shared, "The smile of a child who is hugging a coat that they have chosen just right for them—the right size, the right color, the right style—is a delight to behold."

As community needs have grown and evolved, so has Keep Kids Warm. In 2026, the program will coordinate even more directly with partner organizations like schools and clothing closets, aiming to reach more kids in need and eliminating transportation barriers. Donate to KKW at marshfield.foundation/giving

The photocopy below features the 2013 KKW mailer, with Bette Adler, a Marshfield Area Community Foundation founder, centered among children.



pool pass

Summer memories at the local pool: laughter, splashing, and time spent with friends and family that we look back on for a lifetime. For many, that experience is a beloved rite of passage, but for some families, the admission cost creates a barrier to carefree memories. The Marshfield Area Community Foundation, United Way, and Marshfield Parks and Recreation collaborate to eliminate this barrier. The Pool Pass Program allows every child, regardless of circumstance, to have the chance to enjoy the pool during the summer months. Generous donor support continues the program annually.

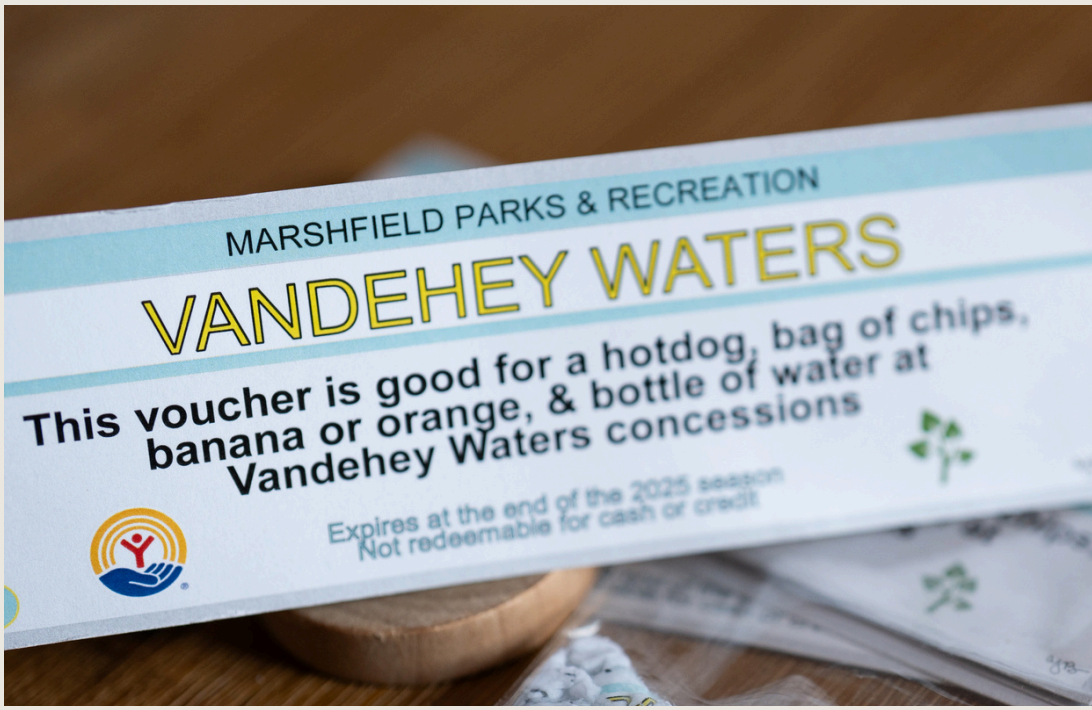
Starting in 2025, families enrolled in the United Way's Nutrition-on-Weekends (NOW) program received a bundle that included 5 pool day passes and 3 food vouchers. This addition of a concessions meal ensured that kids weren't just able to swim, but also had access to a healthy meal to fuel their fun. In total, 521 pool passes and 237 food vouchers were utilized through this coordinated effort last summer, with the goal of continually inviting more families to use the program as needed.






VANDEHEY WATERS
In honor of Frank & Patricia Vandehey




MARSHFIELD PARKS & RECREATION
VANDEHEY WATERS
This voucher is good for a hotdog, bag of chips, banana or orange, & bottle of water at Vandehey Waters concessions
Expires at the end of the 2025 season
Not redeemable for cash or credit





rotary winter wonderland
twinkling for twenty

This winter marked a special milestone as Rotary Winter Wonderland, a dazzling 2-million-light holiday display in Wildwood Zoo run by Marshfield Rotary and hundreds of support volunteers each year. The event, which utilizes the community foundation to support its monetary donations, celebrated 20 years in 2025. Thousands of visitors attend throughout the season, with the “price” of entry being donations of food and funds to support local families in need. Thanks to an increasingly efficient volunteer setup, made possible by more than 190 community members and partner businesses who contribute paid employee time, the event opened a full weekend early this past year. Proceeds from the opening weekend helped meet urgent local needs amid heightened food insecurity. Supporters continually responded throughout the holiday season, contributing toward an eventual $50,000 in checks to pantries, a record achievement in a year of continued economic challenges.

Behind the scenes, dedicated volunteer teams including the “Tinkers” and “Senior Elves” kept the lights shining and donations sorted and sent every night, November 28 through the end of the year. Coordinator Al Nystrom reflected, the passion and camaraderie of volunteers continue to define Rotary Winter Wonderland: “It’s a contagious kind of giving; you want to do more of it the more you’re part of it.”

Donate to Rotary Winter Wonderland Foundation by visiting marshfield.foundation/giving





Volunteers guide traffic, accept and sort donations, assemble and disassemble displays, and test and repair equipment, such as bulbs, at the end of the season.









school-based **mental health**

The Marshfield School-Based Mental Health Consortium is a network of school staff and partners expanding access to mental healthcare. Students otherwise unable to receive traditional outpatient care can take part in therapy while they're already at school. Through the Consortium, students can meet with licensed mental health providers during the school day, with therapists collaborating closely with school staff to support each student's overall well-being and success in the classroom. This coordinated approach covers costs for under- or uninsured students, reduces wait times, minimizes transportation and scheduling challenges for families, and addresses concerns earlier, before escalation.

The consortium is a long-term investment in healthier students, stronger families, and a more resilient community. By aligning local funding with a clear, shared vision, the Consortium shows how community philanthropy can help schools respond to rising mental health needs not just in a crisis, but as part of everyday education.

A dedicated fund at the Marshfield Area Community Foundation covers costs that make school-based therapy possible. Grants, the United Way, and donations allow the fund to flex with changing needs and sustain services over time.

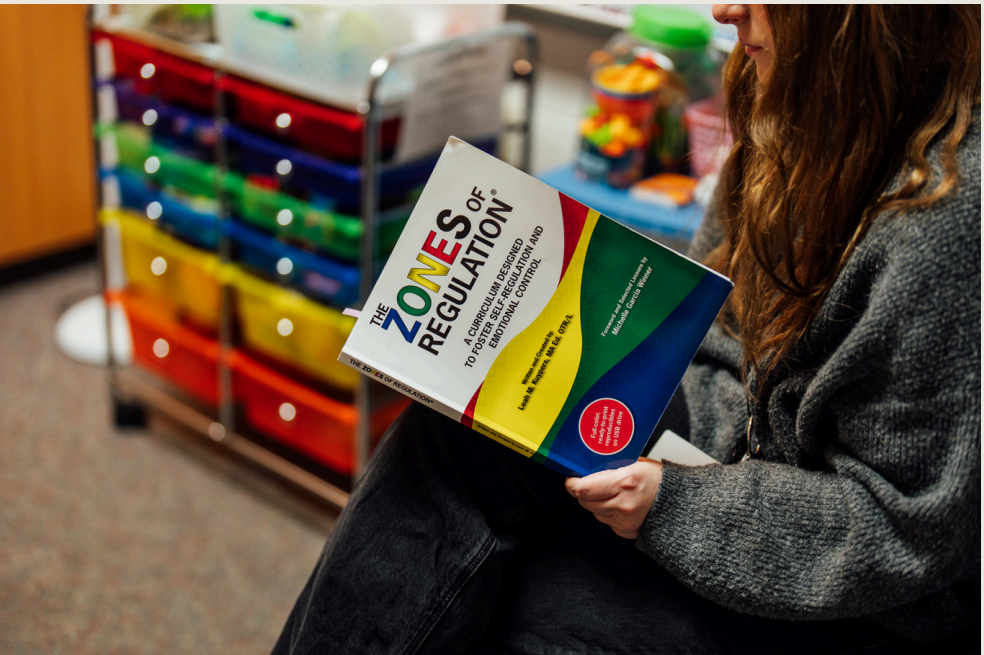
Below: School-based mental health therapy room




focus on
the good






THE ZONES OF REGULATION
A CURRICULUM DESIGNED TO FOSTER SELF-REGULATION AND EMOTIONAL CONTROL


BE MINDFUL
CARD • DECK
My Calm Place
Yoga, Mindfulness & Meditation

scholarships

80
funds

179
applicants

129
awards

$190,914
awarded

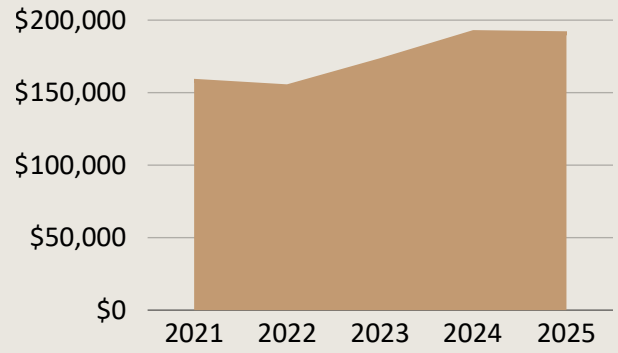
"I'm here because I believe in you and I trust you, and I want the students to be on the winning end of this."

Pat Allen, Fore Bill Memorial Scholarship Donor

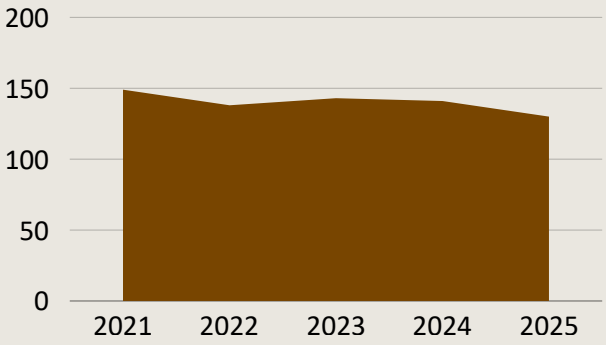


Marshfield Scholarship Awards Ceremony

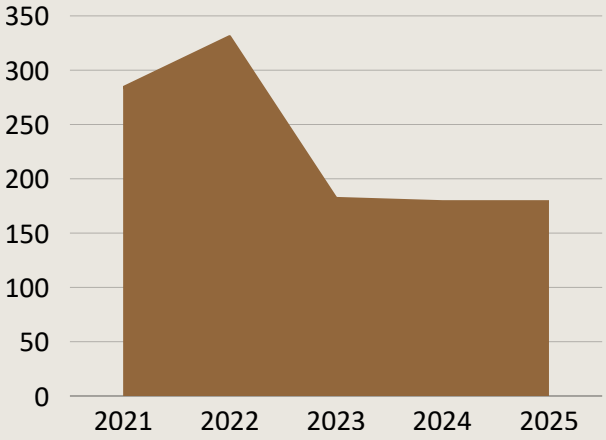
Scholarship Dollars Disbursed



Number of Awards



Number of Applicants



* Updated numbers from 2024 Impact Report due to expanded access to past records.

The Marshfield Area Community Foundation provides all interested students with an equitable, user-friendly application experience.

An online portal employs a single application that filters applicants through all donor-determined scholarship criteria. Students apply and are evaluated for all scholarships. Staff works closely with high school counselors to generate awareness, coordinate award allocation by committee, and arrange ceremonial presentation.

Scholarships improve retention and graduation rates, contributing to a well-educated, financially stable, and resilient community. Due to declining application rates both at the foundation and with scholarships more broadly, more focused communication with school staff, site visits, and direct communication with students has increasingly become necessary to strengthen the long-term sustainability and impact of the scholarship program.



Pittsville Scholarship Awards Ceremony

ken & norma zittleman scholarship

Retired Educators Ken and Norma Zittleman established a non-traditional scholarship fund specifically for current teachers, a commitment to their value of lifelong learning. Ken and Norma dedicated 29 years to the Marshfield School District, and their experience with their own continued education has left them resolute that the experience is necessary and transformative for those charged with classroom oversight. Through this fund, they aim to encourage Marshfield teachers to pursue advanced training, new certifications, or graduate-level coursework to deepen their skills, keeping local teachers at the top of their potential, and benefiting local students, too.

Ken, a joyful and steady man, offers these words to educators: **“Work hard. Be ready for what comes your way. Prepare yourself to be the best person you can be so when the opportunities arise, you are ready.”**

Interested teachers can apply any time of year at marshfield.foundation/scholarships



Norma & Ken Zittleman remain active in the community today, invested in the next generation of teachers

Below: School staff participate in continuing education



adam d. steiner legacy scholarship

The Adam D. Steiner Legacy Scholarship empowers students sharing Adam's dedication, love for the dairy industry, and his care for his family and friends. The annual gift to individuals pursuing dairy science and related fields strengthens local agriculture and carries Adam's generous spirit onward.



Adam Steiner

To help support this fund (and in honor of Adam's love of golf), his family began organizing an annual memorial golf tournament at RiverEdge Golf Course, which they affectionately named the "Spamble" after Adam's nickname, "Spam". Now in its fourth year, the Spamble has become more than a fundraiser; it's a gathering filled with laughter, shared stories, and the joy of remembering Adam together.

Top left: Joelle, Adam's widow, and daughter, Bella, family present a scholarship to a Pittsville student
Lower right: Spamble teams survey the course
Right: Adam's brother, Matt, and many family and friends gather in Marshfield for Spamble each year







alec salamonski memorial scholarship

The Alec Salamonski Memorial Scholarship honored a 2005 Marshfield High School graduate whose life was tragically cut short by a distracted driver in 2006. Established by his parents, Julie and Norb, the fund celebrated Alec's interests in Skills USA, Youth Apprenticeship, and computer sciences by supporting Marshfield seniors who demonstrated perseverance and dedication while pursuing technical and career-focused education paths.



Alec Salamonski

Julie and Norb describe the experience of partnering with the Marshfield Area Community Foundation as deeply rewarding, noting that the Foundation "makes it seamless" by handling all of the details so they can focus on the emotional significance of honoring Alec. They especially value reading thank-you letters, hearing about recipients' lives and plans, and appreciate that the Foundation manages eligibility, school verification, and even award presentations when needed, making a complex process "easy and not complicated" during a very emotional time.

Over 19 heartfelt years, the scholarship became a "generation of giving". The fund made its final scholarship in 2025, closing intentionally as a tribute to Alec, who Julie lovingly describes as "Forever 19."

Below, Julie and Norb present a scholarship at a Marshfield Awards Ceremony.













Above: Julie & Norb connect with students and keep a scrapbook to remember scholarship impact
Below: Norb and Julie share their hearts before presenting a scholarship award

community grants



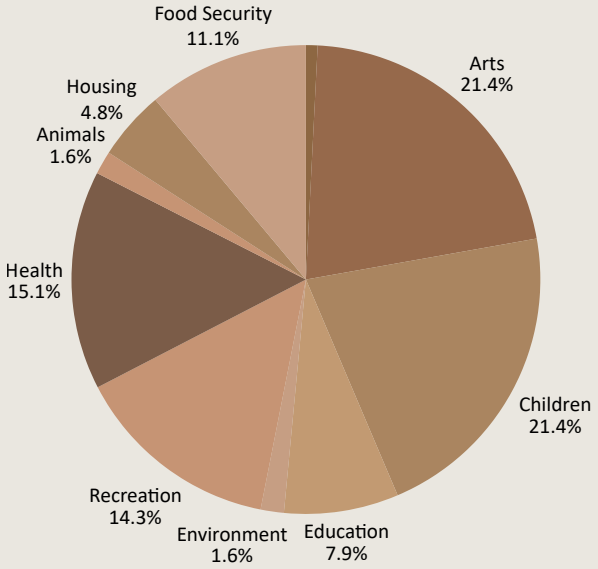
8
funds

31
awards

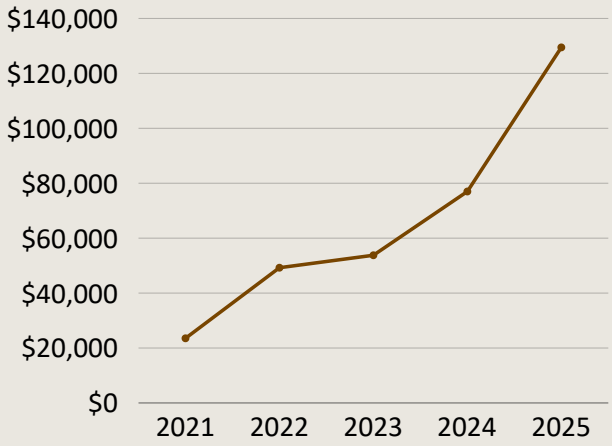
56
applicants

$129,454
awarded

Distributions by Category 2021-2025



Total Distributions 2021-2025



The Marshfield Area Community Foundation has partnered with donors to address a broad spectrum of community needs through strategic grantmaking. These funds are made possible by contributions directed toward specific focus areas, as well as flexible, unrestricted gifts that empower the Foundation's board to respond to evolving priorities. All grant applications undergo a structured, committee-led review process to ensure transparency, alignment with donor intent, and effective use of resources. Qualified nonprofit organizations may apply for funding to support programs that directly enhance quality of life across the region.

In 2025, the Foundation awarded over $129,000 in grants, fully or partially funding 31 community projects through the Community Grants Program. This annual funding is made possible through a combination of permanently endowed funds, including the Senior Fund, Community Grants Fund, Children's Future Fund, Palm Sunday Choral Fund, Mike Tauschek Fund, and Women's Giving Circle Fund, as well as a discretionary allocation from the board-managed Forever Fund.



Huey's Hideaway Children's Museum

2025 **community grantees**

Boys & Girls Club – Out-of-School Time Programming
Bridging Brighter Smiles – School-Based Dental Hygiene Project
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Foundation – Project Connect
Feed My People Food Bank – Humbird Pop-Up
Feonix Mobility Rising – Central Wisconsin Catch-a-Ride Pilot Program
Griese Park Leadership Marshfield – Griese Park Playground Renovation
Grant Elementary PTO – Gaga Ball Pit for Primary Grades
The Hannah Center – Appliance and Bedroom Upgrades
Huey's Hideaway Children's Museum – STEM Learning @ Huey's
LuCille Tack Center for the Arts – Gallery Lighting Project
Clean Start Leadership Marshfield – Clean Start Project
Main Street Marshfield – Outdoor Dining/Park Improvement
Marshfield Area Coalition for Youth – MCLA Self-Care/Personal-Care Project
Marshfield Area Respite Care Center – Art Exploration Series
Marshfield Area United Way – Summer Nutrition On Weekends
Marshfield Parks and Recreation Department – We All Gotta Go
Marshfield Fire and Rescue Department – Fire/EMS UTV
Medford Area Performing Arts Association – Performer Honorarium
Nazareth Lutheran Church – Baby Pantry and Storage Solutions
North Central Community Action Program – Emergency Rental and Housing
North Wood County Historical Society – Adler Film Project
Operational Horses Heal – Mobile Outreach Unit
Pittsville Area Community Theater – Soundboard
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Marshfield – Hospitality Kits for Families
Shiloh Bound – Hub City Steam 9676 – FIRST Robotics Team 9676
Sleep in Heavenly Peace – No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town
Society of St Vincent De Paul – St. John's Conference – Badger Packs
The Salvation Army of Wood County – 2025 Holiday Food Baskets
Village of Spencer – Everyone Can Play
Village of Spencer – Spencer Pickleball Area Recreational Club
Wood County Health Department – Public Health Vending Machine Supplies

hannah center
resident bathroom project

“Many of us come here during some of the hardest seasons of our lives. Trying to find stability and healing, not to mention figuring out how we fit in while learning to live with others who are on their own journeys. Something as simple as an extra bathroom makes a big difference in helping things feel a little more peaceful and giving us a small sense of personal space.” - Hannah Center Resident

The Hannah Center exists to help women and children in crisis, offering a welcoming, non-judgmental environment to rebuild their lives with confidence and purpose. Originally focused on pregnant women, the nonprofit now accepts any woman and her children facing hardship or homelessness. In 2025, they completed a bathroom addition. This much-needed space has already enhanced daily life for residents through reduced congestion, but it’s also made possible service expansion through the addition of a fifth bedroom in the house. Thanks to the generous support of Habitat for Humanity, local contractors, and a community grant from the Marshfield Area Community Foundation, the project was completed under budget.



everyone can play

Little Sophia dreamed of a playground with a swing for every child's ability, finding particular inspiration from her brother, Noelie. Determined, she garnered support from her family, the Spencer Parks and Recreation Department, generous donors, and a Community Grant from the Marshfield Area Community Foundation, and her dream came true. Sophia fundraised and cut the ribbon herself on a new, accessible playground, complete with the swings she imagined, and even a zipline.

Rain clouds couldn't dampen the joy in Spencer as families gathered to celebrate. Sophia's mom reminded the group: **"When the world feels hopeless and angry, make one small change in your life; maybe it will have a little effect to change your world."**



emergency rental assistance

North Central Community Action Program (NCCAP) acts as an advocate, provider, and facilitator of programs and services for low-income individuals in Lincoln, Marathon, and Wood counties in Wisconsin. Their work includes resources to reduce poverty and establish self-sufficiency. Many clients face significant health challenges, with 33% of adult heads of household reporting a disability, 14% managing chronic health conditions, and 14% living with a mental health disorder. Working through these challenges requires training, connected support networks, and genuine care for neighbors; a suite of specialties held by NCCAP staff.

In September 2025 alone, NCCAP helped 14 Marshfield residents stabilize their housing situations. A Community Grant provided crucial support to neighbors with very low incomes and complex health or mental health needs. One Marshfield resident, who lives with schizophrenia, was able to rebuild his life after leaving a mental health treatment facility. With NCCAP's practical, immediate assistance by covering his first month's rent and security deposit, he successfully transitioned into stable housing and reintegrated into the community.





boys & girls club

A clear and growing need for safe, structured, and accessible opportunities for children and teens has been met with a new Boys & Girls Club starting in Marshfield. Borrowed elementary school spaces allowed for a temporary home for the programming, but the organization will soon have a permanent home and vast space to serve kids. The new location will scale participation from 100 to 300 youth daily, with spaces specified for academic support, arts, technology, wellness, and social-emotional learning. The stability of a reliable and welcoming environment is good for the kids, but also for families seeking dependable care during after-school hours. As the Club grows into a central hub for mentorship, collaboration, and connection, it will strengthen school engagement, workforce, and overall community well-being.

Community leaders, educators, and donors from all walks of life have stepped up for area children during the major fundraising campaign for the initial operating budget. The fundraising has also benefitted from a Community Grant. As Boys & Girls Club of Portage County CEO Danielle Belsky emphasized, “this support is driven by a shared belief in doing what’s right for kids and families,” underscoring the authentic community momentum behind the effort. *In 2026, the capital campaign also quickly met its goal, and the permanent home of Boys and Girls Club of Marshfield is well on its way toward completion.*








OF MARSHFIELD


UNDER ARMOUR





funds

Each fund at the Marshfield Area Community Foundation represents a commitment to strengthening our community, today and for generations to come. Whether a donor's goal is to support local students, create gathering spaces, or meet emerging needs, opening a fund is a meaningful way to make that impact last. The Foundation takes its role as a trusted steward of every fund, ensuring that each gift is managed responsibly and directed with care to achieve its intended purpose.

Funds listed in green are new in 2025.

Designated Funds

These funds are established by a donor to provide ongoing investment in one or more nonprofits, offering either general support or funding for specific initiatives, with grants distributed annually.

American Legion Post 54 Endowment Fund
Beverly & Richard Olson Fund for Zion Church
Bill & Sue Heiting Designated Endowment Fund
Binning Children & Fire Safety Fund
Biology Dept. of Columbus High School Endowment Fund
Carol J. Tomke Fund
Catholic Parishes Fund
Central Chamber Chorale Endowment Fund
Columbus High School Scholarship Endowment Fund
Elma J. Lanterman Endowment Fund
G. Stanley Custer First Presbyterian Church
G. Stanley Custer Marshfield Historical Preservation Fund
Hamus Charities Fund
Hamus Our Lady of Peace Fund
Hamus Park Fund
Hardacre Park Refresh & Renew Fund
Immanuel Lutheran School Fund
James Francis Bokern Memorial Fund
John Harrington Designated Fund for St. Vincent DePaul
John Harrington Designated Fund for United Way
John Harrington Fund Designated Fund for MAFT
John Harrington Fund for Wesley Methodist Church
John Harrington Fund to Support MAFOTT
John & Marjorie O'Reilly Memorial Fund
Joseph & Bernadine Weber Nature Park
J. P. Leonard Fund
Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hewitt
Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Immanuel Lutheran Church, Marshfield
Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for ODC
Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Our Lady of Peace Church, Marshfield
Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Sacred Heart Church, Marshfield
Kroll Designated Fund
Leonard E. Hartl Fund
Marshfield Area Pet Shelter Designated
Marshfield School District Education Foundation
North Wood County Historical Governor Upham House
Paul & JoAnn Schreiner Fund For OLP Building and Grounds
St. John the Baptist Parish Fund (Melvin Hintz)
The Margaret B. King Habitat for Humanity Fund
United Way Endowment Fund
Weber Family Fund
YMCA Endowment Fund for Seniors

Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs)
These funds are created by an individual, family, or organization that contributes to the fund, receives an immediate tax deduction, and recommends grants to support chosen charities, while the foundation manages the fund and ensures all grants go to eligible nonprofits.

ACE Academy Fund
Bill & Sue Heiting Fund
Bill & Pat Reigel Fund
Catherine, Lawrence, & Mary Stanley Fund
Chestnut Center for the Arts Fund
Dannie & Lorraine LaGrander Fund
Dehn Family Fund
Dennis & Roberta DeVetter Fund
Diane & Jerry Meissner Fund
East Briefne Fund
Ed & Deb Englehart Fund
Gary & Patti David Fund
Goodwill Industries NCW Opportunity Fund
Hamus Fund
Joseph A. Lang Fund
Keith Kulas Fund
Lori & Jake Gropp Fund
Marshfield Education Fund
Marshfield Schools Athletic Fund
Marshfield Tennis NOW Fund
Marshfield Tiger Hockey Blueline Club Fund
Michael & Anne Schmidt Fund
Michael A. Tauschek Fund
Mitten Fund
N. Jean & Ray Fait Fund
N.O.W. for United Way Fund
Rick & Nancy Merkel Fund
Robert Poehnelt Fund
Ron & Ellen Maurer Fund
Staab Fund
Stars & Stripes Forever Fund
Terry & Allean Frankland Trust Fund
The Bonnie Jean Fund
Toyama Family Fund
Woodlands Preservation Fund

Field of Interest Funds
These funds are established by a donor to support a defined cause or area, such as education, health, the arts, or a specific region, with the foundation managing the fund and awarding grants to organizations and projects that align with the donor's chosen focus.

Children's Future Fund
Cole Family Music Fund
Graham Olson Youth Baseball Fund
Greg & Sally Rindfleisch Performing Arts Fund
Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Fund for Children
MACFI Emergency Assistance Fund
Marshfield Area Friends of the Trails Fund
Marshfield Area Parks & Trails Enhancement Fund
Marshfield History Project Fund
New Biking/Walking/Running Trail Fund
Novy Family Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity Fund
Palm Sunday Chorus Heritage Fund
Racial Equity Fund
Senior Citizens Endowment Fund
Womens Giving Circle Fund

Scholarship Funds

These funds are established by an individual, family, business, or organization to provide financial assistance to students based on donor-defined criteria and are typically endowed to support annual awards in perpetuity.

ACE Academy Scholarship
Adam D. Steiner Legacy Scholarship
Adolph A. Vorba Memorial Scholarship
Alec Salamonski Memorial Scholarship Fund
Alex & Geraldine Piotrowski Scholarship
Altrusa International of Marshfield Scholarship
Anne V. Adler Nursing Scholarship
Arlan & Priscilla Ferch Theater Scholarship
Bill Burnham Scholarship
Bobbie Karlen Memorial Scholarship
Central Wisconsin Cheesemaker & Buttermakers Association Scholarship
Dan Helwig Memorial Scholarship
Daniel Kummer Memorial Scholarship Fund
David & Waleen Storm Scholarship
David L. MacArthur Memorial Scholarship Fund
D. Dale & Mary Jane Seif Scholarship
Deidre Week Scholarship for Pittsville
Dennis E. Bangart Agricultural Scholarship
Dorothy & Alex B. Knox Scholarship
Dorothy A. Olson Memorial Scholarship
Dr. Roger Van Der Vorste Scholarship
Dr. Russell F. Lewis Memorial Student Athlete Scholarship
Fore Bill Memorial Scholarship
Foster Will Memorial Scholarship Fund
Frautschy-Fredrick Legion Baseball Scholarship
Gary Wagner Sports Camp Scholarship
Gordon and Faith Vine Scholarship
Grace A. Caliebe Scholarship
Harrington Chemistry Scholarship
Harry & Gladys Chronquist Family Scholarship
Heck PEO AJ & LeGrand Scholarship
International Studies Scholarship
Jacob Navarro Scholarship
James Brasington Theater Scholarship
Jean Ebbe Visual and Performing Arts Scholarship
Jerry R. Witt Scholarship in the Natural Sciences
Jewell Educational Scholarship
John "Jack" Bittrich Memorial Scholarship for the Arts
John J. Irvine Scholarship
John & Marjorie O'Reilly Scholarship
Joseph & Bernadine Weber FFA Scholarship
Joyce & Darryl Clauson Scholarship
Kagel, Franson, & Kramer Pittsville Scholarship
Kenneth & Ardyce Heiting Scholarship
Ken & Norma Zittleman Scholarship
Kim Shupe Memorial Scholarship
LaVerne R. Kohs Memorial Scholarship
Lil' Bullmobilers Snowmobile Club Scholarship for Pittsville High School
Lloyd Crossman Scholarship
Louis J. & Betty Ptacek Scholarship
Lucy Vanatta Scholarship
MacKinnon Family Scholarship
Marc & Undine Cross Memorial Scholarship
Marilyn Hardacre Scholarship
Marshfield Lions Club Edward W. Heller Memorial Scholarship
Marshfield Utilities Scholarship
Matthew & Heather O'Reilly Scholarship
McGivern/Van de Loo Scholarship
Melvin H. & Ruth J. Schmidt Scholarship
MHS Staff Memorial Scholarship
Mick Schier Memorial Scholarship
Milton A. Krom Scholarship
Neal & Melania Kruse Family Scholarship
Norbert H. & Joan LaSee Scholarship
Norm-E-Lane Scholarship
Paul & JoAnn Schreiner Scholarship
Ralph & Diane Mueller Scholarship
Randy Malueg Memorial Scholarship
Ray & Beryl Johnson Memorial Scholarship
Richard & Elaine Cliver Memorial Scholarship
Saint Josephs Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship
Sarah Grace & Emma Louise Anderson Memorial Dance Scholarship
Severns Scholarship at Pittsville High School
Sophia Smrz Memorial Scholarship
Staab Construction Scholarship Fund
Swanson Scholarship
Terry & Allean Frankland Scholarship
The Rosamund Victoria Adler Scholarship
Tom Drendel Scholarship
Verna Lueck Scholarship
VFW Scholarship- Pittsville

Project Funds

These funds are created to support a defined, time-lined project or program through a location for donation collection and vetted distribution, with administrative benefits.

2nd Serve Tennis Now
Bakerville History Project
Central WI Catch a Ride Fund
Columbia Bandshell Project
Friends of Jurustic Park
Griese Park Playground Renovation
Healthy Lifestyles Physical Activity Fund
Keep Kids Warm Fund
Marshfield Area Kids Enrichment Fund
Marshfield Area Pickleball
Marshfield Community Athletic Facilities Capital Improvement Fund
Marshfield Dog Park Fund
Marshfield Outdoor Aquatic Center Fund
Marshfield Outdoor Learning Sanctuary Fund
Miller Park Fund
Post 54 Cabin Fund
Stock the Shelves Fund
Student Council Partnership Fund (MHS)
Veteran's Wall of Honor Fund
Wildwood Zoo Capital Improvement Fund

Fiscal Sponsorship Funds

These types of funds support an arrangement that allows a charitable project or group without nonprofit status to partner with the foundation, which manages and disburses donations or grants on its behalf, often serving as a bridge for new, time-bound, or developing initiatives seeking nonprofit status.

Community Gardens Project
FHC RentReady Program
Marshfield Area Cultural Fair Fund
Marshfield Monarchs
Marshfield Refugee Resettlement
Mill Creek Youth Foundation Corporation
Pittsville CranCity
School Based Mental Health Consortium Mfld Public Schools

Agency Funds

These types of funds are created by a nonprofit organization to support its own programs and operations, with assets transferred to the community foundation for management and investment to build endowments or reserves that strengthen the nonprofit’s long-term financial sustainability.

Chestnut Center for the Arts Endowment Fund
LuCille Tack Center for the Arts Fund
Marshfield Area Pet Shelter Endowment Fund
Rotary Winter Wonderland Foundation
Tiny Tiger Intergenerational Center-HSA Fund

marshfield area community foundation inc.

Marshfield Area Community Foundation
211 East 2nd Street Suite 2
Marshfield, WI 54449



Photography by Leslie Schoen Photography