Recognizing Need, Taking Action
and simply catch her breath. Evie told us she was not going to
out. She wanted, and needed, some time to regain her strength.
Evie’s senior year had been a definite struggle, she was simply worn
chaos of the pandemic, some health issues, and holding down a job,
As graduation grew near, her family anxiously urged her to decide
wanting to be a foster parent, and she was simply worn out. She,
and needed, some time to regain her strength and simply catch her
breath. Evie told us she was not going to be a foster parent, and she
was simply worn out. She wanted, and needed, some time to regain
her strength and simply catch her breath. Evie told us she was not
going to

BEING GRATEFUL IN 2021
Julie Murray, Executive Director

In 1985, Gil Homstad recognized a need and took action. That action resulted in the creation of the Black River Falls Area Foundation, which set a record as the smallest (population) community in the entire country to have a Foundation. Starting with zero dollars, the Foundation set course with their first fund raising campaign called ‘The Black River Spirit’. From those humble roots the Foundation has grown to over five million dollars in assets, believing that it will continue to enhance the quality of life in the BRF area far into the future. For thirty-five years, Gil’s purpose, foresight, and leadership, together with amazing community support, has allowed the Foundation to grow into what it is today. The continuous generosity of the people in our community indicates ‘The Black River Spirit’ is very much alive and going strong. In 1987, the Foundation awarded its first grants, $5,502 to four local non-profit organizations. In 2021, there were 60 children in Jackson County requiring out of home placement. For all of those individuals willing to volunteer, there are generous gifts of time, talent and treasure. Without these generous gifts of time, talent and treasure, there would be no Foundation. Until we can gather again, please stay safe, focus on all we have to give thanks for, and don’t hesitate to ‘Recognize a Need and Take Action’.

A common misconception is that in order to use the Foundation to make a difference in our community, donors must be very wealthy and make large contributions. This is absolutely not the case! In fact, smaller donors use the Foundation for their charitable giving precisely because a donation of any size will touch many in the community. Contributions to the Foundation go on to support a large number of local non-profit organizations. These organizations support an even larger number of area residents in a variety of different ways, resulting in many grateful people! On pages 4 and 5 of this report is a story about local people and organizations that have recognized a need and taken action. This story offers examples of ways to take action without necessarily donating money. Younger people often find it difficult to give financially, but many are willing to volunteer their time and talents providing valuable services that fulfill many community needs. Some of these generous people are taking action on their own, as foster parents and foster children in our area. The shortage of people willing to act as foster parents is a serious and growing concern. As of November, there were 60 children in Jackson County requiring out of home placement. For all of those individuals willing to volunteer, there are generous gifts of time, talent and treasure. Without these generous gifts of time, talent and treasure, there would be no Foundation. Until we can gather again, please stay safe, focus on all we have to give thanks for, and don’t hesitate to ‘Recognize a Need and Take Action’.

Evie and her boyfriend Brandon, who is 21, both have jobs which they really enjoy, and they say they will live on their own. Early this fall, through a chain of almost unimaginable events, and circumstances far beyond their control, Evie and Brandon found themselves caring for a newborn baby girl, and facing a decision about becoming her foster parents. Looking back, we adults knew what we wanted for Evie and believed that was what was best for her. I am ashamed to admit, we were not listening to Evie, or considering what she wanted for her own life. Selfishly, I also never gave much thought to what would happen to the baby and where she would go. I go, believe, without really thinking about it, assumed that surely someone else would take her in and she

Former Trustees

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>David Millis</td>
<td>Black River Falls Area Foundation</td>
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<td>Judy Hansen</td>
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<td>John Hagenbrock</td>
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<td>Sue Michalson</td>
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Mission Statement

The mission of the Black River Falls Area Foundation is to enhance the quality of life in the Black River Falls Area. We work to realize that goal with the support of individuals, families, businesses and organizations that share this commitment. We achieve this by:

• Providing a vehicle for donors with diverse community interests.
• Performing donations through prudent investing and stewardship.
• Serving as a resource and catalyst to accomplish community projects.
• Expanding our communities’ endowment by encouraging philanthropy.

We address a broad range of community needs rather than focusing on one particular issue. In this way, we are able to meet changing needs and provide support to the people who live and work in the Black River Falls Area.

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of the Black River Falls Area Foundation. It is responsible for overseeing the investment of donor funds and the distribution of grants in accordance with donors’ wishes. Trustees serve without compensation and are appointed because of their judgment, integrity, community involvement, and understanding of philanthropic needs. They serve a three-year term of office with a maximum of three consecutive three-year terms. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer can serve additional terms.

Gill Homstad* Chairman
David Heffman* Vice Chairman
Kap Finch Secretary
Michael Dougherty Treasurer

Ashley Ahl Jim Bible Brad Chown Kristi Hansen
Nicholas Kitozki, M.D. Shelly Seversen Dennis Young

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Previous Years “Special People” Award Recipients:

2015, Bec Herzberg
2016, Peter & Jon Hoffman
2017, Bill Mills
2018, Al & Janet Leehman
2019, Mary Van Gorden
Recognizing Need, Taking Action!

Peter & Jone Hoffman
In June, the Foundation published a newspaper article listing the 2020 and 2021 recipients of scholarships and grants awarded by the Foundation. It also discussed the wonderful support our community provides for graduating seniors and addressed the need for additional Alumni Scholarship awards.

Unfortunately, students’ costs do not stop after the first year. The cost of post-secondary education continues to rise each year, while the number of scholarship opportunities for subsequent years of education drops precipitously. Each of these students applicants have a proven track record in their post-secondary education and have achieved much success. They are working hard to complete their education and many have a very real struggle with the financial burden.

Peter and Jone Hoffman read this article and wanted to help. They took action! The first thing Peter and Jone did was to make a commitment to provide five $2,000 Alumni Scholarship awards each year, beginning in 2022. Next, they called the Foundation office and inquired about this year’s financial scholarship statistics. There were 30 Alumni Scholarship applications. All were excellent applications from outstanding young adults. Peter and Jone decided that they would like to see each and every 2021 Alumni Scholarship recipient receive financial assistance, and they again took action. Thanks to the additional ten scholarship awards provided by Peter and Jone, the Foundation was able to award a scholarship to each of the students that applied. Thank you Peter & Jone for taking action and for the very generous gifts!

Bobbi Kitowski & Annilee Eddy
Bobbi and Annilee recognized a need and took action. They presented a grant request to the Foundation for start-up funds to create a new community resource. This resource will help their families and children in the BRF area. The organization is known as the ‘Black River Area Foster Closet’ and will act as a conduit to connect those in our community who want to help, and those that need extra support. The mission of the organization is to offer a free resource for caregivers of foster children in BRF and surrounding communities, and to be attained by utilizing space donated by the BRF Evangelical Lutheran Church to create a place for foster families to ‘shop’. Community members can donate gently used children’s items, clothing, high-chairs, cribs, etc. Monetary donations will be used to purchase diapers, wipes, and hygiene items.

Closet volunteers will clean, sort, organize, and set the ‘closet’ up in an efficient manner. Social workers will be able to obtain needed items for foster caregivers at any time, but particularly when they are receiving a new child into their care. Foundation Trustees were truly impressed with the thought, planning, organization, preparations, and level of support already shown for the project. They readily approved the grant to purchase shelving, storage containers, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and other immediate needs. Thank you Bobbi and Annilee for your super work, your dedication to this project, and for taking action!

Tim & Kay Finch
After attending a presentation about Alumni Scholarship funds, Kay shared how strongly she and Tim believe donating scholarships is truly an investment in the future. Kay spoke with Tim and together they decided to match Peter & Jone’s Hoffman scholarship contribution.

Each year, beginning in 2022, they will provide five $2,000 Alumni Scholarships. Thanks to this fantastic gift, the Foundation now has more than twice the number of Alumni Scholarships available for distribution every year. See what so impressed Kay and Tim that it motivated them to take action on pages 10-11. Thank you Tim & Kay for your investment in our youth and for taking action!

JC Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers
Roots of the Foundation and JC Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers are closely intertwined. In 1987, Ernie Holman, of Osseo, met with Foundation Trustees and shared about a successful program similar to Interfaith in Eau Claire County. He said funds were available for this type of program from a private benefactor in Palm Desert, California. The Trustees took the idea and voted to accept the initial $5,000 grant from California, and hold the funds until a firm Interfaith program had been established.

Thirty-four years later, Lori Chown, Program Director, and her staff, volunteers and the Board of Directors, accepted the fact that their current location is simply no longer capable of meeting Interfaith’s ever expanding needs. They know that Interfaith provides an invaluable service by helping people maintain independence and dignity when life’s difficulties make remaining in their homes more challenging. They also recognize the need to grow to an independent facility in order to sustain their program and to ensure their ability to meet the increasing demands of the community. Interfaith’s Team realized that by expanding their office space and adding a community room, they will be able to increase their staffing and volunteer outreach to meet the grocery delivery, transportation, dementia support, and respite needs that are currently being seen.

Interfaith’s Team took action and decided to move forward with a capital campaign to build a new home for their organization. The Lunda Chauvin offered a matching grant, up to $600,000, to begin fundraising. The Foundation quickly took action and followed suit with a commitment of $200,000 to the project. The Interfaith Team continues to work diligently and the community has responded with resounding support of the project. Thank you Interfaith Team for taking action to ensure Interfaith’s future viability.

David & Marilyn Hoffman
Having served as the Foundation’s Vice-Chairman since its inception fifty-five years ago, David is very familiar with the difficult decisions Trustees face each year when awarding grants. There are always more requests and more need than there are funds. Determining which requests best serve the needs of our community is never easy. In 2021, Keith Cormican submitted a request on behalf of Bruce’s Legacy. Bruce’s Legacy is a volunteer organization that provides education on water related safety, as well as search and rescue/ recovery operations to fire and rescue departments and the public. Jackson County recently dissolved its non-profit Dive Team and turned its assets over to Bruce’s Legacy to service the Jackson County area. The grant request was for funds to purchase a 7’x16’ enclosed trailer to house the Remote Operated Vehicle and all related equipment, and to be kept in the BRF area and to make it responder capable. David saw a way he could help, and took action. He informed the Trustees that he owned a trailer such as the one being requested, and he offered to donate the trailer to Bruce’s Legacy. Telephone calls were made and David’s trailer now has a new home serving a noble purpose. Thank you David and Marilyn for taking action and donating a personal item for the good of the community!

Jim & Kathy Powell
Jim and Kathy Powell have a soft spot for their home town, and for children in need, particularly those whom by no fault of their own have been placed into foster care. Kathy spent 24 years working, in part, as Juvenile Court Clerk for Jackson County. Her experience afforded her a special awareness of the many challenges that arise when a child is placed in foster care. This type of event frequently happens during emergency situations. Often children arrive at foster homes with nothing more than the clothes they are wearing, leaving behind everyone, and everything, that is familiar to them. Foster parents have limited resources and must focus on satisfying the most urgent emotional, physical, and essential needs of the child. With assistance from Jenny Dormady at JCHHS - Children & Families Division, Kathy and Jim came up with an idea, Kathy contacted the Foundation office, explained the idea, and asked if the Foundation could help. The Trustees were enthusiastic, together they worked out a plan and Kathy and Jim created a fund to give back to their community.

Many years ago, relying on philanthropic lessons they learned from their father, Bill Millis, Kathy and her siblings began purchasing Christmas gifts for children in foster care. Imagine being a child placed in foster care at Christmas time! Each year, beginning in 2021, the Powell’s new “Warming Hearts Fund” will continue the tradition of the Millis siblings. The Fund will provide monies to JCHHS to purchase special Christmas gifts for ten children in foster care. In addition, at any time throughout the year, should a foster child have an urgent need that cannot be satisfied by traditional avenues, JCHHS may apply to the Foundation and Warming Hearts Fund Advisor for a special grant distribution.

The new Warming Hearts Fund is open to all donors. Several of Kathy’s siblings were eager to help and have also made contributions. If you like this idea and want to support the fund, donations can be sent to the Foundation office with ‘Warming Hearts Fund’ in the memo line. Thank you Jim & Kathy for your generosity and for taking action!

Barb Simonis, Jordan Nortman and Brad Dobbs
These three friends have several things in common, one of which is their commitment to the Black River Falls area. Earlier this spring, they shared a conversation including the topics of upcoming graduation, outstanding school lunch debt, families facing financial hardship due to the pandemic, and the question, “How can we help?”.

School policy often requires that a student’s lunch debt be paid before they are allowed to graduate. Brad was aware of the Angel Fund, which the BRF School District created to help pay lunch debts for students in need. Barb, Jordan and Brad took action! Using their talents, Jordan and Brad’s knowledge of enjoyment of golf, and Barb’s super-strengths of organization and getting things done; they decided to raise money for the Angel Fund by hosting a golf event. Brad reached out to the Foundation. He asked about the possibility of creating a temporary ‘Swing for Students’ fund to accept the donations they received and distribute the proceeds to the BRF School District. Realizing this was an excellent way for the Foundation to support smaller, informal groups of community members wanting to raise money for a local need, Trustees unanimously approved their request. Thank you Barb, Jordan, and Brad for taking action and helping BRF’s graduating Seniors!

Left to right, Brad Dobbs, BRF School Superintendent Shelly Storey, Barb Simonis and Jordan Nortman.
Foundation Highlights of 2021

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

On December 31, 2020, Trustees Mike Mahans third-three year term came to an end. Mike often brought community health related issues to the School Board. His expertise in discussions of how best to address these needs. THANK YOU MIKE for contributing your time and insights over the past nine years!

On January 1, 2021, Dr. Nicholas Kitowski became the Foundation’s next Trustee.

On January 1, 2022, Mary Beth White-Jacobs will become the Foundation’s next Vice Chairman.

For the sake of being cautious with regard to COVID, Trustees decided to push our annual FRIENDS appreciation gathering back to mid-September and also planned to add a golf outing to coincide with the luncheon. Unfortunately the event was later cancelled due to a spike in COVID numbers.

In an effort to identify and help individuals who may be “falling through the cracks” during the pandemic, Trustees approved emergency grants to Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers and Friends Sharing Food – Essential Needs Program.

Members of the Foundation Scholarship Committee reviewed and scored 66 scholarship applications, 36 graduating Senior applications and 30 BRF Alumni applications, as well as representing Foundation Managed Scholarships at the BRF High School Scholarship Selection Committee’s meeting on April 15th.

Trustees reached out to the County with concerns regarding maintenance of the new Animal Shelter. Issues were discussed and solutions will be implemented.

Trustees researched, reviewed and considered twenty-seven grant applications. Sixteen grant requests were fully funded and one grant was given a partial match.

2021 Donor Advised Disbursements
$497,866 distributed to 18 local area Non-Profit Organizations.

Kay Brauner Memorial Fund
Western Technical College – Student Emergency Assistance Scholarship Fund

City of BRF – Field of Honor Maintenance Fund
City of BRF for reimbursement for 2020 expenses

City of BRF – Foundation Trail Maintenance Fund
City of BRF for repair to walking bridge by the Chamber building
City of BRF – Skyline Golf Course
Cart replacement project

Disability Association of Jackson County
Provide party supplies for seasonal events for disabled citizens

Tim & Kay Finch Family Fund
Alma Center VFW Post 844
Boys & Girls Club of Jackson County
Bolton Refuge House
Black River Falls VFW Post 1959
City of BRF – Fire Department
Friends Sharing Food
Jackson County Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers
Village of Alma Center Fire Department
Village of Merrillan Fire Department

Peter & Jone Hoffman Fund
Boys & Girls Club of Jackson County
JC Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers

Warming Hearts Fund – Jim & Kathy Powell
JC Health & Human Services – Children & Families Division

City of BRF School District – Angel Fund: Proceeds used to help pay student lunch debt for those in need

Mary Van Gorden Funds
City of BRF – Library History Room for expenses

Grace Webb Memorial Library Fund
Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District: Elementary Library to enhance the joy of reading for younger children

2021 Donor Advised Disbursements
$268,614 awarded to 21 Local Non-Profit Organizations.

Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District: Elementary School: Renewing existing old planters and create an indoor garden at the Merrillan Elementary School
Apiti (k/a a Riverfront): Creation of an outdoor program space for youth & adults with disabilities
Bolton Refuge House: Jackson County Outreach: Remove existing boiler system, purchase and install a new boiler in transitional housing units A and B
Boys & Girls Club of Jackson County: Upgrade technology for application of dedicated computer programming to strengthen member’s technology skills and career readiness
Black River Area Child Care Services: Purchase two sensory tables and one double sided storage cubby/shelf
Black River Area Foster Care Closet: Initiation set-up of the closet including shelving, storage containers, diapers/wipes, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, larger items such as pack-n-play, high chairs
Black River Memorial Hospital: To purchase gas cards and WalMart gift cards to assist local chemotherapy patients in financial hardship. These cards will provide assistance in getting to treatments, as well as, purchasing self-care items to help manage their unique health needs.
Children’s Service Society of WI: Funding to provide two nine-week parenting courses in a hybrid model using the Family Resource Center and a Virtual format
City of BRF, Fire Department: Purchase a thermal imaging camera and truck mount to be placed in the primary response engine
City of BRF, Public Library: Youth services and programming to promote summer reading. Prize books for the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program
City of BRF, Spaulding Road Community Garden: Replace the north entry gate at the garden

Friends of the Black River: Materials to erect twenty-three signs, including lumber, posts, mortar; Chain saw expenses
Hixton Volunteer Fire Department: Purchase of enclosed cascade fill station
Jackson County Crime Stoppers: Promotion of new program
JC Health & Human Services: Division of Public Health: Purchase a laboratory compliant counter refrigerator/incubator for the JC Public Health Water Lab
JC Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers: Toward building a new facility
Kearner Blue Garden Club: Maintenance of flowers in the city of the BRF
Melrose Volunteer Fire Department: Supplement purchase of a UTV with modified box skid for patient transport
Millston Park Commission: Replacement current damaged ballfield fence in Millston Memorial Park
Village of Alma Center; AC Community Fire District: Purchase twenty-four fire helmets to ensure safety of volunteer firefighters
SPECIAL COVID-19 GRANT

Friends Sharing Food – Essential Needs Program: Initial start-up costs for this new program, which will provide essential, non-food, personal care items to those in need. Examples, shampoo, conditioner, soap, razors, Kleenex, toothpaste and toothbrushes (adults/children) diapers, feminine hygiene, etc.

JC Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers: To assist local people who may be “falling through the cracks” during the pandemic. Interfaith has procedures firmly in place, and expertly managed, to evaluate requests for assistance. These funds are to be distributed to individuals most in need, as identified by Interfaith staff, for any purposes deemed acceptable by Interfaith staff.

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2021 Community Fund Grants
$9,702 to fund 7 community and educational projects

Alma Center Area Community Fund
• Alma Center Improvement Club for landscaping and deck repair at the Turtle Pond
• Alma Center Community Fire Department for purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator
• East Lawn Cemetery for purchasing lawn mowing and trimming equipment

BRF Education Enrichment Fund

Red Creek Elementary

Heather Bluendorf’s 4th Grade Class for Gooberizing for Students. Thirty hand-held GPS navigators will be purchased for students to locate objects, learn and use map skills and develop an appreciation of the outdoors. Students will then teach other 4th grade classes, thus spreading the gizmoexperience beyond one classroom.

Kelly Zimmerman’s 4th Grade Class for “Soup Circuit Explanation” kits. Kits will be used to build electrical circuits, learning about controlling electrical flow, identifying the path of electricity through a circuit, investigating alternative energy, and transforming electrical energy into light, sound and mechanical energy.

Forest Street Early Learning Center

Jody Gawron’s Music Classroom for purchase of a “Circular Music Rug” with music symbols. Ms. Gawron’s classes are very active, and the rug will facilitate quick movement for games and dances. The symbols on the rug will reinforce basic music concepts in the kindergarten and first grade curriculum.

BRF Middle School

Amy Olson’s Art Class for purchase of a laptop computer, 27” monitor and Canon EOS Rebel Camera. Equipment will be used to create a middle school yearbook. The camera will also be used to teach photography and elements of design within the middle school art curriculum.

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Thank you to every student who submitted a letter of application. The Foundation received assistance from over 300 students with letters of recommendation and most students who applied were over 1,200 words. Forty-five dollars in tuition fees have been contributed by 1,200 students. For the first time in the Foundation’s history, the number of applicants is greater than the number of recipients. A total of 202 students were selected from over 3,000 applications. The average GPA of the applicants was 3.7. Thirty-five percent of the students were female. The average age of the applicants was 19.8 years old.

The Foundation is pleased to announce that 346 students have been awarded a total of $1,718,400 in scholarships. This year, the Foundation has awarded $1,718,400 in scholarships, a 32% increase from last year. The scholarships will be used to help students cover tuition, fees, books, and other expenses. The Foundation’s goal is to provide financial assistance to students who need it most, and to support their academic and personal goals.

The Foundation’s scholarship program has been in operation for over 20 years and has awarded over $30 million in scholarships. The Foundation’s mission is to provide educational support to students who have demonstrated academic excellence and who are committed to making a positive impact on their communities. The Foundation’s scholarships are awarded based on academic achievement, financial need, and community service.

The Foundation is grateful to its many donors who have made these scholarships possible. The Foundation’s scholarships are funded by a variety of sources, including the Foundation’s endowment, donations from individuals and organizations, and matching grants from the United Way of Northern Wisconsin.

The Foundation is confident that the students who have been awarded scholarships will go on to make a positive impact on their communities and the world. The Foundation wishes the students well in their academic and personal pursuits, and encourages them to continue to strive for excellence and to make a positive difference in the world.
SCHOLARSHIP DONATION OPTIONS

In addition to our Traditional Scholarship Fund, the Foundation now offers two additional scholarship donation options:

- **Foundation Scholarship Fund**: Donors who desire to help with the rising costs of education may make a donation of $100 or more at any time to this fund. Please specify a Jackson County school or other if not RBF.
- **Specified Term Scholarship**: This fund is designed for donations in amounts ranging from $2,000 to $24,000. Scholarship amounts are preset at $2,000 per year and the length of the scholarship term will be determined by the amount of the donation, or the scholarship may be funded annually. Donors creating this type of scholarship fund may name the fund, perhaps in honor of a loved one or as a memorial. In addition, donors may be involved in establishing the scholarship's requirements and selection guidelines if they so desire.

- **Traditional Scholarship Funds**: Our traditional scholarship fund has been designed to provide the opportunity for a perpetual fund. This fund begins with a donation of $25,000 or more (which can be made in 5 annual installments of $5,000). The traditional fund participates in investment earnings/loss allocations and Foundation administration expenses. It is hoped that annual earnings will be equal to, or greater than, the annual scholarship award plus costs, thus allowing the fund to remain in perpetuity. However, the minimum annual scholarship award is $2,000 and the scholarship is required to be awarded each year, regardless of market conditions. Therefore, at times, it may be necessary to invade the fund’s principal. Each year the Foundation will provide the donor, or their designated representative, a report showing the fund’s earnings/loss for the year and the balance in the fund. Donors have the opportunity to add to the fund at any time if they so desire. Donors creating a traditional scholarship fund will name the fund, perhaps in honor of a loved one, as a memorial, or as a family fund. In addition, donors may be involved in establishing the scholarship’s requirements and selection guidelines if they so desire. At the time the fund is established, donors may provide direction regarding whether the fund will be perpetual, or for a specific number of years.

It is recommended that school scholarship selection committees determine the scholarship recipient. Contact the Foundation for more information about these new options.

2021 KAY BRAUNER MEMORIAL FUND

Donates $1,000 to: WTC Emergency Scholarship Fund

This fund helps Western Technical College students from the RBF area who are in danger of becoming unable to continue their education due to unexpected financial burdens. Emergency funds can be used to assist with things such as housing, meals, childcare, utilities, medical expenses, and transportation issues.

Grant Applications

The BRF Area Foundation welcomes grant applications from non-profit organizations serving the Black River Falls Area. The grant application period is from March 1 through April 15. The announcement of award recipients and the disbursement of funds are done in June.

For information about grants to go to www.blackriverfalls.org or contact us at:

Black River Falls Area Foundation
PO Box 59
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Telephone: 715-284-3113
E-mail: executivedirector@blackriverfalls.org
Contact any member of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees.

2021 Scholarships & Recipients

A Scholarship Fund created by gifts from individuals, organizations and businesses, awards education grants to selected area students. The following 57 scholarships totaling $106,500 were awarded from 31 of the Foundation’s Scholarship Funds.

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,500)
- Matthew Lounsbury (2016 BRF Graduate)

Black River Falls Area Foundation Impact Scholarship ($1,000 per semester up to $4)
- Terri Siverson (1995 BRF Graduate)
Attending: UW La Crosse
Course of Study: Medical Administration
Career Path: Office Work in local Hospital or Clinic

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- James Jr. and Anna Klier Memorial Scholarship ($1,000)
Kathleen Loechel
Black River Falls Attending: Viterbo University
Course of Study: Nursing
Career Path: Rural Health Care

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Foundation Alumni Scholarship ($2,000)
Lauren Forney (2018 BRF Graduate)
Attending: UW La Crosse
Course of Study: Pre-Med
Career Path: Physician Assistant Graduate School

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Ryan Simonis (2006 BRF Graduate)
Attending: UA La Crosse
Course of Study: Human Services
Career Path: Social Work/ Social Services

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Kyle Gilbertson
Black River Falls Attending: UW Madison
Course of Study: Double Major-Biology/Microbiology
Career Path: Financial Advisor/Planner

Black River Falls Area Foundation Impact Scholarship ($1,000 per semester up to $4)
- Talent Zyzanski (2016 BRF Graduate)
Attending: UW-La Crosse
Course of Study: Physical Therapy
Career Path: Health Care

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- David & Marilyn Hoffman Scholarship ($1,000)
Duane & Lavinia Hoffman (1999 BRF Graduate)
Attending: UW Eau Claire
Course of Study: Education
Career Path: Physical Education Teacher

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Richard Hilleker Scholarship ($2,000)
Elizabeth Pardee (2014 BRF Graduate)
Attending: UW-La Crosse
Course of Study: Radiologic Technology
Career Path: Radiation Technologist

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Black River Falls Firefighter & EMT Scholarship ($1,000 per semester up to $4)
Kobe Nichols
Black River Falls Attending: UW Platteville
Course of Study: Firefighter/ Emergency Medical Technician
Career Path: Public Service – Firefighter & EMT

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Allan Brennen Memorial Scholarship ($1,500)
Natalie Fischer (2018 Lincoln Graduate)
Attending: UW-La Crosse
Course of Study: Major-Elementary Education/ Reading Instruction
Career Path: Teacher

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Dean Nortman Memorial Scholarship ($1,000)
Kathy Nortman
Attending: UW-La Crosse
Course of Study: Social Science
Career Path: Teacher

Black River Falls Alumni Association Scholarship ($1,000)
- Thomas R. Gilles Memorial Scholarship ($500)
Don Holberson Memorial Scholarship ($5,000)
Attending: UW-La Crosse
Career Path: Social Work

Financial Statement

(For the years ending December 31, 2019 and 2020)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>Audited 2019</th>
<th>Audited 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$337,723</td>
<td>$460,574</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investment Return</td>
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<td>$(301,119)</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL REVENUE</td>
<td>$1,178,998</td>
<td>$1,151,465</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURES</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants &amp; Scholarships</td>
<td>$470,334</td>
<td>$749,007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support Services</td>
<td>$85,080</td>
<td>$64,500</td>
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<td>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</td>
<td>$55,430</td>
<td>$51,677</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change in Net Assets</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$567,734</td>
<td>$(713,729)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets at Beginning</td>
<td>$5,384,833</td>
<td>$6,152,567</td>
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<tr>
<td>NET ASSETS AT YEAR END</td>
<td>$6,152,567</td>
<td>$5,438,838</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Grant Applications

The BRF Area Foundation welcomes grant applications from non-profit organizations serving the Black River Falls Area. The grant application period is from March 1 through April 15. The announcement of award recipients and the disbursement of funds are done in June.

For information about grants to go to www.blackriverfalls.org or contact us at:

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Contact any member of the Foundation’s Board of Trustees.
2021 Scholarships & Recipients

David & Marilyn Hoffman Scholarship ($2,000)
Madison McCarroll (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: St. Mary’s University of Minnesota
Course of Study: 3+2 PA Program (Biology-Health Sciences/MBA), Minor Creativity & Inquiry
Career Path: Physician Assistant within the Mayo Health System

Alien Hestrom Memorial Scholarship
Year 1 of 2 ($2,500)
Galid Leunfenger (2020 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Eau Claire
Course of Study: Human Biology
Career Path: Health Science Field or Teaching

Alien Hestrom Memorial Scholarship
Year 2 of 2 ($2,500)
Krohn Clinic Physicians Scholarship ($2,000)
Emma Gevordnaog (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UM Rochester or UW Eau Claire
Course of Study: Nursing
Career Path: Medical Field

Leland & Jeanette Larsen Memorial Scholarship – Special 1 Year Award ($2,000)
Abigail Leor (2018 BRF Graduate)
Merrill
Attending: UW Eau Claire
Course of Study: Environmental Education & Special Education
Career Path: Merrill Coach

Mary Perry Fine Arts Scholarship ($1,200)
Matthew Rocker (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Dance
Career Path: Dance Instructor

Turner Powell Memorial Scholarship ($2,000)
Jacquelyn Paul (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: Johnson State College
Career Path: Human Sciences

Alumni Scholarship #9
Caitlin Cato (2017 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: Winona State University
Course of Study: Criminal Justice
Career Path: Forensic Science

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #10 ($2,000)
Seth Peterson (2020 Melrose-Mindoro Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Alexander
Career Path: Forensic Psychiatrist

2021 Scholarships & Recipients

David & Marilyn Hoffman Scholarship ($2,000)
Jocsiem Om (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW La Crosse
Course of Study: Accounting
Career Path: Accounting, CPA, potentially MBA

Ann Krohn Peterson Scholarship ($2,000)
Jared Laufenberg (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Accounting
Career Path: Accounting

Alumni Scholarship #5
Gael Witte (2017 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Superior
Course of Study: Elementary Education
Career Path: Elementary Education Teacher

Amelia Baumo-Larsen Memorial Scholarship ($2,000)
Brenda Reusch (2021 UW Eau Claire Cum Laude Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Elementary Education & Special Education
Career Path: Elementary Education Teacher

Rick Millie Memorial Scholarship ($3,000)
Adjime Martinez (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: Western Technical College
Course of Study: Major: Sociology Minor-Criminal Justice
Career Path: Transfer to UW La Crosse for BA

Breana Reusch (2021 UW Eau Claire Cum Laude Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Superior
Course of Study: Elementary Education
Career Path: Elementary Education Teacher

Mary Perry Fine Arts Scholarship ($1,200)
Matthew Rocker (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Dance
Career Path: Dance Instructor

Jenna Gentle & Janny Romys Scholarship ($2,000)
Molly Johnson (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Eau Claire
Course of Study: Elementary Education
Career Path: Teaching

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #1 ($2,000)
Zoe Dal Cerro (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Marketing
Career Path: Marketing Field

Alumni Scholarship #8
Nathan Lautenberg (2016 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Business/Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Business

Jared Laufenberg (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Business/Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Business

Ann Krohn Peterson Scholarship ($2,000)
Isabella Cowles (2020 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: Winona State University
Course of Study: Accounting
Career Path: Accounting

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #2 ($2,000)
Kathleen DeBoos (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: Winona State University
Course of Study: Accounting
Career Path: Accounting

Alumni Scholarship #4
Erik Wolsko (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Whitewater
Course of Study: Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Accounting

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #3 ($2,000)
Kelly Anneshof (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Accounting
Career Path: Accounting

Alumni Scholarship #10
Seth Peterson (2020 Melrose-Mindoro Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: St. Mary’s College
Course of Study: Biology Pre-Physician Assistant
Career Path: Physician Assistant

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #4 ($2,000)
Jared Laufenberg (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Stout
Course of Study: Business/Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Business

Alumni Scholarship #9
Caitlin Cato (2017 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: Winona State University
Course of Study: Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Accounting

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #5 ($2,000)
Kimberly Leadbol (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Madison
Course of Study: Journalism and Political Science
Career Path: Video Journalist

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #6 ($2,000)
Sami Land (2010 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Eau Claire
Course of Study: Major: Education Minor: History
Career Path: Teacher at either High School or University

John Doe (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Whitewater
Course of Study: Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Accounting

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #7 ($2,000)
Alejandro Leos (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Whitewater
Course of Study: Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Accounting

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #8 ($2,000)
Eric Wolsko (2018 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Whitewater
Course of Study: Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Accounting

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #9 ($2,000)
Erik Wolsko (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Whitewater
Course of Study: Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Accounting

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #10 ($2,000)
Seth Peterson (2020 Melrose-Mindoro Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: St. Mary’s College
Course of Study: Biology Pre-Physician Assistant
Career Path: Physician Assistant

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #11 ($2,000)
Britt Peterson (2020 Melrose-Mindoro Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: St. Mary’s College
Course of Study: Biology Pre-Physician Assistant
Career Path: Physician Assistant

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship #12 ($2,000)
Erik Wolsko (2019 BRF Graduate)
Black River Falls
Attending: UW Whitewater
Course of Study: Accounting/Finance
Career Path: Accounting
## Friends of the Foundation

**Recognition Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRONZE ($100 &amp; up)</th>
<th>SILVER ($500 &amp; up)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aptiv Foundation, 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Anderson, Todd, 2021</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chown, Brad, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Arndt, William, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Chown, Lori, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Baker, Mona, 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deener, Dan, 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Barnes, AI, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hanson, Terry A., 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Black River Area Chamber of Commerce, 2019</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Herrmann, Carl F., 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Black River Falls Clinic Pharmacy, Inc., 2018</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Higgins, Joan B., 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Brauner, Mike, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Holt, Sherry K., 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Button, Georgia, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Homstad, Richard (Rik), 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Button, Larry, 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Howard, John, 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Capper, Ricky, 2019</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Howard, Mary Alice, 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Capper, Wally, 2019</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Jelinek, Danny, 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Curtis, Mary, 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lee, Michael &amp; Tara, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Danielson, Ron, 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Louis, Jean, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dickman, Annette, 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Mack, Mary, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dingeldein, Doris, 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Matousek, Robyn, 2018</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dingeldein, James, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Millis, Jana, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Doherty, Mrs. James (Carol), 2019</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Millis, Mike, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Drace, John, 2019</strong></td>
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<td><strong>New York Life: Stutz, Kristin, 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dressler, Axel, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>O'Brian, Mary, 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pistorius, Sandra, 2019</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Overman, Lynda, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Polzin, Jeff &amp; Susan, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reid, Thomas &amp; Arlene, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ransom, Ray, 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Rewald, Margaret, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ripp Distributing Co., Inc., 2021</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Ripp, Paul, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ripp, Therese, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Severson, Larry, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stai, Fred, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State Farm Insurance - Karen Stai Koenigs Agency, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stai, Rhonda, 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State Farm Insurance - John &amp; Jane Norgaard, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stai, Rhonda, 2021</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**GOLD ($2,000 & up)**

- Ackerson, Marilyn, 2021
- Black River Memorial Hospital, 2019
- Bowen, Duane, 2021
- Coldwell Banker - River Valley Realtors, 2021
- Delebo, Dr. Donald, 2021
- Dickman, Dr. James, 2021
- Dougherty, Cindy, 2021
- Dougherty, Mike, 2021
- Hagenbrock, Jean, 2019
- Hagenbrock, John, 2019
- Hoffman, David, 2021
- Hoffman, Jone, 2021
- Hoffman, Michael, 2021
- Hoffman, Peter, 2021
- Hogden, Carolyn (Kari), 2019
- Hogden, John, 2019
- Homstad, Jon, 2021
- Homstad, Maureen, 2021
- Kitowski, Dr. Jerry, 2021
- Kitowski, Lori, 2021
- Krohn Clinic, 2020
- Krohn, Dr. Eugene, 2021

- Krohn, Janet, 2021
- Lahmayer, Al, 2021
- Lahmayer, Jeanette, 2021
- Lee, Jean, 2021
- Michaelson Jr., Max, 2021
- Michaelson, Sue, 2021
- Mills, Carla, 2021
- Norgaard Insurance Agency, 2021
- Overman, Dr. Jerry & Lynda, 2021
- Perry, Mary, 2021
- Ransom, Gene, 2021
- Ransom, Judy, 2021
- Richards, Dennis, 2021
- Sedelbauer, Norbert, 2020
- Severson, Margaret, 2021
- Tamminen, Glen, 2021

**PLATINUM ($5,000 & up)**

- D & S Manufacturing, 2021
- Dr. Nicholas Kitowski Family, 2021
- Homstad, Gil, 2019
- Wiste, Roger, 2021

**DIAMOND ($10,000 & up)**

- Co-op Credit Union, 2019
- Northern Family Farms, 2019
- Security Financial Bank f/k/a Jackson Couty Bank, 2019

**LEADERS CIRCLE ($15,000 & up)**

- Dr. Kirk Lane Family, 2021

**LEGENDS CIRCLE ($20,000 & up)**

- Millis Family, 2019

**FOUNDERS CIRCLE ($30,000 & up)**

- Finch, Kay & Tim, 2018

*Welcome 1st time Friends!*