

# ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1 2022 TO 2023 JUNE 30

Dedicated to Trustees

David Hoffman and Mike Dougherty



**David Hoffman** BRF Area Foundation Vice-Chairman 1986-Present Mike Dougherty BRF Area Foundation Treasurer 1996-Present



### NOTES FROM THE CHAIRPERSON by Kay Finch

Our annual Friend's of the Foundation luncheon held on September 19, 2023, served as an honorary tribute to our retiring trustees David Hoffman and Michael Dougherty. In carrying on the theme of the luncheon "It takes a Village," both gentlemen have served as officers for many decades and have devoted their precious time, talents, wisdom, guidance, and philanthropy toward the success of the Foundation. Both have fully supported the Mission Statement and vision of the Foundation's founders.

Since 1996, the Foundation's Friends solicitation has been the Foundation's only fundraising event with all proceeds funding the following year's grant requests. Those donations benefit the greatest number of community members possible as awards are made to many Jackson County nonprofit organizations that provide a variety of services. We support the volunteers and organizations that support the community and in so doing, the Foundation can meet a broad range of community goals rather than focusing on a single project. As a result, we can meet the changing needs within the communities we serve and provide support to the people who live, work, and visit the Jackson County area as well as attracting new individuals and families to meet the growing needs of our local businesses.

Yes, it does "Take a Village" for the success and future of our Foundation, our county-wide communities, non-profit organizations, businesses, and

individuals donating their time, talents, and philanthropy.

On behalf of the entire Board of Trustees I thank all our Friends of the Foundation, especially those folks who are longtime supporters, first time donors, scholarship sponsors, business funds, and all individuals who have contributed in any way to the Black River Falls Area Foundation.

Moving forward I want to assure all supporters that the entire Board of Trustees are fully committed to our Mission Statement. Our Board consists of talented, respected members of Jackson County communities who are fully engaged and dedicated to the future of the Foundation. To that end the Board has developed several committees with all Trustees serving one or more. The goal is to review our Trust agreement, term limits and other areas of concern to attract and retain future Trustees.

Our fund-raising activities include continuation of the Friends luncheon and focusing on communications to potential donors regarding estate planning opportunities. With our new software and updated website donations may now be made online. One can peruse all the funds available, choose one and make your donation. If one wishes to donate to Friends rather than an existing fund that is an option as well. Check out our website www.brfareafoundation.org.

In closing, I personally wish to thank our retiring Trustees, David and Michael,

for their unwavering service and wisdom. I also want to thank our Executive Director, Julie Murray, for her dedication, support, attention to detail, love of community and people. Julie is our first and, in many cases, only contact with our new and current donors. She has contributed so much to the success of the Foundation during her tenure. Thank you Julie!

And a big thank you to all current members of the Board of Trustees. We make a great team together!

Yes indeed, "It takes a Village."

### **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;
- Protecting 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 goals 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.

### **RECOGNIZING DEDICATION** by Gil Homstad, Chairman Emeritus

At the end of 2023, David Hoffman and Mike Dougherty will complete their years of service as Trustees of the Black River Falls Area Foundation.

David was one of the Foundation founders in 1986 and, at that time, Black River Falls was the smallest city in the entire United States to have a Community Foundation, as well as only the seventh Community Foundation in all of Wisconsin! David was instrumental in the Foundation's initial fund-raising campaign and by the end of 1986 the Foundation had \$110,000 in assets. Since then, he has continually promoted the Foundation while providing leadership and direction for 37 years.

Mike was elected as a Foundation Trustee in 1998 and has served as Foundation Treasurer since that time. This position requires knowledge of the Foundation's financial holdings, of investments and their potential returns vs. risk, an in depth understanding and oversight of the Foundation's accounting practices and records, and subsequently a substantial commitment of time. Mike has done an outstanding job of fulfilling the Treasurer's position for 25 years, as our assets have grown to \$5 million today.

Dave and Mike were active participants in many community projects the Foundation originated, and also provided major funding over their years as Foundation Trustees. Dave and the extended Hoffman family played major parts in financing the new public library and the Hoffman Aquatic Center in Lunda Community Park. Mike provided major planning and financing of the Skate Park in the community park.

The Foundation currently annually funds approximately 65 scholarships and numerous grants. Since 1986, the Foundation has awarded more than 800 grants to 124 different and diverse area organizations totaling more than \$6.8 million! Dave Hoffman and Mike Dougherty, as Foundation Trustees, have helped analyze, award, and review the majority of those grants.

Thank you, Dave and Mike for all of your efforts on behalf of our community. We are grateful for everything you have done and your good works will never be forgotten. You personify our mission statement, and it has truly been a pleasure and an honor to serve with two such generous, dedicated, and inspirational people.

### BEING GRATEFUL IN 2023 by Julie Murray, Executive Director

In 2013, with much assistance, I created my first Annual Report for the Foundation. Our theme was "Catch the Spirit . . . Pass it on!" Over the past ten years, I have been blessed to work with David Hoffman and Mike Dougherty, two community leaders exemplifying that spirit. I have seen firsthand what that spirit can accomplish as I work with the caring, giving, and supportive people who make Jackson County a great place to live and work. Wherever there is a need, you will find an organization and volunteers

willing to address the issue. Our community comes together when needed in a variety of different ways, from raising money for important causes, to providing tons of elbow grease when that is what's necessary. Volunteers offer services as fire fighters, quilt makers, caregivers and companions, animal shelter workers, bed builders, and gardeners. They work to keep the food pantry stocked and available, provide essential needs for foster children, keep our community looking beautiful with flowers and holiday

decorations, and provide many services within our schools and for our elderly and disabled citizens. No community is perfect, and ours is not without problems, but working with people like David and Mike reminds me of the following quote, "In every community, there is work to be done. In every heart, there is the power to do it." Nowhere are those hearts more willing and powerful than in our community where we "Catch the Spirit . . . Pass it on!" THANK YOU ALL!

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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 selected because of their judgment, integrity, community involvement, and understanding of philanthropic needs. They serve four-year terms. One officer position is up for election each year.



Kay Finch Chairman



David Hoffman\*
Co-Vice Chairman



Brad Chown Co-Vice Chairman



Mike Dougherty Co-Treasurer



Ashley Ahl Co-Treasurer



Kristi Hanson Secretary



Jim Hoffman



Nicholas Kitowski, M.D.



Jack Taylor, Jr.



**Dennis Young** 



Mary Beth White-Jacobs



Gil Homstad\*
Chairman Emeritus



### FORMER TRUSTEES

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Jerry Kitowski, MD Al Lahmayer\* Jean Lee Tom Lister\* John Lund\* Mike Mahan, MD Sue Michaelson David Millis

### \*Originating Trustee

Mary O'Brien Dennis Richards\* Shelly Severson Dale Sherman\* Fred Stai

Tom Mills—

Executive Secretary from 1985 to 1999

### "Special People" Award Recipients

2015: Bee Herzberg

2016: Peter & Jone Hoffman

2017: Bill Millis

2018: Al & Jeanette Lahmayer

2019: Mary Van Gorden 2022: Gil Homstad 2023: David Hoffman and

Mike Dougherty

### NEW FOUNDATION FUNDS July 1 2022 to 2023 June 30

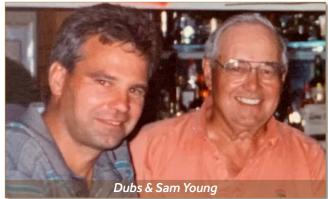
### Fred & Mary Stai Memorial Funds

My sisters and I found the BRF Area Foundation to be instrumental in helping us manage our parents' memorial funds. Our parents, Fred and Mary Stai, were devoted to their family and friends and actively involved in the community throughout their lifetimes. The Skyline Golf Course held a special place in their hearts, so they wanted their memorial funds to enhance the golf course. Our mom passed away in June 2014 followed by our dad in July 2022. Our dad was a tireless supporter of Skyline, volunteering many years of service to its management and development. So we knew we wanted to contribute to a specific project at Skyline in his name but did not know where to start. The Foundation was invaluable in providing direction, managing the fund, and helping bring the project to fruition. Today, thanks to the BRF Area Foundation, Skyline Golf Course, and the generosity of the community, there is a beautiful new patio on the west side of the Skyline Clubhouse.











### **Dubs & Sam Young Memorial Funds**

When Sam and Corrine Young's son, David "Dubs" Young, passed away in 2021, Sam and his family knew they would like to replace and improve the deck on the east side of the Skyline Club House in his memory. Dubs sister, Kristen Miller, reached out to the Foundation for assistance. The Foundation helped the Young family establish the fund and manage the donations and expenses for the project. The "Dubs Young Memorial Deck" was officially dedicated on June 25, 2022.

Known and respected by all, Sam Young passed away only six months later. Sam dedicated his life to the youth of our community. During the course of his teaching career in BRF, he taught physical education, math and science. He was also Athletic Director for 25 years, High School Vice-Principal for 16 years and served as a coach for football, basketball, baseball, track, and golf. Upon his passing, Sam Young's family knew exactly what they wanted to do to honor him and with the Foundation's help they established the "Sam Young Memorial Youth Golf Program Fund" to support two of his passions, young people and golf. All earnings and donations to the fund will be used to help young people learn and participate in the sport of golf, particularly those students that may not have the financial means to do so. This fund is open to the public and anyone wishing to honor Sam, or simply help promote golf to our young people, may donate through the BRF Area Foundation. "Without the help and guidance of the Foundation, our family would not have known how, nor been able to fulfill our plans to honor our brother and our father. We are forever grateful for their help and direction," said Kristen Young-Miller.

### TAKES A VILLAGE ~ Letters from grant recipients

We hope you enjoy this special edition of our Annual Report. While reading, please consider the tremendous impact that the Foundation has on our community. The Foundation's guiding principle is to support the organizations that support our community. Each of the groups highlighted here serves a unique and special purpose, and each relies on people giving their time and talents. Funding from the Foundation would be meaningless without these amazing volunteers. It truly does "Take a Village."

As a Community Foundation, we have the ability to use your donation to help the largest number of citizens and to address the broadest areas of interest. Please consider allowing us to help you stretch your donation dollars and spread them throughout the entire community. As always, thank you for your continued generosity and support of YOUR Foundation! *Julie Murray* 

### **Interfaith Volunteers**

The power of our community never ceases to amaze me. We get to work with organizations all over the state of Wisconsin and



we hear frequently how unique Jackson County is. This is nothing new. This something special started over 35 years ago when organizations

like the BRF Area Foundation and Interfaith Volunteers began in the late 1980's. The visionaries for these organizations not only believed it takes a village, but they lived that belief!

Support from organizations like the Foundation is vital for programs like Interfaith. In December of 2022, thanks to the Foundation and hundreds of other donors, Interfaith Volunteers moved to our new home at 1451 Tyler Street. With support from thousands of volunteers, care receivers, and donors our impact continues to grow. Our core values are to put faith in action, share compassion, foster independence, collaborate with community partners, and develop innovative programs that do not duplicate services. We continue to improve our essential programs of grocery delivery, transportation, friendly visits, light housecleaning, and spring and fall clean-up.

We have been helping seniors age in place since 1989 and in 2022, we coordinated 9,150 volunteer hours doing just that. We delivered groceries to 664 households and provided 788 rides. All these services were done utilizing volunteers. Not only do our programs provide critical services to our seniors, but they give our volunteers a sense of purpose.

In 2018, we added dementia support to our programs and developed our Time for You Dementia Respite Program. We saw firsthand the impacts that dementia was having on our community and the families that we assisted. Many of them were isolated and unable to leave loved ones alone because of their advanced dementia. In partnership with area churches and Jackson County ADRC, we were able to implement a dementia respite program that has assisted over forty families since it began. In adding this program, all aspects of our agency grew substantially. The number of volunteers increased, the amount of financial support, and the community awareness of an already successful program grew.

Yes, it takes a village to have this much impact! The generosity of our community made our new facility possible and now allows us to manage our growth and expand our community outreach programs. Interfaith is extremely thankful to the Foundation and the visionaries that serve this organization, making our community and our village stronger!

Lori Chown, Executive Director

### **Skyline Golf Club**

Since its founding in 1986, the BRF Area Foundation has been a key supporter of Skyline Golf Club. Over the years, when necessary, providing leadership and assistance in raising



funds for necessary equipment purchases and cash flow. The Foundation also has and is providing revenue by holding board meetings and the annual Friends of the Foundation luncheon at Skyline. As a Skyline board member, I am always comfortable asking for advice from the Foundation on financial issues that the Trusties have experience with. Skyline values the business relationship with the Foundation and looks forward to continuing that relationship for many years.

Dennis Young, Skyline Board Member

The BRF Area Foundation generously awarded a grant so that the Skyline golf club can have an automated external defibrillator and a LifeVac (anti-choking device) available to the patrons in case of emergency. With the help of Steve Collins, we were able to purchase the



state-of-the-art equipment. Steve and Matt Hass will provide device training and installation respectively, free of charge. These devices are now available and ready for use, all thanks to the generosity of the Foundation. Thank you!

Dr. Darrin Antonelli on behalf of the Skyline Board Members

### **Black River Falls Police Department**

The BRF Area Foundation has been a great partner with the Black River Falls Police Department.

In 2016, funds were provided to the police department for the purchase of squad dash cameras, still being used today. The



utilization of these cameras is another tool that assists the police department by capturing video and audio evidence.

In 2018, funds were provided for the purchase of an electric slow moving vehicle (similar to a golf cart). The cart was used for patrol on the Foundation Trail and is currently being used at the Jackson County Fair.

Without the support of the community and the Foundation, these two projects would not have been possible.

Jeremy Isensee, Chief of Police

### **JC Community Tennis Association**

There are so many positive aspects about the Black River Falls community. One of the most phenomenal things we witness every day is how community members support one another.



The Jackson County Community Tennis Association (JCCTA) was formed in 2009 with the intention of promoting tennis to area residents by providing fun and engaging events, league opportunities, and assisting with maintenance of, as well as, enhancements to the local courts. Most years (pre-pandemic), we have hosted an annual "Tennis Block Party" and we also offer annual summer tennis camps, with 35+ kids participating each year.

We began fundraising for lighted courts so we could allow for longer durations of play for high school teams, make the courts more accessible to those working during the day, and also allow for playing in cooler temps. The Foundation contributed a substantial portion of the needed funds to help us make this possible.

Tennis is an activity available for anyone at any age - with only one other participant needed to play! The courts are an asset to our school district, our Parks and Rec Department, and our community. We intend to keep promoting the sport and enhancing the courts as much as possible. We have discussed combining our efforts with those playing pickleball, as two of the courts now have Pickleball lines, including the lighted court.

Liz Lund, JCCTA Secretary

### **Farmington Emergency Medical Team**



As a previous grant recipient, we would like to thank the Foundation and in particular Trustees Gil Homstad and Kay Finch, and to share the huge impact it made on our service. We are a small, all volunteer Emergency Medical Service that serves the Town of North Bend in Jackson County and the Town of Farmington in La Crosse County.

In early 2020, just prior to the start of the pandemic, our service was dispatched for a 33-year-old male, unconscious with no pulse. After 41 minutes of performing chest compressions and associated breaths we were successful in the return of a pulse. The patient those dedicated first responders, doctors, nurses and two hospitals saved that day was my son.

As my family gave thanks, I thought a lot about my team's response to that call. They are a dedicated group of caring individuals, but we are small, only 16 members and many of us are middle-aged or older. I realized that soon we would probably not have the numbers or stamina to perform CPR for such an

extended period. Having previously worked with the Lucas brand chest compression device, I knew how beneficial it could be, however while this device is routinely carried by larger EMT services, few small services have a budget that can support such a purchase.

I reached out to the Foundation and spoke to Julie Murray. She stressed that our application would be a 'long shot' due to our relatively small footprint in Jackson County, but encouraged me by pointing out we had nothing to lose. Our grant was reviewed and, as Julie predicted, the Trustees believed it to be a worthwhile cause, but felt they must deny the request. However, Gil Homstad and Tim and Kay Finch were moved to privately donate the funds we needed.

The Lucas device was purchased, placed in service, and has been used many times on calls. I cannot say that to date we have had any long term saves due to its use, but please trust me when I say the EMT members that were on those calls, and the patients and their families that were helped, all have a special place in their hearts for the Foundation and its generous Trustees.

Darrel Stoen, Farmington Emergency Medical Team Inc.

## **Jackson County Department of Health** and **Human Services**

Jackson County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) provides resources, support and services throughout the life span for persons within Jackson County. In order to provide a wide spectrum of services we rely on support from grants, partnerships and a variety of funders. We have been extremely grateful to have had the support of the BRF Area Foundation for a variety of programs and needs within DHHS across the years.

Through the Foundation's Warming Hearts Fund (established by Jim and Kathy Powell), our agency receives support for Christmas gifts for children in out of home care.

For many years the Foundation has been a primary source of funding for our car seat program, having provided in excess of \$11,000 to ensure the safety of several children whose families could not afford car seats.

The Foundation also provided a grant for our public health division that was used to purchase a quanti-tray sealer (pictured below) and supplies for our certified water lab. The quanti-tray sealer has given us the capabilities to test the beach water within Jackson County. The Jackson County Public Health and Jackson County Forestry and Parks staff have been using this new tool to monitor the water quality of our county beaches.

We are extremely grateful for the continued funding support from the Foundation and very much appreciate this resource and the good it does for Black River Falls and the entire Jackson County community!

Christine Hovell, Director JC DHHS



### BRF Evangelical Lutheran Church Sewing Circle

The history of Sewing Circle at Evangelical Lutheran Church dates to the 1940's. Today, eighty years later, the Sewing Circle continues to reach out into the community by the making of quilts. In the late 1990's the annual goal was 25 to 30 quilts. Now we think in the hundreds. In fact, during 2022, we produced 500 quilts. Because more folks from the community joined us, we were able to make 100 quilts for the flood victims in Kentucky. Our purpose is to provide warm quilts for those who need them. Quilts are donated to Project Christmas, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Hospice, and Lutheran World Relief. Like the Kentucky project, we contribute to special needs as we learn of them.

The donation we received from the Foundation allowed us to order enough batting for half a year and gave us a chance to bring in new material in large sizes for the backs. Before this we used donated sheets and left-over material from home projects. Although these donations are still important, the large pieces of new fabric have speeded up the method of creating a quilt. Dare we dream of a thousand quilts annually?

The time afforded to quilting has been a blessing of fellowship and camaraderie as we busy our hands making quilts and praying over them to bring comfort to those who receive them. God is watching over us as the years go by. We always have just the right talents to do the various jobs that making a quilt requires.

Not only are we thankful for the monetary gift from the Foundation, we are also grateful for the many donations given to us by the community at large. Sewing Circle members plan to continue their work. It is that time of life for us when we can continue contributing to those around us in a meaningful way. We have recently moved into a larger room in the church with all our materials around us, which makes our work easier. We meet on Thursdays for the day, and of course, coffee and goodies are served in the afternoon. We welcome new members.

Betty Steele, Volunteer



### Miles-Hagen American Legion Post 200

The Legion applied for and received a grant from the BRF Area Foundation to update the furnace in the legion hall. The age of the existing furnace was such that it became difficult, if not impossible, to source replacement parts. Without this grant replacement of the furnace would have been extremely difficult due to the expense. Now Post 200 won't have to worry about our system failing in the middle of winter, causing an emergency. Thank you again to the BRF Area



Randy Bjerke, Finance Officer/Past Commander

### **Blair-Taylor School District**

Our mission at Blair-Taylor is to educate all learners to reach their full potential as productive citizens. In 1989, the Blair and Taylor communities joined together to become the Blair-Taylor School District. On average, we have 630 children from 4k-12th grade. We are a United Campus which gives many opportunities to each student.

The Blair-Taylor School District has been grateful for the donations from the BRF Area Foundation. These grants have purchased a Polar 3D Printer and a Band Saw capable of cutting a wide variety of steel products for the Technology Education department. We were also able to replace a Timpani Drum Set that was over 30 years old for the band department. We were also able to update and expand our Lego Robotics program. Without these donations, our students would not have the many opportunities these items have given them.

Thank you again to the BRF Area Foundation for your generous donations. It is organizations such as yours that make things like this possible for our students.

Crystal Sweno, Administrative Assistant



### Millston Brookside Cemetery



the BRF Area Foundation to help finance the additional space needed to honor the veterans buried in our cemetery. We are a small cemetery so a project of this size was overwhelming. With the help of the Foundation, we were able to purchase and install the two smaller display cases and needed posts, as well as, refinishing the existing post. The decals were also added to dress up the area facing the road. We have had numerous comments on the beautiful display. A big 'THANK YOU' to the Foundation from the Millston Brookside Cemetery Board of Trustees.

Sandy Wood, Vice-President, Millston Brookside Cemetery

### **Black River Falls Soccer Program & Field**

Although we have had a youth soccer program in Jackson County since 1985 the organization lacked a permanent home. In 2010, we started to explore the possibility of making the dream of a soccer complex a reality. With the help of numerous donors, both organizations and individuals, the



farmland between the community gardens and the city well on Rye Bluff road was converted to an irrigated space with the ability to accommodate the needs of youth soccer in Jackson County.

The BRF Area Foundation was essential in the efforts of fundraising. Their very generous donation of \$25,000 dollars was critical to the project moving forward. With their help, the project was completed in 2011 and has served the community well. BRF High School has since added a soccer team to their program. They currently use the fields that the Foundation helped develop to practice. Without the support of the BRF Area Foundation, the current fields may have never been developed.

Dr. Michael Mahan, Program Volunteer

### Alma Center - Humbird - Merrillan School District



The BRF Area Foundation has shown continued and consistent generosity to the students and staff of the Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan school community. As the Superintendent for the district, I know how hard it is to balance

the educational needs of students within the constraints of a public-school budget. Each year we walk a tightrope, balancing our resources to provide a solid academic foundation while also offering unique educational opportunities that will broaden the horizons of our students. We know and have heard directly from our technical college partners and area employers of the ever-expanding skill set that today's students and workers must possess in order to succeed in the evolving workplace. It is in this sector that we have benefited so much from the generous donations of the Foundation, as they have helped provide the equipment and technology that allows our students access to a broader and more enriching educational experience.

Over the past eight years, the BRF Area Foundation has donated \$43,972 to help cover the costs associated with technology and equipment purchases supporting students in grades K-12 and their teachers. It is hard to quantify the impact that these donations have had as our students use and enjoy the benefits of these donations on a daily basis. If you attend a Lincoln Jr/Sr High School concert, you will be hearing instruments made possible by their donations with vocal performances on the risers that they helped purchase. If you visit our technical education shop, you may very likely see students working under a car lift made possible by their donation. If you purchase an artistic metal product from our Woods & Metal class, it was very likely cut by equipment donated through the Foundation. While not as visible to the public, our students also receive instruction in 3D printing, allowing them to practice the skills in product design that could lead to future careers in engineering. Additionally, our Physical Education Department has benefited greatly from their donations, with money allocated towards equipment that supports lifelong activities such as

pickleball and equipment for our fitness center.

There are many lessons to be experienced when living in small-town Wisconsin, one of which being that it takes a village to raise a child. It is truly inspiring to have an organization that recognizes that schools and their communities exist in a symbiotic relationship. And though our collaborative efforts as educator and community may not always be visible or celebrated by those directly benefiting from it, knowing that a stronger community has been made possible because of our invisible touch is more than enough.

Drew Semington, ACHM School District Superintendent

### **Jackson County Child Care Network**

Jackson County Child Care Network (JCCCN) began with a conversation in the lobby at CCU. That conversation led to the formation of the Jackson County Child Care Task Force. The task force was a business led group working to improve the quality and accessibility of affordable child care in Jackson



County. As the task force continued to learn about the crisis faced in Jackson County, they formed Jackson County Child Care Network.

The Foundation was able to help with ideas, suggestions, and feedback. JCCCN was formed as a non-stock corporation and then received the 501c3 designation. After that, the Foundation was able to provide further assistance by awarding a development grant in the amount of \$7,837, creating a fund to assist them with their fundraising efforts, and providing them with access to a needed software application for record keeping and on-line donation capability.

Over the past 4-5 years, several grants have been applied for and received. These grants have helped JCCCN implement the Wisconsin Early Education Shared Services Network (WEESSN) through Wisconsin Early Childhood Education (WECA). WEESSN provides one-on-one mentoring and support for our current child care providers and fills many needs for both family providers and group centers.

JCCCN continues to support child care in our community through retention bonuses for staff, much needed support to cover the rising cost of supplies and equipment, food, and other necessities. Without this support, providers would have to continue to raise the already high cost of tuition and it would put many more employees out of the workforce.

JCCCN continues to grow and look for alternative ways to sustain the work of the organization. Our chair has often called on the Foundation and specifically Mike Dougherty and David Hoffman for feedback and ideas. These candid conversations have helped our organization meet the needs of our providers and find ways to grow slots in the community in ways that the community can support.

JCCCN has created a complete Revenue Strategy and as a 501c3, looks for part of that revenue to come through the generous community we serve. David and Mike have played a big role in setting the bar high for our community to support the organizations meeting the needs of Jackson County. We have identified many ways to give to JCCCN thanks to the leadership of the Foundation and people like David Hoffman and Mike Dougherty. If you're interested in learning more about JCCCN, please visit our website at www.jcchildcarenetwork.org.

Marianne Torkelson, Chairperson

### Sleep in Heavenly Peace











Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is non-profit charity dedicated to providing complete beds to children in need. Its' motto is "No Kids Sleep on the Floor in our Community" and its name was adopted from the familiar Christmas carol's final line.

The Trempealeau-Jackson Chapter began with a mission effort by Peace Lutheran Church in Pigeon Falls, Wisconsin, in late 2018 and has delivered between 550 and 600 beds in just the five years since it began its work and delivers roughly ten beds a month on average. There are no conditions attached to receiving a bed from SHP, other than a need has been identified, the children are in the stated age range (3-17) and that the family resides in the two-county area. We have dealt with families in poverty, parents crippled by medical conditions, catastrophic events including floods and fires, foster families, and displaced persons including immigrants, and recently resettled homeless. The children served have been living either temporarily or even for years on the floor beneath coats, on sofas and recliners, in cribs, sharing beds with siblings and adults, and even on piled up clothing. Once a recipient is identified, a hand-built wooden twin bed complete with a new mattress, pillow, bedding, and quilt is delivered to the home and put together. The beds can be installed either as single units or as bunk beds. All our work and coordination is done by local volunteers.

Our chapter now has warehouses in Black River Falls and Whitehall, and coordinates Bed Builds roughly four times a year to keep our inventory stocked. The Catholic, Evangelical Lutheran, and Methodist churches, Jackson Electric Co-op, Black River Country Bank and Co-op Credit Union are just a few of the Black River Area organizations that have sponsored and hosted Bed Builds, along with a long list of other supporters throughout the area. This spring, Jackson Electric supplied the build site for a Bed Build that drew 48 volunteers! The idea of including a quilt with every bed has become a tradition and continues thanks to local quilters.

Pictures of some of our builds and several bed deliveries are included in this article. The look on the children's faces is priceless, worth every ounce of our efforts. A family of five girls, their father passed away and their home lost to fire over a year

before, couldn't wait to climb into their new beds after surviving without for such a long time. A little girl squealed and laughed when she was told this was her own bed, and she didn't have to share or fight with her siblings for sleeping space anymore. A little boy asked who the new quilt was for, and when the delivery volunteers told him they had made it just for him, his eyes got wide and he couldn't stop crying, thanking and hugging everyone, and saying nobody had ever done anything like that for him before. Their own bed and a restful, safe night's sleep that our beds represent can change a life.

The \$15,000 donated by the BRF Area Foundation will help the work keep going for our neighbors and our children. We thank you with all our hearts and invite any of you with an interest to become involved with our deliveries and our bed builds as we continue to serve the BRF area.

Pastor Dave Christianson and Tom Twesme, Co-Presidents WI-Trempealeau & Jackson Chapter, Sleep in Heavenly Peace

### **RiverBend Party Animals**

RiverBend Party Animals is a day-camp for disadvantaged youth aged 12 and older from the surrounding area. We provide a place where youth have a physical outlet to learn prosocial behaviors, teambuilding, conflict resolution, and problem solving using outdoor fun as our tool. The team sports and activities we provide inherently require the use of these life skills, and we strive to make youth think about them consciously.

The camp is completely cost free for participants. RiverBend Party Animals opened its doors in 2020 on location of the old River Bend Golf Course in North Bend, WI. The camp is open on select days from May to October each summer. Current activities that youth can participate in include paintball, bumper soccer, bow and arrow tag, giant volleyball, the Amazing Grace Race, and other teambuilding activities.

Many youth that participate here have varying degrees of social, physical and emotional issues, but when involved in the wide range of teambuilding activities we provide, one can barely notice. All our youth need physical outlets that develop essential life and social skills. We believe in investing in and mentoring youth. Many major studies show that mentored youth are 46% less likely to start using drugs, 27% less likely to start drinking, and 55% more likely to enroll in college. They are less likely to commit crimes and tend to have higher self-esteem and self-confidence. Nine of ten mentored youth are interested in becoming mentors when becoming adults. The continuous positive comments we hear from the participants and mentors are further evidence of how much this type of organization is needed.

For more information visit www.rbpartyanimals.com or feel free to contact us at rbpartyanimals@hotmail.com.

You can also check out our pictures on Facebook @ RiverBend Party Animals.

Kim Vaaler and Rick & Jill Hurda

### RiverBend Party Animal/ inc.









### St. John Lutheran Church **Community Thanksqiving Dinner**

St. John Lutheran Church Thanksgiving Dinner was started 28 years ago as a youth project. The first year 19 meals were served at the church. The dinner grew so that it was moved to the American Legion building in BRF for several years. It continued to grow and was moved to the National Guard Armory, there the highest number of meals served was 700. We returned to the church when a new building was built. During COVID we continued to serve with curbside pick-up and a record 900 meals were served.

With our growth the need for more storage space arose. Plans were made to build a larger storage area but funding was a problem. A request was made to the BRF Area Foundation and a grant was awarded.



No words can express our appreciation for the support given by the Foundation. With that support we will be able to keep supplies organized and more accessible. The Foundation's support will help us to continue serving the community, meeting the needs of food insecurity, and socialization. With the Foundation's assistance 700 people or more will have a Thanksgiving dinner each year. Thank you for your heartfelt support.

Linda Hardwick and Karen Hardwick, Co-Coordinators

### **Hixton Volunteer Fire Department**

Non-profit organizations such as the Hixton Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) are dependent on great partnerships to remain legitimate and successful. One such partnership that has stood above the rest has been between HVFD and the BRF Area Foundation. Through grants from the Foundation, HVFD has been able to achieve organizational goals and often accomplish those goals years sooner than expected. Most importantly these investments made by the Foundation in our organization keep our members safe and assure that they will not only be available for the next call, but will make it home to their families. It is true, the Foundation supports the people who support the community!

The Foundation provided funds for the replacement/upgrade of our self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA's). These units allow our members to be in environments where the air quality is such that without them individual safety, and in some cases survival, would not be possible. These units carry a hefty price tag and yet are crucial for HVFD. HVFD planned to replace our SCBA units over a 3-year period, however thanks to a generous donation from the Foundation, we were able to do so in less than

Likewise, the Foundation's help fast-tracked the replacement/ upgrade of all our hoses and nozzles. This was another project that was critical for HVFD to safely provide fire suppression services to the community.

Most recently, HVFD received a grant from the Foundation to purchase a safety cage for our air bottle fill station. This cage

provides a safe means for our members to refill SCBA bottles at our fire station.

The Hixton Volunteer Fire Department is a non-profit, member owned and operated, 100% volunteer organization. Emergency services, and the equipment required to safely provide those services continue to increase in price. Without the support of the community and organizations such as the BRF Area Foundation, it would not be possible to fund and safely operate an organization like ours, and we are extremely thankful for it.

Tom Davidson, Chief



### **Merrillan First Responders**

One of the many projects the BRF Area Foundation helped us with was raising funds for a new first responder vehicle. We were in desperate need as our old one would spit and sputter going down the road, sometimes it would just guit running, or be dead and we would have to jump start it, even though it was just running the day before! Many days after work and weekends were spent at



Northern Family Farms working on the vehicle to keep it going. We didn't have enough funds to buy a new first responder

vehicle, but found a used one in southern Texas. Thanks to the Foundation's generous grant we were able to purchase it. In the time we have had our new rig, we have used it as a warming vehicle, a better place to bring in patients out of the weather, and

with the 100% better lighting we can have better patient care. We have used it many times for mutual aid.

It's just an awesome rig and we are so thankful we don't have to worry it won't start or will breakdown when we are responding to a call. I personally can't thank the Foundation enough because I was so tired of working on our old one to try to keep it running!

Jeff Casper, Volunteer





### **Melrose-Mindoro School District**

As one of the school districts in Jackson County we benefit from the Foundation's rotating Grace Webb Memorial Grant Program. This grant provides funds on a regular rotating basis to our elementary school library to purchase materials that will enhance the joy of reading for our younger students.

Our high school students have the opportunity to apply for the Foundation's Leland & Jeanette Larson Memorial Scholarship. (Please see page 22 for information on this year's recipients.)

We are grateful to the Foundation and all it does for all parts of Jackson County.

Office of the Superintendent, Melrose-Mindoro School District year, providing meals to foster families, partnering with other community organizations, increasing access to additional resources for children in out-of-home care, and promoting the retention of foster care providers in Jackson County, ensuring our smallest and most vulnerable do not go without. Lastly, Mighty Table will continue to work to develop partnerships and build need of awareness for additional resources for children experiencing trauma.

Micaela Conlon-Bue, Volunteer

### **Mighty Table**







MELROSE-MINDORO

The idea for the Mighty Table was born in November of 2021 when a wonderful group of women set out to provide weekly meals to individuals who were experiencing food insecurities. Mighty Table aims to promote child health and increase community support for children and foster care providers.

The Mighty Table is a volunteer run effort that includes members from all over the community. They have volunteers that range from seven years old to 84 years old. Every Tuesday they come together and bring life to a kitchen and a community by making and delivering nutritious meals made from high quality ingredients to foster care providers and children in out-of-home placement. These meals help children overcome the impact of previous severe neglect and promote future healthy eating habits, while offering additional exposure to caring adults, as well as providing support for foster care provider retention in Jackson County.

To date Mighty Table has distributed 5,893 meals to households impacted by child removal. The initial pilot project was scheduled to run from February to May of 2022. However, the amazing impact the project had on the people it served promoted a community response that resulted in additional partnerships and funding. With the support of the BRF Area Foundation, Mighty Table was able to extend the project far past the original pilot date and also to purchase a much needed large freezer, expanding the ability to take and keep supplies.

Mighty Table's current funding only supports the distribution of one-hundred meals a week for children in out-of-home placement and their foster families. This does not meet the demand that our community is currently experiencing. Additionally, with active participation on the Jackson County Homelessness Committee the Mighty Table group knows that there are more people in need of support. On September 1, 2023 Mighty Table will be inviting the homeless of Jackson County to join our table and feast with us. This project will be completed in partnership with the BRF Public Library. We hope to be successful in providing a warm, safe, and inviting opportunity for those experiencing housing insecurities a place to enjoy a hot meal.

The Mighty Table's short and successful history demonstrates the power of the community when we work together. Mighty Table plans to continue their good work in the upcoming

### **Black River Area Foster Closet**



In the summer of 2021, the Black River Area Foster Closet was graciously given a grant by the BRF Area Foundation. This grant supplied the necessary funds to help bring the idea of a foster closet into a reality for our community. These funds were instrumental in getting the physical location of the closet ready so that the doors could be opened to foster care providers and children in October 2021.

During those early months, we began stocking the closet with the most essential items which included clothing, diapers/wipes, safety gear, baby gear, shoes, and more. Partnerships were made with various businesses, organizations, churches, and groups in our community to help support our efforts. Most importantly, the closet started serving licensed foster care providers, respite providers, and kinship families in our community and surrounding areas.

Since the initial opening, the closet has expanded in several ways. The physical space has grown to include a sorting room, a room for spring/summer clothing, a room for fall/ winter clothing, a teen shopping "store", and lastly a space to hold baby gear and equipment. We are also excited to report that the closet has recently expanded to offer foster families three additional resources for the children they care for. The programs include free hair cut vouchers, financial assistance with sporting and recreational activity fees, and a partnership with the "Mighty Table" through the Evangelical Lutheran Church to provide weekly meals to families. Lastly, the closet is excited to offer foster care providers, and the children they care for, the opportunity to come shop at the closet during our various shopping events throughout the year. These shopping events help families and children get ready for the upcoming change of seasons and accommodate growing kids!

The closet continues to host various community drives that include school supplies, diapers, books, toiletries, pajamas, and more to meet the needs of those in care. Area foster children have been blessed abundantly from the kindness and generosity of the Foundation. The Closet is so grateful for the ripple effect that this initial grant created within the community we live in. The support and charity have been irreplaceable.

Bobbi Kitowski and Anneliese Eddy Founders of Black River Area Foster Closet

### **Bruce's Legacy**

In 2013, Keith Cormican formed the nonprofit volunteer organization called Bruce's Legacy, with a mission to aid families and public safety departments locate drowned victims, provide public safety education and scuba experiences for the disabled. We have currently recovered 48 drowning victims from all around the world.

Bruce's Legacy consists of approximately 20 non-paid volunteers. Although it only takes two people to respond to a request, we are often out multiple times in a week, and are sometimes gone for two weeks at a time.

While the Foundation has been unable to help us with grants due to the very limited number of people in our area that could benefit from our services, we have been fortunate to receive support from Trustees Kay Finch and David Hoffman and their spouses. The Finches donated funds to buy a new boat trailer and the Hoffmans donated an enclosed trailer for equipment storage.

The Foundation has our utmost respect and our community is

fortunate to have a group so dedicated to stretching every donated dollar to help the most people in our community as possible.



Keith Cormican, Director

### **BRF Public Library**

Black River Falls Public Library is the first public library established in Wisconsin under the Chapter 80 State statue set forth in 1872. Black River Falls Public Library joined WRLS in 1978,



and moved into a new building at its current location in 1995. The 1995 building is dedicated to Duane Hoffman, who provided significant community service in Black River Falls.

The library provides programming and services in partnership with Black River Falls community groups and organizations.

The Friends of the Black River Falls Public Library is an organization whose mission is to support the BRF Public Library by providing volunteers and financial support for programming and items the library may not otherwise have funding for. We are grateful to the BRF Area Foundation for assisting our group with grants to establish and continue with the Jackson County Reads program. Through grants received we have been able to bring authors such as William Kent Krueger, Jackie Polzin and Michael Perry to speak at the culminating event featuring their book.

The BRF Area Foundation also provided grants to start up and continue with our Adult Literacy Program. This program targets adults in need of improving their reading skills. Funds received have been used to purchase materials and training for tutors. In the past, tutors have worked with students both at the library and the Jackson County Jail as an outreach program. Currently we are working with English Language Learners and have even been able to help a student pass their US Citizen Test.

The Black River Falls Public Library Youth Services has been enriched by Foundation Grants in wonderful ways too numerous to list. We thank the Foundation for their continued support.

Cara Hart, Library Director

### **BRF All-Abilities Playground**

Currently, there is not an all-abilities public park or playground within a reasonable distance of our community. The Playground Improvement Planning Committee, together with the BRF Parks and Rec Department are working to construct a local community space intentionally designed to help all children and where caregivers feel welcome.



We partnered with the City of BRF to choose Lunda Park due to its central location in town and because of its many existing amenities. This wonderful park already exists to serve as an important meeting place in our community, yet the playground is decades old and does not match the quality of the rest of the park.

We have learned that 53% of individuals with special needs lack friendships and part of the problem is that their disability excludes them from certain activities. We have talked to therapists and special education teachers in our area and most have expressed that they would use this park as a location for therapy and play with their clients and students. We hope that in creating an inclusive play space for children of all abilities, we can create a symbolic outcome: children with disabilities making meaningful friendships that increase their wellbeing and children without disabilities having exposure to and making valued friendships with those who have abilities different from their own.

All-abilities playgrounds are also designed to be multigenerational, which allows parents and caregivers with disabilities or limited mobility to participate with their children. While this park improvement will benefit all children in Jackson County, our hope is that the accessibility of this playground will allow for a safe, engaging, and valuable meeting place for all children, parents, and caregivers, regardless of household income, age, or disability.

This project wouldn't have gotten off the ground without the help and support of the Foundation. The Playground Improvement Planning Committee applied to the Foundation in Spring of 2022 and were awarded a grant to help with startup costs for our capital campaign. We created a community-wide fundraising campaign for the purchase and installation of accessible play equipment for ages 2-5 and 5-12, and the poured-in-place rubber surfacing. Our fundraising efforts were well received, and we were able to raise enough money for the playground to be installed in the Fall of 2023, with enough money left over to include shade structures, playground expansions, and a handicap restroom (to come at a later date). With encouragement and direction from the Foundation, we have also set aside a maintenance fund to ensure that normal wear on parts, as well as high traffic surface areas, are able to be replaced as needed over time. We are so thankful for the Foundation for seeing our vision, supporting us with the startup grant, and also giving advice on how to set up a successful campaign launch. What a great asset the Foundation is to our community!

Nicole Thompson, Playground Committee

### **Jackson County Crime Stoppers**

The Jackson County Crime Stoppers is a non-profit, communityrun program which has partnered with local law enforcement, including



the Ho-Chunk Police Department, Black River Falls Police Department, and Jackson County Sheriff's Office to encourage and empower citizens to report information regarding criminal activity. The program was restarted in 2020, due in part to a large number of interested, concerned citizens, and a need within the County for the public's help to solve crimes. The program allows citizens reporting criminal activity to have their identity protected, and in some cases, there are cash rewards given for information provided.

In 2021, the BRF Area Foundation granted crime stoppers a grant to raise awareness of the revitalized program. This money was used to purchase promotional materials and metal signage. The metal signs have since been put up throughout Jackson County, in villages, townships, parks, and on county roads near the county's borders. With the promotion of the program, there has been an increase in the volume of tips received each year. Since 2020, crime stoppers have received 188 crime stoppers tips. These tips have led to many criminal charges/citations and generated new leads in otherwise inactive cases and created new investigations regarding drug activity, child abuse and drug endangered children cases, among others.

Our sincere appreciation to the Foundation for supporting the program which continues to help the people and businesses of Jackson County by assisting law enforcement in preventing and solving crime, making our community a safer place to live.

Crime Stoppers is operated by a board of directors who are responsible for maintaining the bylaws, fundraising, promoting the program, reviewing media releases and tips received and determining rewards. If members of the public would like to join Jackson County Crime Stoppers as a board member, meetings are the first Wednesday of every month at 5:00 PM, 46 N. 2nd Street, Black River Falls or you can contact Jackson County Sheriff's Office Detective Janelle Smokowicz at 715-284-5357, ext. 115.

The public can report criminal activity and tips to the Jackson County Crime Stoppers program in many different ways, including by phone at 800-228-3203, online at jacksoncountycrimestoppers.com or at P3tips.com. They can also download the P3tips application on their smartphone or tablet. All of these methods allow the reporter to remain

anonymous and with the P3tips app, the public can now upload short videos, photographs, and have a two-way text conversation with law enforcement if they choose to.



Detective Janelle Smokowicz



### School District of Black River Falls

I believe that schools exist to support the communities that support them. The BRF Area Foundation is an organization



that prides itself in supporting the youth of our community. The Foundation's simplified grant request process has provided thousands of dollars for the students and staff within the SDBRF.

The Black River Falls High School serves just over five hundred students, yet the number of varsity sports and clubs available to our students rivals high schools more than double that size. We would not be able to offer this level of options if it weren't for outside support. There has been a youth swim team in BRF for many years. As these students aged, they wanted to be able to compete at the high school level. The Foundation awarded a grant for the initial start-up costs, uniforms, software, laptop, printer, and other miscellaneous costs. Our team continues to thrive, new pool records are being set, we've had state qualifiers, and our youth swim team has some fantastic role model athletes to look up to, none of which would have been possible without the help of the Foundation.

There are children who thrive in the traditional school setting, while there are others that do not get what they need to be motivated, engaged, and successful in that setting. BRF's Nexxus program was created to provide an offsite school experience in which the curriculum is directly aligned with graduation requirements and job exploration and training are provided, as well as more hands-on opportunities. The Nexxus school garden program was created with a Foundation grant. The garden provides hands-on experience that will serve students for years to come. Students realize that our community is willing to support their learning goals and they take pride in the garden. Sometimes all it takes is someone to believe in you and you begin believing in yourself. The Foundation repeatedly communicates their belief in our community's youth in many ways.

The Tiger band has been a source of community pride for many years. While students rent or purchase many of the instruments, there are some foundational pieces that are necessary, such as Timpani drums. A partnership between the Foundation and its sub-fund, the BRF Educational Enrichment fund resulted in a generous grant to replace our old Timpani drums. By covering this large expense, the district's budget was able to support purchasing needed smaller specialty instruments.

Schools are continuously asked to take on more and more responsibilities to raise healthy, educated citizens. Too often this results in staff that are overwhelmed by the non-academic demands placed on them. The Positive Psychology Program by Shawn Achor offers staff tools to help them ensure they are taking care of their own needs, so that they can better serve others. In keeping with their philosophy of supporting the people who support the community, the Foundation provided funds for this valuable program.

I could not be more proud or appreciative of the work of the Foundation. The grants mentioned haven 't even scratched the surface of the individual support provided to hundreds of students over time in the form of Foundation Scholarships that are awarded annually. Our community is continuously enriched by the service of those leading this organization. Thank you feels wholly inadequate, and yet, it is genuine. Truly, this group is committed to ensuring a bright future for our community!

Dr. Shelly Severson, Superintendent of Schools

### **Black River Falls Fire Department**

March 18, 1860, was a grim day in Jackson County. A massive fire engulfed and destroyed 40 buildings in the business district. Only three buildings were left standing. Another major fire occurred on July 24, 1870, destroying the Spaulding House which was located near what is now North Water and Harrison Streets. On May 20, 1872, with these devastating events in mind, the citizens of Black River Falls met at the office of William T. Price and voted to form a fire company. The Black River Falls Fire Department was founded on May 20, 1872. At that time, the Black River Falls Fire Department was known as Albion Hose Company Number One.

The original members were led by a foreman named W. S. Darrow. When the company was first formed, the rules were very strict, and the department members were expected to attend practice sessions regularly. If they missed practice sessions twice in a row, they were fined three dollars and lost their right to vote. Company Members were required to provide a uniform that consisted of a red shirt, red tie, and suitable belt.

Firefighting in the early days was done via horse-drawn hose carts and manpower. The hose carts were replaced in 1918 with the first fire truck, which used soda acid to extinguish fires. The department has had many different apparatuses over the years and currently has two water tenders, two engine/pumpers, a ladder truck, a heavy rescue, a brush truck, a UTV, a boat, and five ambulances.

The first permanent location of the fire hall was on the 200 Block of Main Street. There was a large bell on top of the building that was used to alert firefighters. On June 5, 1875, while ringing the bell to get members together for a parade with Civil War Soldiers, the bell cracked and needed to be replaced. A short time later, a bell weighing 300 pounds was ordered from Tory, New York. The new bell was twice the size of the original bell and cost just over \$100. In 1966, the new fire hall on Water Street was constructed, and the origin, al fire hall on main street was demolished. The fire bell was moved to the new building on Water Street, where it is still proudly displayed today.

The Black River Falls Fire Department has been a member of the Wisconsin State Firefighters Association since 1894. 1894 also marked the first year the department held its annual fireman's dance. A tradition that continued until the mid-1990's. In 1924, the practice of alerting members with the fire bell was abandoned, and a new siren system was utilized to alert members of a fire. 1934 was a strange year for the fire department and the only year recorded where there were no house fires. The department did respond to 21 chimney fires, though. 1940 was a special milestone for the department with the purchase of the first new fire truck fully equipped. In 1951, the fire department received a Class B Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating meaning the cost of homeowners insurance was decreased for the residents in the department's service area. 1969 brought a significant milestone for the department - expanding the department to provide emergency medical rescue services. When it was first decided that there was a need in the area for medical rescue, multiple volunteer firefighters took the original 80-hour training that certified them to become EMTs. These volunteers became just the second certified rescue squad in the entire state of Wisconsin. The department's first ambulance was bought in 1972 for a mere \$13,900 - a fraction of what a new ambulance costs today. That ambulance made its debut on April 27, 1973, when the department ran the first medical call.

Today, the Fire Department maintains an ISO rating of four and has six full-time staff, 20 part-time staff, and 20 volunteers.

Many of the staff are cross-trained in fire and EMS duties. The fire response area covers 300 square miles providing service to over 12,000 residents. The EMS response area covers 1,000 square miles and serves around 20,000 residents. Though a smaller department, we hold our own in the number of calls we run. In 2022, the fire department ran 326 calls, and the EMS division ran 2,195 calls. We are proud to say that the EMS division of the fire department operates on NO TAX DOLLARS and is maintained 100% on the monies collected from patient billing.

The Black River Falls Fire Department is thankful for the support from the BRF Area Foundation over the years. The community and department have benefited greatly from the generosity of the Foundation. The Foundation helped the department with the purchase of our Heavy Rescue, Squad 1. The heavy rescue is utilized on nearly every call the department responds to.

Another recent grant from the Foundation allowed for the replacement of a thermal imaging camera. The camera allows firefighters to see through smoke and locate victims and fire in zero visibility conditions. Being able to locate the fire quickly or being able to determine where the fire has spread to inside walls or ceilings helps us reduce the damage we have to do to the property to extinguish the fire. Without the thermal imaging capability, many times we have to tear apart walls and ceilings to ensure the fire is out.

On behalf of the BRF community and the BRF Fire Department we truly thank the Foundation for supporting the volunteers and organizations that support our community!

Jody Stoker, Fire-Chief BRF Fire Department









### **Jackson County Humane Society**





The Jackson County Humane Society (JCHS) was formed in 1976 by a small group of local Jackson County residents. Its purpose has remained constant: "The prevention of cruelty to animals; education of the public as to the humane treatment of animals, responsible animal ownership, and enforcement of laws pertaining to treatment of animals."

In 1979, JCHS worked with Jackson County to create an animal shelter. That original building was located behind the Jackson County Fairgrounds. Later funds were raised for a remodel and addition project which started in 1995 and was completed in 2000. It doubled the space of the building and cost about \$60,000. Over the years, there were many struggles with the building such as its small size and lack of ventilation. In addition, the downhill' location often kept the grounds wet and muddy, making outdoor activities for the animals difficult if not impossible.

JCHS started working with Jackson County to plan for a new shelter building. The BRF Area Foundation provided invaluable assistance by providing suggestions, ideas, direction and plans for the capital fundraising campaign. The community worked together and over one million dollars were raised through donations from many private individuals and organizations, the Lunda Charitable Trust, the BRF Area Foundation, and the County of Jackson. The structure was built in a bright, sunny spot on County Road R, not far from the original shelter, and was completed in 2020.

The new building has provided more opportunities for volunteers and in the first half of 2023, the shelter reported 629 hours of youth and adult volunteering. In 2022, 374 animals were adopted out and 164 were reunited with their owners. 491 animals have been taken into the shelter since January 1, 2023 and as of June 31 a population of only 49 remained in the shelter.

It is the standard policy to provide cat and dog vaccinations, wormer, and flea care for animals in the shelter. JCHS Fundraising Chair, Katie Halvorson continues to promote several fundraising events to assist with these costs and help cover building expenses. One such event is the Hart to Heart Memorial walk, in honor of Dr. Lyle Hart, which is now in its fifth year.

JCAS is very involved with local schools to provide educational opportunities at the shelter. Students can participate in hands on care and comfort to shelter animals as part of school curriculum. The shelter also hosts many area field trips for schools and other organizations.

There are many heartwarming shelter animal stories, but one of the most compelling is the saving of Lily the dog. The day the medium-sized black dog ended up in the JCAS, she was found as a stray, limping along a roadside. The female was estimated to be about a year old and was very thin and stressed. She was examined at Northwood Vet Service and found to have a hind leg that had been broken and unhealed, probably for weeks. Due to her overall poor health, surgery could not happen right away. JCAS volunteer Amy Krenke agreed to take the dog in and rehabilitate her. Lily quickly gained weight. With the help of discounted

expenses from Northwood Vet Clinic and bone surgeon Dr. Steven Timm, and generous JCHS Guardian Angel (medical fund) donors, Lily was ready for surgery. After finishing her rehabilitation at Krenke's home, Lily was successfully adopted out. This story is an example of the whole 'Village' working to get Lily back on her own four paws.

If you have items you would like to donate to the shelter, they can be dropped off at 416 County Road R, Black River Falls during shelter hours (Mon., Wed.-Sat. 1-4 pm). Monetary donations can be made to the JCHS through the Foundation's website or by mailing to JCHS, PO box 429, Black River Falls, WI 54615.

Cindy Clark, JC Humane Society Volunteer

### **Jackson County Farmers Market**



The Jackson County Farmers Market has been providing local food products to our community since 2016. We and our community partners aim to make a positive impact on what children and their families eat through engaging, hands-on learning experiences of growing, harvesting, and cooking nutritious food. Our markets are producer-only and prioritize local sourcing, which provides vital economic opportunities to local farmers and producers.

This year, the Market board, vendors, and community partners have collaborated to increase market accessibility and bolster the edible and handcrafted offerings available. The BRF Area Foundation has immensely helped us to enhance the market this year. With the aid of funding from the Foundation, we now have a wheelchair-accessible portable restroom, a PA System for hosting local musicians, and additional tents for the needs and comfort of our volunteers. The 2016 summer market began with six vendors, and has expanded to 23 vendors at our largest market in 2023! We are extremely grateful to the Foundation for supporting this important asset for nutrition, fun, and connection in our community. We hope to see the market grow and flourish for many years to come.

Emily Susa, Volunteer

#### Donations Received in Honor of David Hoffman

Homstad, Gil

Anderson, Todd Anderson Financial Services Chown, Brad & Lori Curtis, Mary Danielson, Ron Delebo, Dr. Donald Dougherty, Mike & Cindy Finch, Tim & Kay Galston, Don & Charlene Hansen, Mary J. Hoagenson, John

Homstad, Jon & Maureen Button, Larry & Georgia Jacobs, Peter & Mary Beth White Jelinek, Danny & Mary J. Kertis, Jim & Jeanette Krohn, Joel & Janelle Lahmayer, Al Lahmayer, Bruce & Barb Lee, Dennis & Jean Martin, Dr. Carol Michaelson, Max Jr. & Sue

Musser, Nvla Northern Family Farms Overman, Jerry & Lynda Perry, Mary Polzin, Jeff & Susan Potter, Bill & Kathy Ransom, Gene & Judy Richards, Dennis Ripp, Paul & Theresa Tamminen, Glen & Jean Van Gorden, Mary Wester, Mitch & Sue Wiste, Roger Young, Dennis & Alice

### Alma Center Community Fire District



Rescue found a vehicle flipped on its side wedged between trees and the patient at the bottom of the vehicle. Responders were everywhere – inside to help stabilize the patient and five feet in the air on top of the car holding very heavy extrication equipment (jaws of life) as they navigated around the hydraulic hoses. "We actually had to hold our extrication equipment above the patient on top of the car as we were trying to extricate them. We could have dropped it on them at any moment," said Alma Center Community Fire District Chief Kevin Forsting. "It made for a very difficult call." Two long hours after the initial page, crews were able to free the individual and send them to receive muchneeded medical attention. The firefighters shared, after the call, that it was extremely difficult holding the heavy equipment for two hours and one firefighter actually fell off the car at one point navigating around the hoses.

It was after this call that the members of the Alma Center Community Fire District realized they needed new extrication equipment in case they ever received a call like this again. With the help of the BRF Area Foundation over the last two years the District was able to purchase a new extrication cutter, spreader, and ram from TNT Rescue. These new pieces of equipment run off of the standard Milwaukee battery used for typical power tools, which means there are no hoses to manage, they are lighter and they can travel wherever you need them. "We really just want to express our gratitude to the Foundation for their support, and to the donors who make this organization possible," Forsting said. Since purchase, the tools have already been used on calls and in trainings, including during the 2023 Jackson County Fair demo derby.

Jordan Simonson, Secretary

### **Bolton Refuge House**

Bolton Refuge House, Inc. (BRH) was opened in 1976 as one of Wisconsin's first domestic abuse shelters and was named in honor of Officer Robert Bolton, an Eau Claire police officer who was killed responding to a domestic violence call. BRH first opened our Jackson County Outreach in 1991, and has now been serving Jackson County and the Black River Falls area for over 30 years.

Bolton Refuge House's mission is to create safe space through programs and services for all persons impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault, and to advocate for social change. Our services include community education, prevention work, a 24-hour crisis hotline, an emergency shelter, support groups, emotional support, transitional living and housing, medical, and legal advocacy – all at no cost to participants.

The BRF Area
Foundation has been a
wonderful and generous
support for BRH's
Jackson County facilities
throughout the years
of operation, often
providing grant funding

for building maintenance and repair, and for appliances and furnishings.

As a nonprofit providing victims support services, BRH relies heavily on the Federal and State Administrations to secure funding. In 2023-24, BRH is receiving the hardest reduction in both

federal and state dollars that has ever been seen, paralyzing the work and commitment to victims. Understanding this, the Foundation awarded the agency a grant in 2023 to go towards operational expenses of our Homstad building during this critical time, and to aid us in regaining self-sufficiency. BRH Administration and staff are so grateful for the support that Foundation Trustees have given our agency, both this year and throughout the past years. Thank you, BRF Area Foundation for your commitment to providing services and care to our community.

Patricia Stein, BRH Executive Director

### Village of Merrillan

The Village of Merrillan was incorporated as a Village in 1881, with a population of 694 people. By 1885 the population had grown to 887 (416 males and 471 females). The Village of Merrillan now has a population of 515.



Bolton Refuge House, Inc

The Village has been working on a number of different projects, making much needed upgrades and trying to better our community. The BRF Area Foundation, through the generosity of the Tim and Kay Finch Family Fund, graciously granted us not only one grant, but two. Our first grant was to replace the Christmas lights for our street poles. Our second grant was to repair the gazebo at Gile Park and make repairs to our first shelter and our baseball dugout.

The Village is currently raising money to put in a new shower house in Gile Park with flushable toilets. The Merrillan Lions Club has donated the cost of well drilling along with the perk testing needed for a new septic system. The first step will be putting in the septic system and then the shower house. Once this is complete, we are hoping to expand our campground and add more sites.

Thank you so much for your generous donations. We really appreciate all the Foundation does for not only us, but for everyone in the Jackson County area.

Chrystal Fitzmaurice, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer





### Millston Area Museum

I would like to take this opportunity to give the Foundation an update on the tremendous impact the grant award we



received in 2019 has had on the Millston Area Museum.

We applied for the grant after we became established as a local history museum inside the Millston Community Center and needed signage in the exterior lawn area so that we had more visibility of the museum to the public. We would estimate at this time that installation of the sign has helped increase traffic to the museum by at least 75%. The sign is featured in our brochure, on our website and Facebook page, and in promotional material we take to events such as the Jackson County Fair. We have had hundreds of visitors including visitors from fifteen different states and even some from Canada, Mexico and the Czech Republic. We have also given tours and held meetings for various groups, such as the Jackson County Retired Educators, the Monroe, Juneau Jackson Counties Genealogy Workshop group and Tomah Area Museum, just to name a few. The Museum has been featured in the La Crosse Tribune, Banner Journal, Monroe County Herald and Tomah Journal.

At this time, we would like to again extend our appreciation to the Foundation for the award and for its continued support of all community endeavors to enrich our area. Thank you.

Jennifer Walworth, President Millston Area Museum

### Spaulding Road Community Garden





Thank you to the BRF Area Foundation for providing funds to replace the north entry gate of the Spaulding Road Community Garden. Thirty BRF area families and individuals have rented plots to grow fruit and vegetables, as well as flowers and other ornamental plants. The previous gate had been in place since 2009, the first year of the community garden. In addition to being in bad repair, the gate needed to be enlarged to accommodate the gardeners' access to their plots. The larger gate now allows for approximately 11 feet of equipment access. This allows dump trucks, larger tractors, and other equipment easier access in and out of the garden facility which has helped with the delivery of garden mulch, dirt, and mowing operations when needed. Remaining funds also supplied lumber for additional garden boxes for raised bed gardening, providing ease of gardening for individuals with less physical capability. Thanks to the Foundation's support, the garden continues to offer a beautiful and efficient area for community members to enjoy a quality gardening experience.

Trisha Wagner, Treasurer

### **Jackson County Boys and Girls Club**

When the Boys and Girls Club is talked about in communities or on world stages it is often about the good that the club provides, but not necessarily the specifics of what the club is doing within their own community. At the Boys and Girls Club Lunda Center in the year 2022 alone we were able to serve 118 members; but what does it mean to serve a member? At the club we have three main pillars that we focus on: Academics, Leadership and Character, and Healthy Lifestyles.



While in a perfect world money would fall from trees to support all the programs that we want, that is not the world that we live in. Rather than funding our programs through member fees, we keep costs affordable for families by relying on the generous support of community donors. The

Foundation has been an amazing partner for the Boys and Girls Club Lunda Center for over a decade. Their assistance has been invaluable in supporting the work we do with community kids.

With funding from the Foundation, we have been able to promote Healthy Lifestyles through programming tools that teach why some foods have more nutritional value than others, what a balanced diet looks like, and that moderation is key.

Another grant provided by the Foundation allowed us to update and improve the technology that is available to the center. Making sure our members have technological literacy allows them to have a better grasp and understanding of what is happening in the world and provides a valuable skill when entering the workforce.

Last year, the Foundation extended financial support to the Boys and Girls Club Lunda Center to help purchase a new club van. Our former club van was no longer safe to drive and without it we were limited with regard to field trips, off campus activities and other learning opportunities. We are very happy to report that as of June 2023, with community support, we have been able to obtain a new club van!

The Foundation's support allows the club to continue servicing the members of our community.

Paige Stuckey, BRF Center Director

### Donations Received in Honor of Mike Dougherty

Marilyn

Button, Larry & Georgia Hoffman, David & Chown, Brad & Lori Curtis, Mary D&S Manufacturing Danielson, Ron Delebo, Donald Dougherty, Carol (Jim) Dougherty, Cindy Dougherty, Jackson & Margaret Bylsma Dougherty, Jo Ann Finch, Tim & Kay Galston, Don & Charlene Hansen, Mary J. Hoagenson, John

Homstad, Gil Jacobs, Peter & Mary **Beth White** Jelinek, Danny & Mary J. Krohn, Joel & Janelle Lahmayer, Al Lee, Dennis & Jean Martin, Dr. Carol Michaelson, Max Jr. & Sue Musser, Nyla Northern Family Farms

Overman, Jerry & Lynda Perry, Mary Polzin, Jeff & Susan Ransom, Gene & Judy Richards, Dennis Ripp, Paul & Theresa Sahr Family, Chris & Kiley Lahmayer, Bruce & Barb Tamminen, Glen & Jean Van Gorden, Mary Wester, Mitch & Sue William & Kathy Potter Wiste, Roger Young, Dennis & Alice

## FUNDS with July 1 2022 to 2023 June 30 DONATIONS

- \* Family added additional funds
- Individual Donors to **Listed Fund**

**NEW!** New funds created

### **FAMILY FUNDS**

\*Dougherty Family Fund \*Tim & Kay Finch Family Fund Peter & Jone Hoffman Fund Gil & Alice Homstad Fund **Ahl's Northern Family Farms** Mary Van Gorden Charitable **Wilkus Family Fund** 

### **MEMORIAL FUNDS**

Mike & Mona Anderson **Memorial Fund** 

**Kay Brauner Memorial Fund Stanley Held Memorial Fund** 

**Erwin & Thelma Homstad Memorial Fund** 

#### **Bill Millis Memorial Fund**

### Fred Stai Memorial Fund NEW!

- BankFirst
- Bohlig, Greg R.
- Brauner's Garage
- BRF Rotary Club
- Burgau, AI & Stacy
- · Clipper, Virginia M.
- · Collins, Steve & Jill
- Co-op Credit Union
- Derousseau Heating & Cooling
- Fourth Generation Trucking
- · Franke, Clarice
- Gabrielson, Robert
- Gross Chevrolet-Buick-GMC,
- · Haugen, Carol
- Helstad, Paul & Connie
- Hoefer, Alden (Buz)
- Hoffman, Francis & Marilyn
- · Homstad, Gil
- · Hostrawser, Allan
- Hostrawser, Jim & Roxie
- · Johnson, James & Deann
- Karen Stai Koenigs Insurance Agency
- · Keen, Carol
- Koenigs, Jim & Karen Stai
- Kristianson, Kevin & Stephanie
- Krohn, Amy
- · Loomis, Richard & Barbara
- Lund. Thomas & Jill

- Mickelson, William & Jean
- Moseley, Duane & Jean
- · Norgaard Insurance Agency, John & Jane Norgaard
- · Nortman, Paul
- Pederson, Danielle
- Pederson, Jacquelyn A.
- Pederson, John & Nanette
- · Provisor, Susan
- · Quinlan, Arlene R.
- R.S. Amusements
- Scharlau, Lori (Brudos)
- Scholze Ace Home Center
- Security Financial Bank
- Severson, Dean & Delores
- Stai, Harry
- Stai, Sandy J.
- · Stai, Sarah.
- Stuart, Marion
- The WHTL Group
- Timeless Classics
- Tomter, Tom & Kathy
- · Vase, Gordon
- · Vlach, Ed & Diane
- Wood Sales & Service
- WWIS Radio
- Zillmer Tree Management

#### **Grace Webb Memorial Fund**

• Lokken, John & Jane

### **Katherine Wold Memorial** Fund

### Sam Young Memorial Youth Golf Program Fund NEW!

- Homstad, Jon & Maureen
- Lyngdal, Thomas & Diane
- Miller, Andrew & Kristen (Young)

### SPECIFIC PURPOSE DONOR **ADVISED FUNDS**

Powell, Jim & Kathy

### **COMMUNITY FUNDS**

### **Alma Center Area Community Fund**

- · Alexander, Karen
- ASAP Septic Pumping, LLC
- · Buckley, Jay
- Bue, Charles & Katie in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson
- · Carranza, Angela
- Central WI Ag Services
- · Cleary, Mary Jane
- Comstock, Charles & Bonnie
- · Comstock, Larry & Georgia in Memory of George & Rose Matalas

- · Downer, Nancy in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson
- Durni, Jean M. in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson
- Finch, Tim & Kay in Memory of Ruth Jacobson
- Fischer, Paul & Angela
- Forsting, Kevin & Michelle
- Giese, Michael & Mary in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson
- · Graff, Lars & Ingrid
- Hanson, Mike & Kristi in Memory of Ruth Jacobson
- · Heller Farm. Inc.
- Hoffman Construction
- · Holub, Leonard & Judith
- · Jacobson, Ruth
- · Jacobson, Jamey
- Jacobson, William & Valerie
- Jacoby, Ronald & Cynthia in Honor of Vince Ruzic Family
- Janke, Larry & Betty
- June. Carrie
- Larson, Richard & Sara in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson and Ruth Jacobson
- Laufenberg, Frank & Susan
- Little Toes Daycare, LLC
- Mahan, Michael & Christina
- Mahlman, Terry & Susan
- Moenning, Jan M.
- Nosbisch, Duane & Corinne in Memory of Ruth Jacobson
- Olson, Eric C. & Jayne M.
- · Olson, Gaylord E.
- Pratt, Timothy & Lynn in Memory of Ruth Jacobson
- · Prindle, Doris
- Prindle, Jacob & Nicole
- Prindle, James & Jane
- Ransom, Gene & Judy in Honor of Ray Ransom
- · Ransom, Ray
- Rousey, Donna in Memory of Richard Rousey
- Rousey-Frenette, Sara in Memory of Richard Rousey
- Rowekamp, Kathy in Memory of Bob Rowekamp
- Ruzic, Rozanne in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson
- · Schreiber, Steve in Memory of Ruth Jacobson
- Security Financial Bank
- Seichter, Greg & Mary in Memory of Ruth Jacobson • Skaar-Jahn, Carol in Memory
- of Ruth Jacobson • Slifka, Richard & Marlee in Memory of Ruth Jacobson

- Stetzer, Daniel & Carla in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson
- Strawberry Square
- Stroupe, Phillip & Patricia
- · Szymanski, Jane
- Torkelson, Troy & Marianne in Memory of Ruth Jacobson
- Van Gorden, Mary in Memory of Alice Rae Evenson and Ruth Jacobson

### Alma Center-Humbird-**Merrillan Education Enrichment Fund**

### **Black River Area Youth Fund**

### City of BRF - Public Library **Fund**

· Mullen, Dan

### **Developmental Disabilities Fund**

### **Disability Association of Jackson County**

- · Hansen, Mary J.
- Knights of Columbus

### **Incubator Economic Development Fund**

### **Skyline Funds**

- Co-op Credit Union
- · Friends of Skyline
- Hoffman, David & Marilyn
- Northern Family Farms
- Potter, Bill & Kathy
- · Young, Dennis & Alice

### **MAINTENANCE FUNDS**

### City of BRF - Field of Honor **Fund**

### City of BRF - Public Library **History Room**

· Van Gorden, Mary

### **Foundation Trail Maintenance** Fund

**Hoffman Aquatic Park Maintenance Fund** 

• Hoffman, David & Marilyn **Lunda Community Park** 

### **Maintenance Fund** Mills Park Maintenance Fund

- Philip B. Mills Foundation in Memory of Mills' Cousins-Nancy Howard; Mary Falkner; Alice Homstad; Daniel, Tommy & Dave Mills
- Callet, Ben & Ellen (Mills)
- · Homstad, Ann
- · Homstad, Gil
- Howard, James & Patsy

### Warming Hearts Fund

- Boynton, Samuel & Nancy

- · Howard, Mary Alice
- Krohn, Amy
- Krohn, Dr. Eugene & Janet
- Krohn, Joel & Janelle
- Krohn, Mary
- Laabs, Jay & Katherine (Krohn)
- McDonald, Brian & Heather (Homstad)
- Millis, Carla in Memory of Peter J. Morlenson
- Mills, Linda
- · Mills, Marja
- Mills, Mark
- · Peterson. Ann Krohn
- Taylor, Jack Jr.

### Rotary Skate Park Maintenance Fund

· Mullen, Dan

### **ORGANIZATION FUNDS**

#### **Boys & Girls Club Fund**

### BRF Educational Enrichment General Fund

- Co-op Credit Union
- DeBoer, Barry & Barbara
- Herrmann, Carl
- · Higgins, Jill
- Radcliffe, Loren & Mary Jo in Memory of Jeanette Lahmayer

#### **BRF EEF - Music Fund**

 Hansen, Mary J. in Memory of Jeanette Lahmayer

### BRF EEF - M.C. Schmallenberg Fund

 Hansen, Mary J. in Memory of Jeanette Lahmayer

### BRF EEF – Paul Millis Family Business & Legal Education Fund

### Jackson County Child Care Network NEW!

- Conlon-Bue, Micaela
- · Martin, Dr. Carol
- Matthews, Kelly
- Mullen, Dan
- Nelson Global
- Terrien, Daniel A
- Torkelson, Marianne

## Jackson County Historical Society Fund

### Jackson County Humane Society Fund

#### **Rotary Club of BRF Fund**

• Holmquist, Carl & Rhonda

### LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY SERVICE FUNDS

Hoffman Construction Fund Security Financial Bank Fund

### SCHOLARSHIPS CREATED BY ORGANIZATIONS & BUSINESSES

### BRF Alumni Association Scholarship Fund

- Berg, Linda G. Class of 1967
- Boyea, Don & Roberta (Vandervort) - Class 1968
- BRF Alumni Association 2022 Basket Donation
- Brown, Mary Lou (Zeman) -Class of 1946
- Curtis, Mary Class of 1956 in Memory of Vivian Melichar Simons
- Eberhardt, Dennis & Debbie in Memory of Betty Millis
- Eddy, Janet (Goldsmith) -Class of 1958
- Ellis, Clare (Emerson) Class of 1958
- Ferries, Lois in Memory of Betty Millis
- Fox, Marilyn (Hagen) Class of 1949
- Franke, Clarice (Hanson) -Class of 1965 in Memory of Suzanne Wittke Olson
- Gomer, Bonnie Class 1965
- Heineck, Roger & Mary (Wang) - Class of 1951
- Johnson, Dennis & Shirley -Class 1965/1971
- Johnson, Victor & Betty (Gehring) - Class 1956/1959
- King, Sue (Emerson) Class 1968
- Lovelien, Jean (Davis )- Class of 1958
- Madsen, Delores (Burge)
- Noard, Karen Class of 1961
- Olson, Caroline (Bue) Class 1952
- Radke, Douglas & Barbara
- Rebarchik, Anthony
- Reichert, John & Janice Class 1961/1962
- Spangler, Vernon & Sally -Class 1972
- Zeman, Coreen (Avery) Class of 1958
- Zillmer, Debra Class 1972

### BRF Area Foundation Scholarship Fund

- Finch, Tim & Kay
- · Lee, Rich & Judy

### BRF High School Store Scholarship Fund

### Krohn Clinic Physicians Scholarship Fund

- Krohn Clinic
- Mahan, Dr. Michael & Christina in Honor of Dr. Etson Cameron

### Lions/Rotary Scholarship Fund

- BRF Lions Club
- BRF Rotary Club

### Security Financial Bank Foundation Alumni Scholarship Fund

### SCHOLARSHIPS CREATED BY INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

### BRF High School Athletic Scholarship Fund

· Jim Bible Family

Tim & Kay Finch Alumni Scholarship Fund

David & Marilyn Hoffman Alumni Scholarship Fund

Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship Fund

Elizabeth Janssen Nursing Scholarship Fund

### Gerald & Nancy Laabs Scholarship Fund

Laabs, Jay & Katherine

Mary Perry Fine Arts Scholarship Fund

Gene & Judy Ransom Scholarship Fund

### SCHOLARSHIPS CREATED IN MEMORIAL

Allan Brenengen Memorial Scholarship Fund - Alma Center Lincoln High School

Duane & Lavina Hoffman Memorial Scholarship Fund

### Alice Homstad Memorial Scholarship Fund

Howard, John & Nancy (Mills)

### Rose Ann Klir Alumni Memorial Scholarship Fund

• Estate of Rose Ann Klir

### Leland & Jeanette Larson Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ralph & Alice Lund Memorial Scholarship Fund

Kelly Mauck Memorial Scholarship Fund

### Philip & Aldena Meyer Memorial Scholarship Fund

- Goens, Mary J.
- Meyer, Marlene A.

Rick Millis Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dean Nortman Memorial Scholarship Fund

Meghan Powell Memorial Scholarship Fund

Lt. Terry Preston Memorial Scholarship Fund

### Dustin Rozmenoski Memorial Scholarship Fund

- Clow. Michael & Dana
- Frett. Harold D. & Donna L.
- Medick, David & Luann
- Rozmenoski, Danny & Mary Jo

Kristin Wood Fine Arts Memorial Scholarship Fund

## SPECIFIED TERM SCHOLARSHIPS

Foundation Technical School Impact Scholarships

### Richard Hilliker Scholarship Fund

Hilliker, Richard

### Robert (Knuckles) Johnson Memorial Fund

• Hoffman Construction Company

### Ann Krohn Peterson Scholarship Fund

 Hilliker, Mark in honor of Ann's 85th Birthday

### Financial Statement

(For the years ending Decemb	er 31	, 2021 and 20	)22*	7)
REVENUE	Α	udited 2021		2022*
Contributions	\$	663,042	\$	500,528
Investment Return	\$	78,887	\$	(428,454)
TOTAL REVENUE	\$	741,929	\$	72,074
EXPENDITURES				
Grants	\$	665,706	\$	408,7755
Scholarships	\$	95,000	\$	114,500
Support Services	\$	44,533	\$	60,901
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	805,239	\$	584,176
Change in Net Assets	\$	(63,310)	\$	(512,102)
Net Assets at Beginning	\$	5,438,838	\$	5,375,528
NET ASSETS AT YEAR END	\$	5,375,528	\$	4,863,426
METASSETS AT TEAK END	Ψ	3,373,320	Ψ	7,005,720

\*Audited Financials were unavailable at the time of printing.
Please direct any questions to the Foundation office.

### GRANT RECIPIENTS July 1 2022 to 2023 June 30

### \$50,610 Awarded to 17 Local Grant Applicants

**ACHM School District – Jr. & Sr. High School STEM Classes:** Purchase of a Form 3+ 3D Printer.

**Bolton Refuge House; Jackson County Outreach:** For the Homstad Building.

**Black River Area Child Care Center:** Upgrade the Children's (Boys & Girls) Bathrooms.

**BRF Evangelical Lutheran Church – The Mighty Table Project:**Purchase food so that meals can be prepared and delivered to Foster Families.

**Children's Wisconsin:** 1:1 Parenting Classes which include mileage assistance and adding educational materials, books, snacks and toys for families in supervised visitation rooms and outdoor play areas.

**City of BRF; Public Library:** Youth Services & Programming to promote summer reading.

**City of BRF; Skyline Golf Course:** Purchase of an AED (Heart Device) and LifeVac (Anti-Choking Device) for Skyline facilities.

**Jackson County Childcare Network:** To support a Community Campaign including a kids art exhibit, mobile learning lab projects, and JC Child Care Gala.

**Jackson County Farmers Market:** Improve market accessibility and equipment.

Interfaith Volunteers: Support new programs – Stand-up & Move; Aging Gracefully Conference, and Community Education and Training.

**Sleep in Heavenly Peace:** Purchase supplies and materials so that volunteers can build forty twin beds to be fully furnished with linens and blankets for children in need.

**St. John Lutheran Church – Community Thanksgiving Dinner:** To build a new storage shed.

**VFW Post 200 – Miles-Hagen, Black River Falls:** Upgrade the HVAC system in the Legion building.

### FUNDED by the TIM & KAY FINCH FAMILY FUND

**Melrose Volunteer Fire Department:** Purchase five new pagers for the fire department.

**RiverBend Party Animals:** Food, paintballs, and supplies for two day camps for youth from two Jackson County organizations.

**Village of Alma Center Community Fire District:** Purchase new battery-operated telescoping ram and its corresponding extension kit for vehicle extraction.

**Village of Merrillan:** Purchase new Christmas lights for the Village of Merrillan.

### **Community Fund Grants**

## \$3,100 to fund 3 community and educational projects

### **ALMA CENTER AREA COMMUNITY FUND**

- Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District for staff wellness programs
- Alma Center Community Fire District for 24 Fire fighting hoods and flashlights
- Lincoln FCCLA for new blazers for the Chapter

### Donor Advised Disbursements \$348,138 awarded to 28 Different Local Non-Profit Organizations

### **Black River Memorial Hospital**

 Black River Memorial Hospital to fund newly created Hospital Foundation

### **Kay Brauner Memorial Fund**

 Western Technical College Student Emergency Assistance Scholarship Fund

### City of BRF - Field of Honor Maintenance Fund

City of BRF for repairs to walking bridge over town creek

### City of BRF - Foundation Trail Maintenance Fund

• City of BRF for study of and condition report for the Foundation Trail

City of BRF - Mills Park Maintenance Fund

City of BRF for purchase of new playground equipment

### **Disability Association of Jackson County Fund**

Provide party supplies for seasonal events for disabled citizens

### Tim & Kay Finch Family Fund

- Badger Boys State to sponsor attendance for four students from Jackson County Schools
- City of BRF Public Library for upgrading computers
- Friends Sharing Food for general purposes
- Interfaith Volunteers
  - For Operating Fund
  - For Emergency Fund
- Village of Merrillan for repairs to the Gazebo in Gile Park and other park updates/improvements

### Fred Stai Memorial Fund

 Skyline Golf Course for construction of a patio on West side of Club House

### **Peter & Jone Hoffman Fund**

- BRF United Methodist Church for general operating expenses
- BRF Alumni Scholarships to fund five \$2,000 scholarships

### Carl Herrmann & Joan Higgins

- · BRF Educational Enrichment Fund
- Boys & Girls Club of Jackson County
- General Grant Fund to fund 2023 Grant Applications

### Dennis & Alice Young and Bill & Kathy Potter

• Skyline Golf Course to repair cart path

### Northern Family Farms - The Ahl Family - Fund

· Skyline Golf Course for cart path repair

### **Mary Van Gorden Funds**

• City of BRF - Library History Room for expenses

### Warming Hearts Fund - Jim & Kathy Powell

JC Health & Human Services - Children & Families
 Division to purchase Christmas gifts for children in
 need living in Foster Care

### **Grace Webb Memorial Library Fund**

 Black River Falls School District - Elementary Library to enhance the joy of reading for younger children

## 2023 SCHQLARSHIPS & RECIPIENTS

A Scholarship Fund created by gifts from individuals, organizations, and businesses, awards education grants to selected area students. The following 61 scholarships totaling \$103,500 were awarded from 31 of the Foundation's existing Scholarship Funds, together with a generous 2023 donation from Kristen Albrecht in memory of her husband, Paul McNulty.

### Black River Falls Alumni Association

Scholarship (\$1,500)

(2020 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UW Eau Claire Course of Study: Social Studies Education Career Path: Teacher at a High School or a University



Black River Falls Alumni Association

### Scholarship (\$1,500) Katelyn Dobson

(2021 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UW Superior Course of Study: Major-Exercise Science; Minor-Coaching



Career Path: Exercise Physiologist

### **BRF** Area Foundation Impact Scholarship (\$1,000 per semester up to 4)

#### Faith Leisgang

(2021 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: Chippewa Valley Technical College Course of Study: Digital Marketing and Business Management



Career Path: Work in Eau Claire Area as a Digital Marketer

### **BRF Area Foundation Impact Scholarship** (\$1,000 per semester up to 4)

### **Rosemary Baugh**

(2019 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: Chippewa Valley Technical College Course of Study: Nursing Career Path: To return to BRF and work as an RN



### **BRF Area Foundation Annual Senior** Scholarship (\$2,000)

### Haylie Schmidt

Black River Falls Attending: UW Eau Claire Course of Study: Communication Sciences and Disorders Career Path: Speech and



### **BRF Area Foundation Annual Alumni**

#### Scholarship (\$2,000)

#### **Eleanor Wirtz**

(2021 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UM Twin Cities Course of Study: Major-International Business; Minor-Spanish



Career Path: Plan to attend Graduate School

### **BRF High School Senior Athletic Scholarship** (\$1.000)

#### Heidi Williams

**Black River Falls** Attending: Milwaukee School of Engineering Course of Study: Civil and Mechanical Engineering Career Path: Architecture



### BRF High School Senior Athletic Scholarship (\$1,000)

**Trey Cowley** Black River Falls Attending: Western "Technical College Course of Study: Exercise Career Path: Personal Trainer



#### Allan Brenengen Memorial Scholarship (\$1.500)

#### **Ruby Paul**

Alma Center Attending: UM Mankato Course of Study: Communication Sciences and Disorders Career Path: Speech and Language Pathologist



### Tim & Kay Finch Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

#### Lauren Perrv

(2018 BRF Graduate) (2022 UW LaCrosse Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UW LaCrosse **Graduate School** Course of Study: MS in Physician Assistant Studies Career Path: Physician Assistant



### Tim & Kay Finch Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

### Tyler Rush (2014 BRF Graduate)

Black River Falls Attending: Western Technical College Course of Study: EMT-Paramedic Career Path: Paramedic



### Richard Hilliker Scholarship (\$2,000)

(2021 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: UW River Falls Course of Study: Conservation & Environmental Planning Career Path: Wildlife



Conservation & Management for WI DNR

#### David & Marilyn Hoffman Scholarship (\$2,000) Jessica Olson

(2019 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: Viterbo University Course of Study: Accounting Career Path: Career in Accounting



### David & Marilyn Hoffman Scholarship (\$2,000)

### Makayla Nortman

(2022 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attendina: Viterbo University Course of Study: Major-Secondary Math Education; Minor-Special Education



Career Path: High School Math Teacher

### David & Marilyn Hoffman Scholarship (\$2,000)

### Gabriella Antonelli

(2021 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: Viterbo University Course of Study: Major-Biology; Minor-Business Career Path: Orthodontist and Dental Office Owner



### David & Marilyn Hoffman Scholarship (\$2,000) Elizabeth Pardoe

(2018 BRF Graduate) (2022 UM Duluth Summa Cum Laude BS in Biology and BA in Biochemistry) **Black River Falls** Attending: UW LaCrosse



Course of Study: Clinical Microbiology Career Path: Public Health

### 2023 SCHQLARSHIPS & RECIPIENTS

### Duane & Lavina Hoffman Scholarship (\$1,500)

**Natalie Gaier** 

**Black River Falls** Attending: UW Platteville Course of Study: Secondary Career Path: High School Math Teacher



Duane & Lavina Hoffman Scholarship (\$1,500) **BRF High School Store** Scholarship (\$500)

Ryder Brown

**Black River Falls** Attending: University of Colorado Boulder Course of Study: Aerospace Engineering



Career Path: Work as an Aerospace Engineer with a company such as NASA

### Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

Sarah Guenther

(2019 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: UW Eau Claire Course of Study: Major-Cultural Anthropology; Minor-Psychology



Career Path: Work in Human Resources or Teach

### Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

Lauren Lund

(2022 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: UW Stout Course of Study: Major-Graphic Design; Minor-Videography



Career Path: Art Director (Focus on Visual Style)

### Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

Caleb Laufenberg

(2020 BRF Graduate) Hixton

Attending: UW Eau Claire Course of Study: Environmental Public Health



Career Path: Toxicologist and pursue Master's Degree in Environmental Public Health

#### Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship (\$2.000)

Cora Parker (2019 Graduate) **Black River Falls** 

Attending: Western Technical College

Course of Study: Associate of Liberal Arts Degree Career Path: Transfer to University to obtain Bachelor's Degree



### Peter & Jone Hoffman Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

Jordyn (Hilts) Miles

(2012 BRF Graduate) (2016 BA from UW Eau Claire) Eau Claire

Attending: Chippewa Valley Technical School Course of Study: Associate Degree in Nursing Career Path: Registered Nurse

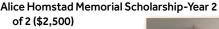
### Alice Homstad Memorial Scholarship-Year 1 of 2 (\$2,500)

Becca Hudson

(2022 BRF Graduate) Hixton Attending: UW Eau Claire

Course of Study: Communication Sciences and Disorders

Career Path: Speech and Language Pathologist for children



Graham Rockouski

(2021 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UW Platteville Course of Study: Industrial Systems Engineering Career Path: Manufacturing plants to increase efficiency

and utilize robotics



### Elizabeth Danielson Janssen Nursing Scholarship (\$2,000)

Hannah Lane Black River Falls Attending: UM Rochester Course of Study: Nursing Career Path: Registered Nurse



### Rose Ann Klir Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)

McKenna Dutton

(2021 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UW Platteville Course of Study: Health and Human Performance/ Physical Education Career Path: Physical **Education Teacher** 



### Krohn Clinic Physicians Scholarship (\$2,000)

Michael Antonelli

(2022 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UW Madison Course of Study: Neurobioloby Career Path: Physician, M.D.



#### Tim & Kay Finch Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

**Asher Guenther** 

**Black River Falls** Attending: UW Green Bay Course of Study: Undeclared Career Path: Undecided



### Gerald & Nancy Laabs Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

Kaylee Sweno

(2022 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: UW Madison Course of Study: Major-Kinesiology; Minor-Leadership



Career Path: Family Practice Physician

### Leland & Jeanette Larson Memorial

Scholarship - Blair-Taylor (\$2,000)

#### Alexandra Jo Hanson

Attending: UW Eau Claire Course of Study: Marketing Career Path: Business



### Leland & Jeanette Larson Memorial Rotating

Scholarship - Melrose-Mindoro (\$1,000)

Megan Oehler

Melrose

Attending: Northern Michigan University Course of Study: Pre-Medicine Career Path: Attend Medical School to become an OB-GYN



### Leland & Jeanette Larson Memorial Rotating

Scholarship - Melrose-Mindoro (\$1,000)

**Kadence Bailey** 

Black River Falls Attending: UW Madison Course of Study: Pre-med Career Path: Neurologist



#### Lions/Rotary Scholarship (\$2,000)

Jayme Koenigs

**Black River Falls** Attending: St. Thomas University

Course of Study: Major-Political Science or International Studies; Minor-Spanish or another language



Career Path: Attend Law School and find a path in our nation's diplomatic field.



### 2023 SCHQLARSHIPS & RECIPIENTS

#### Ralph & Alice Lund Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500)

MaKayla Star Lopez

**Black River Falls** Attending: UW Madison Course of Study: Major-Biomedical Engineering; Minor Psychology Pre-Medicine Track



Career Path: Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM)

### Kelly Mauck Memorial Scholarship (\$1,500)

**Avalon Falcon** 

**Black River Falls** Attending: UW Milwaukee -School of Engineering and **Applied Sciences** Course of Study: Civil Engineering Career Path: Civil Engineer



Paul McNulty Memorial Alumni Scholarship Award (\$2,000)

Maren Bakken

(2021 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: St. Olaf College Course of Study: Kinesiolgy Career Path: Doctorate degree in Occupational Therapy



### Paul McNulty Memorial Alumni Scholarship Award (\$2,000)

Zoe Dal Cerro

(2020 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: New York University - Gallatin School of Individualized Study Course of Study:



Environmental Economics, Mamt/Public Policy Career Path: Environmental Consulting/NPO Administration

### Paul McNulty Memorial Alumni Scholarship Award (\$2,000)

**Matthew Becker** 

(2021 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: UW Stout Course of Study: Game Design & Development - Art Career Path: Work in 3D Modeling or concept design



#### Paul McNulty Memorial Alumni Scholarship Award (\$2,000)

Claire Bush

(2022 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: Western Technical College Course of Study: Nursing Career Path: Become a midwife and a Doula



### Paul McNulty Memorial Alumni Scholarship Award (\$2,000)

Alyssa Stemper

(2020 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: Winona State University

Course of Study: Nursing Career Path: Obtain a BSN,

work at Mayo

Philip & Aldena Meyer Memorial Scholarship

Bailey Diehn

Black River Falls Attending: Arizona State University Course of Study: Major-Special Education; Minor-American Sign Language

Career Path: Educational Diagnostician

Rick Millis Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000) **BRF High School Store** 

Scholarship (\$500)

**Evan Voss** 

Black River Falls Attending: UW LaCrosse Course of Study: Sports Management Career Path: College Coach

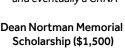


### Rick Millis Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)

Sada Stanley

Humbird

Attending: UM Twin Cities Course of Study: Nursing Career Path: Registered Nurse and eventually a CRNA



Colton Carlson (2021 BRF Graduate) Alma Center Attending: Chippewa Valley

Technical College Course of Study: Associate Degree in Paramedicine Career Path: Paramedic for

Mayo Clinic Ambulance Service



### Ann Krohn Peterson Scholarship (\$2,000) Black River Falls Alumni Association

Scholarship (\$1,500)

Isabella Cowles

(2020 BRF Graduate) Black River Falls Attending: North Central University, Minneapolis,

Course of Study: Secondary Communication Arts English Career Path: Middle or High School English Teacher in a Public School



Joan Strelow

**Black River Falls** Attending: UW Milwaukee Course of Study: Art Career Path: Illustrator of Children's Books



Scholarship (\$1,500)

**Polly Pierson** 

Alma Center Attending: Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design

Course of Study: Major-Illustration; Minor-Business Career Path: Artist and

Illustrator

#### Lt. Terry Preston Memorial Scholarship (\$1.000)

Jacob Ward

Black River Falls Attending: Southwest Wisconsin Technical College

Course of Study: Criminal Justice-Law Enforcement 2

Career Path: Work as a County Recreation Deputy

Gene & Judy Ransom Scholarship (\$2,000)

Robert (Knuckles) Johnson **Memorial Scholarship** (\$1,500)

Miah Breheim

Alma Center Attending: UW Eau Claire Course of Study: Physical

Thereapy

Career Path: Physical Therapist



### **Dustin Rozmenoski Memorial Scholarship** (\$1.000)

**Xander Shaw** 

**Black River Falls** Attending: Chippewa Valley Technical College Course of Study: Foundations of Teacher Education Career Path: High School Teacher



Security Financial Bank Foundation Alumni Scholarship (\$2,000)

**Lucas Cowles** 

Accounting

(2022 BRF Graduate) **Black River Falls** Attending: North Central University, Minneapolis, MN Course of Study: Major-Marketing; Minor-



Career Path: Work as a Data Analyst and Brand Strategist



## FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION RECOGNITION PROGRAM



Bronze~\$100 Silver~\$500 Gold~\$2,000 Platinum~\$5,000 Diamond~\$10,000 Leaders Circle~\$15,000 Legends Circle~\$20,000 Founders Circle~\$30,000

The Foundation has established a permanent Recognition Program for Friends who have donated so generously through the years. The program allows donation amounts to accumulate each year as Friends advance through eight giving levels.

### **2023 FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION**

are listed below, together with the current level of giving they have achieved.

BRONZE (\$100 & up)	Hansen, Judith2023	Polzin, Dr. Jeff2023	Kitowski, Lori
Albrecht, Kristin R2022	Hansen, Mary J2023	Polzin, Susan2022	Krohn, Dr. Eugene
Barrett, Eileen2022	Hanson, Kristi2022	Reid, Arlene2022	Krohn, Janet
Burgau, Stacy2023	Haugen, Carol2023	Reid, Thomas2022	Lahmayer, Dr. Al
Chown, Lori2023	Hegna, Dr. Steve2023	Ripp Distributing Co., Inc 2023	Lee, Jean
Heineck, Mary (Wang)2023	Hegna, Mary2023	Ripp, Paul2023	Michaelson, Max Jr
Heineck, Roger2023	Hilliker, Richard2023	Ripp, Theresa2023	Michaelson, Sue
Herzberg, Bee2022	Hoagenson, John2022	Scholze Ace Home	Mills, Carla
Herzberg, Bill2022	Hoefer, Alden (Buz)2023	Center, Inc2022	Norgaard Insurance Agency,
Homstad, Richard2022	Hoffman Construction	Simonis, Barbara, Simonis-	John & Jane Norgaard
Horner, Michael2023	Company2023	Nortman Real Estate Team 2023	Overman, Jerry
	Homstad, Ann2022	Stuart, Marion2023	Perry, Mary
Horner, Michelle2023	Hoonsbeen, David O2023	Tamminen, Jean2023	Ransom, Gene
Kertis, Jeanette2023	Jacobs, Peter2023	Torkelson, Sherri2022	Ransom, Judy
Lund, Sharon2023	Jacobson, Patricia2022	Torkelson, Tim2022	Rewald, Maggie
Nelson, Mindy2022	Jelinek, Danny2023	Turk, Timothy M2023	Richards, Dennis
Northwoods Vet Service2022	Jelinek, Mary J2023	Wester, Mitch2022	Sedelbauer, Phyllis
Nortman, Jordan, Simonis-	Kaphengst, Jill2023	Wester, Sue2022	IMO Norbert Sedelbauer
Nortman Real Estate Team 2023	Kaphengst, Jim2023	White-Jacobs, Mary Beth2023	Tamminen, Glen
Peterson, Ann Krohn2022	Karen Stai Koenigs Insurance	Young, Alice2022	The Print Shop -
Peterson, Waldo2022	Agency2023	Young, Dennis2023	Bill & Kathy Potter
River Country Fitness2022	Kertis, Jim2023	Zillmer, Ann2023	Van Gorden, Mary
Trebatoski, Alex H2022	Laabs, Jay2022	GOLD (\$2,000 & up)	PLATINUM (\$5,000 & up)
ILVER (\$500 & up)	Laabs, Katherine2022	Ackerson, Marilyn2022	Homstad, Gil
Anderson, Todd, Anderson	Lahmayer, Barb2022	Baker, Mona2023	Dr. Nicolas Kitowski Family
Financial Services2023	Lahmayer, Bruce2022	Coldwell Banker	•
Arndt, William2023	Lindah, Susan2022	River Valley Realtors2023	Wiste, Roger
Barnes, Al2023	Lindahl, John2022	Danielson, Ron2023	DIAMOND (\$10,000 & up)
Black River Area Chamber of	Lobenstein, Brad2023	Delebo, Donald2023	Co-op Credit Union
Commerce2022	Lobenstein, Monica2023	Dickman, Jim2023	D&S Manufacturing
Brauner, Mike2023	Louis, Jean2023	Dougherty, Carol (Jim)2023	Northern Family Farms,
Button, Georgia2023	Louis, John2022	Dougherty, Cindy2023	The Ahl Family
Button, Larry2023	Lund, John2023	Dougherty, Mike2023	Security Financial Bank
Chown, Brad2023	Mack, David2022		•
Curtis, Mary2023	Martin, Dr. Carol2023	Hagenbrock, Jean2022	LEADERS CIRCLE (\$15,000 & c
Dickman, Annette2023	Meyer, Dave2022	Herrmann, Carl F2022	LEGENDO CIDOLE (Acc. com
Dingeldein, Doris2022	Meyer, Luane2022	Higgins, Joan B2022	LEGENDS CIRCLE (\$20,000 &
Dingeldein, James2022	Meyer, Marlene A2023	Hoffman, David2023	Dr. Kirk Lane Family
Dressler, Axel2023	Musser, Nyla2022	Hoffman, Marilyn2023	FOUNDERS CIRCLE (\$10.000)
Galston, Don2023	Nielsen, Carla (Drecktrah)2023	Homstad, Jon2022	FOUNDERS CIRCLE (\$30,000 8
	racioci, caria (Dieckalari)2023	Homstad, Maureen2022	Tim & Kay Finch Foundation
Hagen, David R2022	Overman, Lynda2023	Kitowski, Dr. Jerry2023	Till a Ray Filler Foundation

A sincere and heartfelt thank you to all of those making donations to the Foundation in honor of retiring Trustees

David Hoffman and Mike Dougherty. (See pages 15 and 17.)

### **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 distribution of funds are done in June. For information about grants go to www.brfareafoundation.org or contact us at:

Black River Falls Area Foundation, PO Box 99, Black River Falls, WI 54615 | Telephone: 715-284-3113

E-mail: executivedirector@brfareafoundation.org or contact any member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees.