# RIVER FALLS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## 2022 Impact Report

The River Falls Community Foundation was created in 1999 to advance the quality of life in River Falls.

Managed by a 100% volunteer board, The Foundation is a community trust – ensuring gifts donated today will be wisely used to enhance the future well-being of the River Falls community.

The River Falls Community Foundation is an affiliate of the St. Croix Valley Foundation

# Meyer Middle School Character Education Grant

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Meyer Middle School has been awarded a St. Croix Valley Vibrant Community Grant for \$6000.

The grant will expand the school's already recognized character education program. After two years of COVID's impact on student mental health and well-being, school counselors Samantha Dusek and Jordan Seifert looked for ways to support all students in the school. They found a solution in the CharacterStrong Curriculum.

This curriculum helps create an environment where teachers can proactively teach social and emotional learning skills to all students, while building strong classroom relationships.

~Samantha Dusek, School Counselor

The RFCF is an affiliate of the St. Croix Valley Foundation which contributes to the Vibrant Communities grant that paid for the staff training and purchase of this program.

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River Falls Community Foundation 516 2nd St., Suite 214 Hudson, W 54016 Thanks for a great 2022! to learn more visit us online to see our look back video. **RiverFallsCommunityFoundation.org** 



# **Your Grant Success Stories**

#### Adoray's Treasures from the Heart, 2021

The Big Idea Grant from RFCF has allowed Adoray's Treasures From The Heart to purchase three industrial-grade sewing machines. These machines allow creative volunteers to re-purpose unwanted clothing, coats and denim, into fashionable purses, bags and creative aprons. Proceeds from sales benefit programs at Adoray's Home Health & Hospice.

Stop in at Treasures on Main Street for one-of-a-kind, environmentally friendly products.

#### Big Fun Lab, 2019

Our 2019 Big Idea Grant winner was "The Big Fun Lab". A learning and activity area located in the River Falls Public Library and operated by library staff. It is open during the cold winter months to provide an activity space for children.

The Big Fun Lab is gearing up to open again from mid-January to late March 2023. Formerly located in the lower level gallery, it has moved to the more visible first floor meeting room. Small motor skill activities and STEM activities will be added when it reopens in January.



## 2022 Year in Review



Hello Friends and Neighbors. I'm Judie Foster Babcock, the River Falls Community Foundation Board (RFCF) Chair. This community trust ensures gifts donated today will be wisely used for the future well-being of the River Falls community.

Our Forever Fund is the primary way we invest in our community through grants both large and small that benefit local non-profit organizations and schools. The impact of your donation is multiplied when combined with the donations of your neighbors and friends in River Falls.

Will generosity be part of your legacy to impact current and future generations of friends and neighbors? Any way that you give to the Forever Fund is an investment that will continue to improve our community FOREVER.



#### Meet our current Board of Volunteers

Chair: Judie Babcock Vice Chair: Alex Burian Treasurer: Dennis Ireland Secretary: Cheryl Ross

Elaine Baumann Jamie Benson John Harsdorf Cindy Kleven Terry McKay Jennifer O'Neil Dan Ross Natasha Schaefer Scot Simpson

Want to join our board? Visit RiverFallsCommunityFoundation.org

-Judie Foster Babcock, RFCF Chair

# **Generously Giving Back to our Community**

Donations to the River Falls Community Foundation are fully tax deductible, whether directed to the Forever Fund where donations grows in perpetuity or through Donor Advised Funds. Contributions to the RFCF stay in our community through grants both large, like our Big Idea Grant, or smaller grants which help other non-profit organizations. The impact of your donation is multiplied when combined with the donations of your neighbors and friends in River Falls.

Is generosity part of your legacy? RFCF is the perfect place for making a qualified charitable distribution from a retirement account. Your Forever Fund gift will be a part of a legacy that will continue to improve our community FOREVER. Thank you!

Are you ready to give back? Learn more about doing good in your community. **RiverFallsCommunityFoundation.org/community** 

## Looking back at 2022

Amount granted back into our community

\$956K

# \$24K

Raised from donors like you

### Awarded grants worth impacting 6 River Falls projects



River Fails Community Foundation NARRE SOD,000 EBIGIDEA

River Falls Community Foundation Youth Sports Locker Youth Supports Locker

#### Do you have a Big Idea?

Our Big Idea Grant Program is open to qualified non-profit organizations with an end of April 2023 grant application deadline.

Learn more about grants and apply online. **RiverFallsCommunityFoundation.org** 

# 2022 Donors, Leaving a Lasting Legacy in River Falls

Alice Lindquist Charitable Trust Ammerman, Suzanne Anderson, Steven E. and Bobbie A. Andrews, Holly and Todd Anonymous Arneson, Jennifer M. Ayres, Bud and Jo Ballard, Evan and Pamela Baumann, Elaine and Larry Benson, Jamie and Jan Breen, Gerald and Joyce Burian, Alex and Amanda **Dopkins Donor Advised Fund** Casey, Melissa and Bill Cudd, Douglas and Kathleen Cudd, Jack and Rita DeCoux, Ronald and Sandra Dzubay, Steve and Sue **Edward Jones** Evans, Roger H. and Judy C.

First National Bank of River Falls Fischer, Robert and Peggy Folk, Adam Goff, Steve and Betsy Greub, Lou J. Hammond, Roger and Sonia Hanson, Grant and Nancy Healy, Steven J. and Janice L. Hjersjo, Douglas and Cathleen Johnson, Jeff and Lori Kenney, Joanne F. Kleven, Cindy F. Knott, Kathy Kolb, Dr. Melissa Krey, De An M. and Robert D. Kusilek, Kim T. and Tom T. Kuss, Ruth Lee, Ken and Ruth Lewis, Jim V. and Susan J. Link, Harriet

Manion, Brian and Valerie Michaelson, Lois B. O'Neill Elder Law Pershing LLC River Falls Chiropractic Health Ctr, Inc. Rodli, Keith and Grant, Katherine Rohde, Gary and Helen Ross, Dan and Cheryl **Royal Neighbors of America** Schramm, Ed and Sandy Schreiber, Colleen and Thomas Seebach, Richard and Dorothy Stern, Peter and Ruth Teppen, Ruth Terry McKay Inc. Vanguard Group Vogler, Tom Wallace H. Jerome Foundation Williamson, Jim and NolaKay Yde, Linda

# What's your Legacy?



Any monthly or annual gift to the River Falls Community Foundation goes back into our community through our Forever Fund.

#### **Special Gifts and Donations**

Did you know that RFCF accepts qualified charitable distributions from a retirement account?

# **25x25**

Join us as we work towards being able to grant \$25,000/year by our 25th anniversary

Our Forever Fund was designed to leave a lasting impact on the River Falls community.

As we look ahead to our 25th anniversary we are in a position to build the Forever Fund value to \$500,000, which would allow us to grant \$25,000 per year to local causes Forever!

Please help us reach this goal so we can increase our annual grant making, and the impact we make here in River Falls forever!



#### **Secure Donation Options**

Use attached self-addressed envelope Online at **RiverFallsCommunityFoundation.org**