



LA CROSSE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

2015-16

The year in review

85
YEARS



THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT

Something as small as the fluttering of a butterfly's wings can ultimately cause a typhoon halfway around the world....

Everything we do matters.

photo credit: Liz Reardon





LA CROSSE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

The Purpose

of the La Crosse Community Foundation is to enrich the quality of life in the greater La Crosse area by:

- *Attracting*

charitable gifts, chiefly in the form of endowment funds promoting community philanthropy.

- *Serving*

as a steward for entrusted funds and using these precious resources wisely and efficiently.

- *Supporting*

programs and activities of economic, educational, social and cultural nonprofit organizations.

- *Providing*

leadership by serving as a convenor/catalyst in identifying problems and opportunities and shaping effective responses to them.

- *Being*

a community resource and providing services to donors, nonprofits agencies and the community-at-large.

This Cottonwood is a 100 year old tree in the La Crosse River Marsh. It's beauty and grandeur was documented for 365 days in 2015 by John Sullivan and Richard Frost. See images on Facebook.



For 85 years, generous donors have made it possible for the La Crosse Community Foundation to meet its mission to improve and enrich the quality of life in the greater La Crosse area. Thank you donors---you are responsible for many programs and services that make our region great.

Benefactors' gifts have helped:

- Maintain the area's tree canopy by treating and replacing ash trees on city thoroughfares;
- Give the gift of music by sending hundreds of elementary school children to Symphony for Youth
- Offer warmth and food for people at the Franciscan Hospitality Center
- Build a new home for the Armagost Family through Habitat for Humanity

Donors and great community agencies, in partnership with the Foundation, make great things happen. A recent example is the Homeless Youth Initiative: the Community Foundation convened several groups to discuss youth homelessness and needs of young people to achieve success. The group researched best practices, studied potential solutions, enlisted leadership from the Family and Children's Center, a community jewel also committed to youth, and then the Foundation's General Fund and the Johns, Flaherty, Collins, Michael Stoker Memorial Fund funded start-up with a \$75,000 grant.

La Crosse is a special place: a community filled with caring residents, along with great not-for-profit organizations, schools, and other public entities willing to tackle big issues. Residents of the region also appreciate our unique natural environment with its spectacular bluffs, prairies, rivers and streams. The Foundation is able to support and protect that which we love only because of past and current donors' generosity. The Foundation is fortunate to be able to

*Unity is strength...
when there is teamwork
and collaboration,
wonderful things
can be achieved.*

Mattie Stepanek

extend meaningful grants to organizations that make life better, whether its quality of lives lived by youth, elderly, all abilities, or even the environment itself---that's the common good and that's the very foundation of the Community Foundation.

The La Crosse Community Foundation is a permanent endowment that includes a multitude of funds.

- The General Fund is the mainstay of the quarterly grant cycle during which grant proposals are reviewed for specific projects that target a WIDE spectrum of community needs, including environmental projects or programs for children and families, elders, various cultural groups, or programs that assist people with older age, disabilities, behavioral health issues, or poverty.
- Donor Advised Funds, established by many local families, issue grants on the advice of families to support many organizations.
- Field of Interest Funds, like the June Kjome Justice and Peace Fund award grants to specific projects (see page 11 for more)
- Designated Funds are distributed to specific agencies each year. Frequently, these funds are established by donors' wills supporting groups they appreciated during their lifetimes.
- Scholarships are critical for so many area students, helping make college and university studies more manageable.

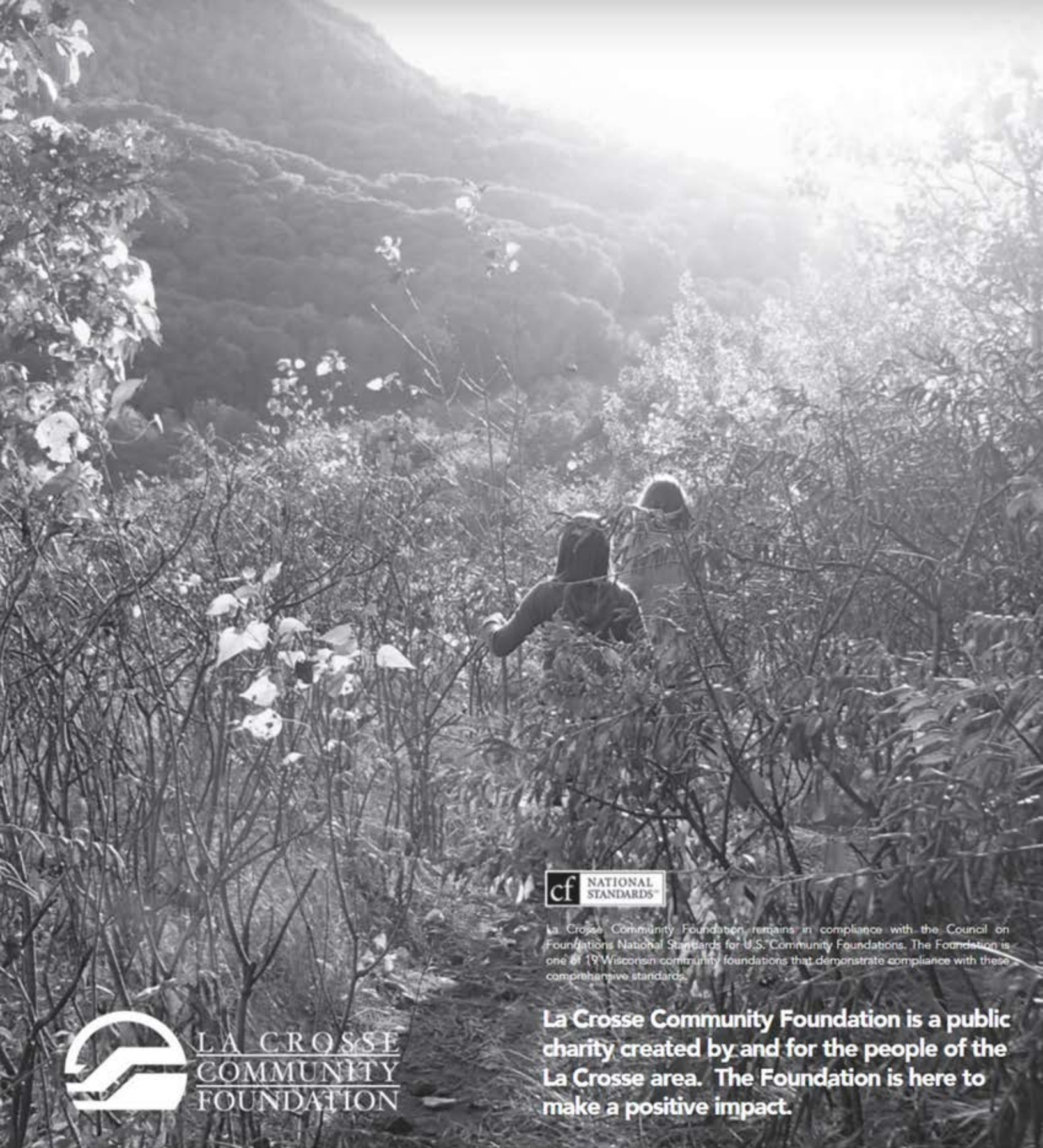
The Community Foundation is here to assist you and your family in giving back to a community that has blessed all of us. Please consider establishing a fund today, or adding language to your will or estate plan to include the La Crosse Community Foundation and the community, in which you've lived, worked, raised your family and enjoyed retirement.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sheila Garrity'.

Sheila Garrity
Executive Director

A photograph of June Kjome, an elderly woman with glasses, speaking into a microphone. She is wearing a dark top and has a name tag on her lapel.

June Kjome



La Crosse Community Foundation remains in compliance with the Council on Foundations National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations. The Foundation is one of 19 Wisconsin community foundations that demonstrate compliance with these comprehensive standards.

La Crosse Community Foundation is a public charity created by and for the people of the La Crosse area. The Foundation is here to make a positive impact.



**LA CROSSE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

Last year, La Crosse Community Foundation provided milkweed seeds with the annual report, initiating its own "butterfly effect." Thank you to all those who planted these seeds to help the monarch caterpillars and butterflies. Thank you also for continuing to sow the "seeds" that nurture our community through your contributions of time, talent and treasure. Your generosity ensures the long-term health and wellbeing of our community.

NEW FUNDS & SCHOLARSHIPS



Contributed photo

Pictured from left: Greg, Stephen, Beth and Peter Bonney

THE BONNEY FAMILY FUND

Greg and Beth Bonney established this family donor advised fund in 2015. According to Beth, "we have found La Crosse to be a wonderful place to live and raise our sons. We are grateful for our community's great public schools, natural beauty, commitment to those less fortunate, and for the opportunities it has to participate in and experience the Arts. This fund provides us with the opportunity to "give back" to the community that has given us so much."



JAY F. LEINFELDER, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

John and Barbara Leinfelder established this scholarship to honor their son Jay. Jay was a talented athlete, particularly enjoying competitive skiing. The Jay F. Leinfelder, Jr. Memorial Scholarship assists a graduating senior athlete at

Aquinas who exhibits leadership skills.



photo courtesy of the La Crosse Tribune

MYRICK HIXON ECOPARK FUND (2015)

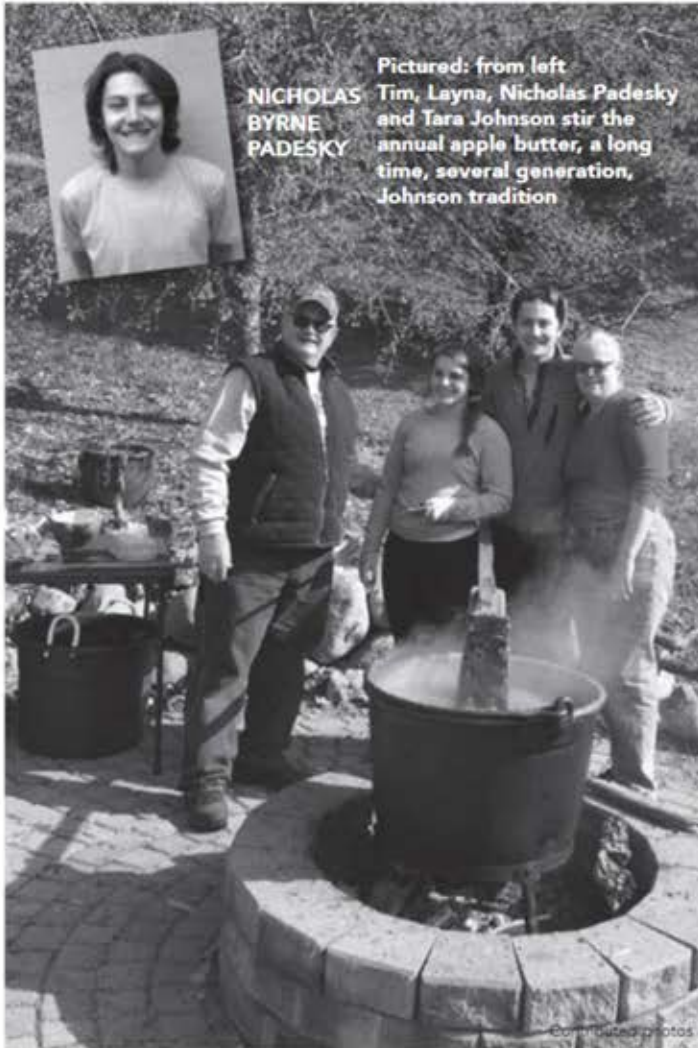
Last year, the Myrick Hixon EcoPark Fund was established when the organization discontinued and transferred its balance to the La Crosse Community Foundation in order to support local environmental education programs and transportation for school children to experience the natural outdoor environment. To honor the dedication and generosity of the MHEP Board, volunteers, and donors, the La Crosse Community Foundation Board subsequently established a permanent MHEP Fund to be used for environmental education grants in perpetuity. This permanent MHEP Fund will award annual grants to La Crosse County schools and nonprofit agencies that provide environmental education and opportunities, particularly for youth.

WILL AND CHARLIE NORDEEN "MAY THE FORCE BE WITH YOU" FUND

"Life needs a lot of humor," according to Will and Charlie Nordeen's mom and La Crosse Community Foundation Board member Julie Nordeen. Julie and her husband, Derek, established this donor advised fund to promote a philanthropic spirit in their sons.



Contributed photo



NICHOLAS BYRNE PADESKY
 Pictured: from left Tim, Layna, Nicholas Padesky and Tara Johnson stir the annual apple butter, a long time, several generation, Johnson tradition



Contributed photo

NICHOLAS BYRNE PADESKY SCHOLARSHIP

To recognize their son Nicholas' high school graduation, Tim Padesky and Tara Johnson made a gift to the Foundation that Nicholas decided should be a scholarship for Central High graduates. Nicholas stated he chose a scholarship, "because it was a good way to stay connected to La Crosse, particularly Central - the teachers at Central make you feel important and have a vested interest in your success, not just in high school but for your future." The Nicholas Byrne Padesky Scholarship is for Central High School graduates who have completed advanced placement classes, are involved in extra-curricular activities, and plan to attend a 4-year college or university. Last fall, Nicholas embarked on his own college experience at Carroll University majoring in applied physics and plans further study in material engineering.

RON AND JANE RADA FUND

Ron and Jane Rada established this fund according to Jane "because of the philosophy and demonstrated positive impact of the Community Foundation. As a local public charity, the Foundation is broad-based in serving a wide range of community needs while being both flexible and innovative in leveraging resources to create new opportunities for enhancement and enrichment in the community."

KURT AND JULIE SCHROEDER FAMILY FUND

The Schroeder Family fund, established by Kurt and Julie is their family's gift back to the community. Kurt and Julie are both active in many local organizations that improve the quality of life in the La Crosse region. The Schroeder Family Fund will also be advised by their children, Marit, Anelise, Kate and Nikol.



*Effecting
Change*



Ron and Jane Rada:

“ We believe the La Crosse Community Foundation consistently demonstrates effective stewardship, inspiring leadership, and a steadfast commitment to the future. It builds upon the successes of the long-standing contributions of other folks and creates a welcoming environment for people to join in to improve the overall quality of life in our community. Our wish is to build upon that legacy. ”



Central and Logan High School students talk about how the AVID program has helped their academic rigor.

La Crosse Community Foundation is a public charity created by and for the people of the La Crosse area. The Foundation is here to make a positive impact. Gifts to the General Fund are added to the endowment and allow the Foundation to address local needs that change every year. Grants are awarded to a variety of charities, ranging from social agencies to cultural organizations as well as college scholarships. The Foundation Board evaluates every proposal with an eye toward leveraging resources while truly meeting community needs. The La Crosse Community Foundation, and those served, owe a debt of gratitude to all of the benefactors whose thoughtful philanthropic planning has resulted in the establishment of the following funds:

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Donor advised funds provide the advantages of a private foundation and an endowment as well as access to the professional grant making staff of the Foundation. These funds provide an opportunity to establish a named fund and remain engaged in the grant making process.

AAUW (American Association of University Women)
La Crosse Branch Fund (2010)

James and Ellyn Ash Family Fund (2003)

Walter F. Baltz Family Fund (1987)

Jean Gitz Bassett Fund (2006)

William & Cynthia Berg Family Fund (2013)

Blahnik-Naugler Help Fund
of the Women's Fund (2003)

The Bonney Family Fund (2015)

MLB-MKB Bottcher Family Fund (2004)

Eric and Sandy Brekke Family Fund (2013)

Richard W. Brown Family Fund (2007)

Chad's Champs Fund for the Miracle Field (2009)

Christ Episcopal Church
Historic Preservation Fund (2006)

Russell G. and Gail K. Cleary Fund (1986)

Ardus and John Cleveland Family Fund (2012)

CMG Women's Fund (1992)

Davy Family Fund (1993)

Durtsche Family Fund (2004)

Barbara and Dave Erickson Fund (2004)

Chad Erickson Memorial Fund (2003)

The Erickson Sisters' Fund (2004)

Fowler and Hammer Fund (2005)

Barbara and Donald Frank Family Fund (1995)

Maureen and Robert Freedland Community Fund
for Studies of the Shoah (Holocaust) (2014)

Ellen and Henry Funk Family Fund (2006)

Fred and Mary Ann Funk Family Fund (2006)

Norman L. Gillette, Sr., Family Fund (1992)

The Guentner-Froegel Family Fund (2003)

James D. and Janice M. Hanesworth Fund (2007)

Harrington Fund (1998)

James and Ellen Heinecke Fund (2003)

Neil, Andy and Geri Hengst Family Fund (2007)

Hutson Family Fund (2002)

JARD Fund (1993)

Lillian Kaplan Fund (2004)

Joseph W. Kotnour, Sr. Family Fund (2001)

Roy E. and L. Hope Kumm Fund (1986)

Sondra and Roger LeGrand Family Fund (2008)

Warren and Denise Loveland Family Fund (2008)

The Magerus McKinney Fund (2002)

Todd and Deb Mahr Family Fund (2004)

Bob and Jean Marck Family Fund (2004)

Amie L. Mathy Fund (1987)

Charles F. Mathy Family Fund (2010)

Charles F. Mathy Fund (2006)

Sandra and Richard McCormick
Citizen Diplomacy Fund (2012)

Donald and Audrey Medinger Family Fund (1998)

Tom and Ann Monson Family Fund (2005)

Dr. David L. and Sacia B. Morris Family Fund (2008)

David R. Morrison Family Fund (2013)

Will and Charlie Nordeen
"May the Force Be With You" Fund (2015)

PMJ Fund (2002)

Paqué Family Fund (2007)

Ron and Jane Rada Fund (2015)

Richard T. Record Fund (2011)

Brian and Karen Rude Family Fund (2000)

Schilling Family Fund (2009)

George and Virginia Schneider Family Fund (1994)

Kurt and Julie Schroeder Family Fund (2015)

Jack and Marti Schwem Fund (1999)

Morris A. & Roberta Anne Severson Fund (2014)

Randy Smith Leadership Fund (2001)

Roland & Janeane Solberg Family Fund (2012)

Stansfield Family Fund (2013)

Bradley and Lynn Sturm Family Fund (2008)

Sullivan Fund (2002)

Sundet Family Fund (2006)

Carol and Duane Taebel Family Fund (2006)

Steve and Suzanne Tanke Family Fund (2007)

Bernadette Teff Family Fund (2007)

Cheryl Rae Vieth Fund (2009)

Fred and Deb Wakeen Fund (2013)

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

A growing number of people with significant charitable assets who desire to have a more formal gifting structure are establishing supporting organizations. A supporting organization is an effective alternative to a private foundation. A supporting organization is a tax efficient alternative to a private foundation that, like a cost efficient donor advised fund, taps into the grant making expertise of the Community Foundation.

Robert & Eleanor Franke
Charitable Foundation (2011)

Dr. David L. and Sacia B. Morris
Family Foundation (2008)

DESIGNATED FUNDS

At the time a designated fund is established, the donor designates a specific charitable organization(s) as the perpetual recipient(s) of the earnings from the fund. The Foundation ensures that the designated recipients receive support as long as they remain in existence and continue to fulfill their intended charitable purpose.

Steven and Julianna Blanchar
Kindergarten Trip Fund (2002)

Dr. Archie and Rosemary Britt Family Fund (2013)

Margaret Forseth Burgess Music Fund (2013)

Kathryn, Olaus and Dena Cappelen Fund (2007)

Elizabeth Cason Fund (2011)


Dr. Ruth Dalton Fund (2007)

Chad Erickson Memorial Park Fund (2011)

Jean L. Foss-Norene A Smith Fund-WF (2011)

Maureen and Robert Freedland-
LPEF Fund for Studies of the Shoah (2007)

James Gokey Endowment Fund a.k.a
Jim's Grocery Bag (1998)



*“It doesn't punish
kids for something
they felt...”*

Lincoln Middle School
Justice Circle Facilitator

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Circle Keepers share their thoughts and feelings about restorative justice.

Sixteen Lincoln Middle School students have received training to become facilitators in the Justice Circles process and Logan Middle staff trained eighteen Circle Keepers. Justice Circles is an alternative method of looking at harm and conflict in schools, focusing on repairing damage done to people and restoring relationships in lieu of punishing students; this allows students to take responsibility for their actions while keeping them in school and engaged in their school community.

According to one youth facilitator, or Circle Keeper, who chose to go by the name Unknown Artist, “the circle helps you with your problems and to not take blame for anyone else. You use your heart, not your mind.”

Lindsay, another Circle Keeper agrees, “Circle Keepers are really good at bringing us all together and helping learn about peace and unity. We try to solve the problem.”

School attendance is critical factor in the success of students. Students who have regular attendance see greater academic achievement, social skills, and positive behavior, which leads to successful graduation and more opportunities for educational and career paths. Justice Circles helps students be accountable for their behavior, look at the reasons for the behavior, find solutions to the issues causing the behavior, AND keep students in class.

Jay Picha, Logan Middle School Principal states, “Restorative Justice is providing students a new opportunity to become leaders and help shape the culture of their school. Restorative Justice will enable us to address student behavior in a way that is respectful to all and leads to a more permanent solution.”

Gertrude Salzer Gordon Jazz in the Park Fund (1997)

Dr. Gunnar and Mary Baldwin Gundersen Fund (2007)

Reverend Ronald and Merle Gustafson Fund (2003)

Wayne J. Hood Fund (1982)

Harold L. Isenman Fund (1981)

Jim's Grocery Bag – Schroeder Memorial Fund (2014)

Roch D. Kendrick Memorial Fund (2009)

Tom and Trudy Kennedy Endowment
aka Tom's Grocery Bag (2013)

Kids for Kids Fund – LPEF (2008)

Carl Koch and Joyce Heil Fund (2012)

Gretchen Guernsey Leigh Fund (2007)

La Crosse Public Elementary School
Field Trip Fund (2013)

Betty Levinstein Fund-WF (2008)

The Jacob Christian Lillejord Memorial Fund (2008)

Marie Louise Lokken Fund (2007)

Milo and Beverly Mayer Mach Family Fund (2006)

William C. Jr. & Scott Pickett Memorial Fund (2012)

Connie Repnik Memorial Fund (2006)

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Onalaska
Endowment Fund (2002)

Joan and Paul Schoenfeld Fund – WF (2008)

Tom and Judy Sleik Family Fund (2013)

Pamela and Richard Strauss Fund – WF (2008)

Duane and Carol Taebel Fund (2007)

Veronica and Chester Ware Fund (1995)

Harry and Charlotte Woods Family Fund (1990)

FIELD OF INTEREST

These funds enable individuals and groups to pool their charitable gifts into a common fund that addresses an issue of importance. Earnings from these funds are distributed in accordance with each fund's specific purpose. Scholarships that support students at a particular school or in a particular major are an example of a Field of Interest Fund.

Ella F. Ambrosius Fund (1975)

Roland Beranek Fund (2013)

Coulee Region White Cane Club (2011)

Howard Dahl Fund (1989)

Dr. Frank Furlano Family Fund (2002)

Global Awareness Fund (2006)

Alice O. Gordon and Viola Forshler Fund (1940)

Johns Flaherty & Collins-Michael Stoker
Memorial Fund (2007/2011)

June Kjome Justice and Peace Fund (2013)

La Crosse Bridge Builders Fund (1999)

La Crosse Knights of Columbus Charity Fund (2012)

Myrick Hixon EcoPark Funds (2014)

National Youth Sports Program Fund (1998)

Louis I. Rehfuss Fund (1981)

Rudy and Jean Schnurrer Fund (1999)

Mary Grace Sieber Fund (2006)

Margery J. Stansfield Fund (2013)

Women's Fund (1998)

Corinne Zielke Fund (2000)

Roberta Zurn Fund (2005)



LA CROSSE AREA FAMILY COLLABORATIVE

In the first few weeks of operation, the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative has helped families solve a variety of unique challenges: housing troubles, parenting concerns, food resources, transportation issues. Though most referrals come from the community, schools, and law enforcement, Candice* found the Family Collaborative through a contact at La Crosse County's Family and Children's unit.

Candice, a grandmother with bi-polar disorder had, for the past few years, been the primary caregiver for her daughter and two grandchildren. Having been evicted from a home, as they had no lease when it was sold, the family of four was living in a hotel and resources were wearing thin.

Candice's daughter was experiencing a series of psychotic episodes and it was increasingly difficult for Candice to manage family life with her daughter and two children. Candice's daughter was self-medicating with Candice's bi-polar medication. Candice, her daughter, and the children were suffering the consequences.

Candice worked with the neighborhood social worker and together they developed a plan. First, her daughter received treatment, followed by a short stay at the CARE Center and the family is now following a

care plan. The children were introduced to the Boys and Girls Club and YMCA so they can connect with peers and find positive mentors. Candice scheduled appointments to monitor her medication.

Three short weeks after contacting the family collaborative, Candice and her family have moved into their new home, a two-story four bedroom house near the children's school. Their rent, which was waived the first month, is based on ability to pay, not market rate. Candice's family is now stabilized for the short term and Candice's family and the Family Collaborative are working together with area nonprofits to provide support and direction on what it takes to create a long term stable and thriving family unit.

"With gratitude, we thank the La Crosse Community Foundation and the June Kjome Justice and Peace Fund. We were able to get our message out to the community long before we were truly established. Being able to lay the groundwork within our communities of need, being able to seek advice from community members to help design the LAFC process, and reaching out to established groups has proved invaluable as we start the work of creating lasting neighborhood change," said Jason Larsen, La Crosse Area Family Collaborative Director.

Photo Credit - La Crosse Family Collaborative

Mike Schnitzius assists Neighborhood Social Workers Sara Rugg and Isaac Hoffman organize care packages for new neighbors.

***Name changed**



SCHOLARSHIPS

AAUW (American Association of University Women)
La Crosse Branch Scholarship Fund (2013)

Mary Jane Bice Fund (1985)

Heidi and Scott Blanke Scholarship (2010)

Borton Construction Scholarship at Holmen (2008)
Borton Construction Scholarship at Logan (2008)
Borton Construction Scholarship at Luther (2008)

William S. Case Scholarship (1969)

James R. Conway Class of 1955
Logan High Scholarship (2009)

Coulee Region Engineering Scholarship Fund (1993)

Peter DeCicco Scholarship (1992)

Carol Dobrunz Memorial Scholarship (2014)

Family Playhouse Theater Scholarship (2003)

D. E. Field Scholarship (2007)

Ernest and Olive Gershon Fund (1991)

Jack and Rosie Glendenning Family Fund (1995)

Gertrude and Donald "Sandy" Gordon, Jr.,
Jazz Scholarship (1998)

Kent Grimslid Memorial Music
Scholarship for Onalaska High School (2014)

Neil P. Hengst Extra Effort Scholarship (2007)

Ann Henke Scholarship Fund (2012)

Josephine Hintgen Fund (1982)

Hood-Weese-Miller Scholarship (2010)

Betty and Dale Kendrick Scholarship
for Studio Art in Painting (2003)

Jason David Koppelman Scholarship Fund (1990)

Jay F. Leinfelder, Jr. Memorial Scholarship (2015)

Harold E. Lemke Fund (1991)

Logan Math and Computer Science
Scholarship Fund (2002)

Logan Opportunity Scholarship Fund (1992)

Lommen Boys and Girls Club Scholarship (2000)

Kaitlin Elizabeth Mahr Memorial Scholarship (2007)

Mitchell-Kruck Scholarship (2007)

Don Olson Hospitality Scholarship (2004)

Nicholas Byrne Padesky Scholarship (2015)

Norma J. Valley Panka & William J. Panka
Scholarship Fund (2012)

Mark David Peacock Memorial Scholarship (2013)

Father Christopher Pratt Fund (1987)

John and Adeline Rice Scholarship Fund (2002)

James G. Sauer Scholarship (2011)

Ralph E. Schultz Scholarship Fund (1996)

John and Ruth Sherman Scholarship Fund (2008)

Burton C. Smith Scholarship Fund (1983)

William E. Storandt Scholarship (2005)

William and Lorna Vafeas Art Scholarship (1995)

Vivian and Clayton Veum Scholarship (1995)

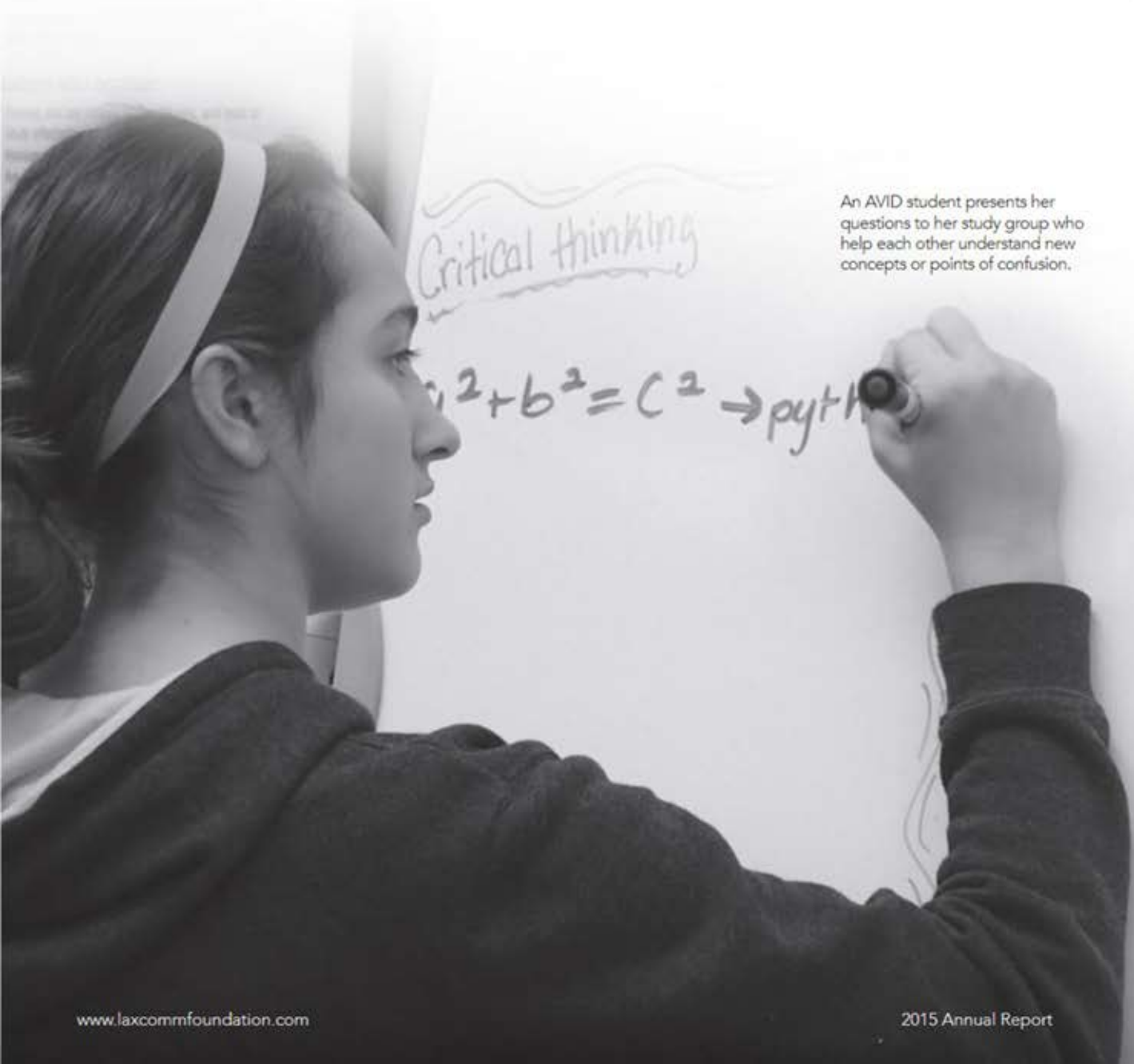
David and Sandra Whiteley Scholarship -LPEF (2007)



*Effecting
Change*

Greg and Beth Banney:

“ We have found La Crosse to be a wonderful place to live and raise our sons. We are grateful for our community’s great public schools, natural beauty, commitment to those less fortunate, and for the opportunities it has to participate in and experience the Arts. This fund provides us with the opportunity to “give back” to the community that has given us so much. ”



An AVID student presents her questions to her study group who help each other understand new concepts or points of confusion.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Unrestricted funds are designed to meet changing community needs.

General Fund

AGENCY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

An agency endowment is a type of designated fund established by a charity, at a community foundation, for the charity's own benefit. The donor and the beneficiary (recipient organization) are the same entity. The community foundation has fiduciary responsibility over the fund(s). Each year the annual spending rate is applied for a grant distribution to that donor organization.

Bethany Lutheran Homes, Inc., Fund (1991)

Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse Fund (1985)

Children's Museum of La Crosse Endowment Fund (1998)

Coulee Council on Addictions Endowment Fund (2005)

Family and Children's Center Endowment Fund (1990)

Anita and Robert Funke Historical Society Fund (2004)

Goodwill Industries of North Central Wisconsin Fund (1997)

Sally A. Grimslid Memorial Fund for Northside Elementary-LPEF (2005)

La Crosse Area Family YMCA Fund (2001)

La Crosse Chamber Chorale Fund (2002)

La Crosse Concert Band Fund (2004)

La Crosse County 4-H Endowment Fund (2010)

La Crosse County Historical Society Endowment Fund (1990)

La Crosse Public Education Foundation Endowment Fund (1991)

Amie L. Mathy Center for Recreation and Education Endowment Fund (2005)

Mental Health Coalition Endowment Fund (2006)

Onalaska Foundation for Educational Excellence Endowment Fund (1998)

Pettibone Park Fund (1992)

Salvation Army Endowment Fund (1992)

Stars of Tomorrow Endowment Fund (2006)

Swantz Fund-LPEF (2000)

United Fund for the Arts and Humanities Endowment Fund (1992)

Wishland Pony Express Fund (1995)



BBBS Bigs and Littles learn about printing.



THE REACH PROGRAM

REACH, a new program of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the 7 Rivers Region, adds structured, group activities to the traditional one-to-one programs. REACH incorporates activities that broaden matches knowledge of the community and opportunities available as well as enhance matches' relationships with community partners.

REACH activities focus on developmental goals in five areas: Recreation, Education & Careers, Arts & Culture, Civic Engagement, and Health & Fitness.

Main Photo: Emily and her "Little" Ariel get ready to tour Inland and learn about printing



Devon and his "Big" Tanner

REACH was funded by:
General Fund
Bob and Jean Marck Family Fund
National Youth Sports Program Fund





LA CROSSE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

DONORS

Thoughtful community members created the La Crosse Community Foundation more than 85 years ago and the Foundation invites all members of the community to continue that tradition. Gifts of all sizes are gratefully accepted throughout the year and in whatever form works best for donors:

- Gifts of cash can go to work immediately.
- Deferred gifts through wills and charitable remainder trusts are treasured gifts.
- Gifts of appreciated stock and real property provide a triple benefit, in that they provide donors a charitable deduction and eliminate capital gains taxes on the appreciation helping to further the Foundation's mission.
- Matching gifts - many employers offer matching gifts program, enabling you to double or triple the amount of your gift to an unrestricted or designated fund.
- Memorials and gifts honoring loved ones are a wonderful way to remember special people.
- Memorials and gifts may be designated for an existing fund or can be used to establish a new fund in a loved one's name.

Families planted milkweed seed and had the opportunity to watch the monarch egg transform from an egg to a caterpillar to a butterfly.

Photo credit - Amanda Manock

ADMINISTRATIVE FUND

Taggart J. Brooks and Nicole Gullekson
Dr. Tim and Sue Durtsche
Fowler and Hammer Construction
Robert and Karen Hillary
Brian and Karen Rude

GENERAL FUND

In memory of:

Richard Hackett

James and Carolyn Bagniewski

Neil Hengst

Andrew and Geri Hengst

Bill Medland

Donna Medland

Our Parents

Dr. Charles and Linda Lee

Ronald Schnick

Rosalie Schnick

Steven Smetana

Wenzel and Edna Smetana

Dorothy Smith

Atty. Greg and Beth Bonney
Sheila Garrity
Judge Roger and Sondra LeGrand

Terry Vandenboom

Wenzel and Edna Smetana

Marie Wettstein

Atty. James and Rebecca Naugler

Anonymous (9)
Burton and Norma Altman
Jim Bannen and Marlene Bannen, Ph.D.
Atty. James and Diana Birnbaum
Robert J. Carney and Christine S. Haskell
Minda and Mark Chamberlain, J.D. and C.P.A.
Russell and Gail Cunningham
Michael and Carmen DeYoe
Eileen Walsh Doyle
Dr. Tim and Sue Durtsche
Anita K. Evans and Larry Libeck

GE Foundation
Dr. Gunnar and Mary Baldwin Gundersen Fund
Edwin Hill and Nancy Fulkerson Hill
Maureen Jameson
JFK Associates, Inc.
Gary and Grace Jones
Atty. Maureen Kinney
Joseph and Barbara Kruse
La Crosse County Bar Assn.
Dr. Todd and Deb Mahr
Nancy Medinger
Drs. David and Sheila Momont
Dr. Derek and Julie Nordeen
James and Donna Omernik
Dr. Lee Rasch and Susan Fox
Michael and Therese Regner
Jack and Judy Rusch
Schilling Family Foundation
Dr. Sam and Jean Skemp
Atty. Brent and Ellen Smith
Dr. Martin Smith
Dr. Christine Miller and John Streyle
Kristin Swanson
Bob and Susan Swingen
Ed Tanke
Elizabeth Twiton
Keith and Lynne Valiquette
Mary C. Veldey
Dr. Ricky and Joan Waniger
Marc and Ruth Williams
John and Wanda Wochos

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN-LA CROSSE BRANCH- SCHOLARSHIP FUND

American Association of University Women
Baron Family Foundation
Bosshard Parke, LTD
Diane Lynne Brimmer
Kathleen Doescher
Dr. Robert Freedland and Atty. Maureen Freedland
Alice Engelhard Gassere
David and Abigail Gerzema
Lois A. Gilbert
Fred and Susan Heuer
Betty Heuslein
Dr. Kenneth and Linda Kempf
Ruth Ann Knapp
George and Betty Kruck

AAUW, cont.
Dorothy Kruse
L.R. Ross, Inc.
Marine Credit Union
Martha Jane O'Donnell
Oral Surgery Clinic of La Crosse, Ltd
Clara M. Peterson
Marian Ramlow
Drs. Robert and Silvana Richardson
Dr. Cameron and Carlene Roberts
Dr. Richard and Pam Strauss
Carol Taebel
Pamella A. Thiel
Dr. Stephen and Katie Webster
Daryl and Margaret Wood
YWCA of the Coulee Region

ROLAND BERANEK FUND

Roland Beranek

BLAHNIK-NAUGLER HELP FUND – WF

In honor of:

Rebecca and Atty. James' Anniversary

Virginia E. Naugler

REBECCA NAUGLER'S BIRTHDAY

Virginia E. Naugler

JAMES NAUGLER'S BIRTHDAY

Virginia E. Naugler

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Christina Olson

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*Effecting
Change*





Family & Children's Center

THE HOST HOME PROGRAM

"The Host Home Program is not just about housing, it is about support," says Chrystal Stegen, Host Home Program Social Worker at Family and Children's Center (FCC).

FCC answered the call to the community's question, "How are the youth of our community doing?" The 85th year of the La Crosse Community Foundation focused on helping the nearly 200 La Crosse School District students who report unstable housing, or no place to call home. Nonprofits, schools, businesses and community members looked at data, discovered existing programs, and researched models that really and truly help kids who have no place to call home.

FCC's program is similar to a successful program operated by Avenues, a program in the Twin Cities since 1993. Deb Loon, Executive Director of Avenues was impressed with the way the La Crosse Community came together with energy and speed to help kids. Loon and her staff, Rocki Simoes and Ryan Berg, assisted with the set-up of the La Crosse program, and continue to offer support.

In the first few months of the program, Chrystal has been working with potential hosts, who will provide a safe place for youth as well as youth who have found

themselves without a home. She is also offering support for people who are informally hosting youth, or even those who do not realize that they offer the best, most safe place for a teen. Chrystal assists with support, connections, basic needs, whatever it is the student or host may need.

Students have the opportunity to thrive when they do not have to live in survival mode, wondering where their next meal may come from, or where they will sleep tonight.



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 Friends of the La Crosse
 Public Library, Inc.
 Friends of West Salem Baseball
 Friends of Wisconsin
 Public Television
 Gateway Area Boy Scouts
 Girl Scouts of Wisconsin-
 Badgerland Council
 Horses for Joy, Inc.
 HorseSense for Special Riders, Inc.
 Kids and Mentors Outdoors
 (KAMO)
 La Crosse Area Autism
 Foundation Inc.
 La Crosse Area Family YMCA
 La Crosse County 4-H
 La Crosse Public Library
 No Kill Law & Advocacy Center
 North American
 Squirrel Association
 Paws 4 Independence
 Riverfront Foundation
 Rotary Lights, Inc.
 School District of La Crosse
 School District of West Salem
 She Rock She Rock
 Tabby Town USA Inc.
 The Animal Sanctuary of
 St Croix Valley
 The Elephant Sanctuary
 in Tennessee
 Vernon County Humane Society
 Viterbo University
 Wisconsin Badger Camp

SCHOLARSHIPS -151 AWARDED

American Association of University
Women-La Crosse Branch-
Scholarship Fund
Mary Jane Bice/Rice/Whitbeck Fund
Borton Construction Scholarship-
Holmen High School
Logan High School
Onalaska Luther High School
James R. Conway Class of '55
Logan High School Scholarship
Coulee Region
Engineering Scholarship
Peter DeCicco Scholarship
Carol A. Dobrunz
Memorial Scholarship
D. E. Field Scholarship
Family Playhouse Scholarship
Robert & Eleanor Franke

Charitable Fund
General Fund
Glendenning Family Fund
Neil P. Hengst
Extra Effort Scholarship
Josephine Hintgen Scholarship
Hood-Weese-Miller Scholarship
Harold E. Lemke Fund
Logan Opportunity Scholarship
Kaitlin Elizabeth Mahr
Memorial Scholarship
Mitchell-Kruck Scholarship
Norma J. Valley Panka &
William J. Panka
Scholarship Fund
Mark David Peacock
Memorial Scholarship
John and Adeline Rice Scholarship

James G. Sauer Scholarship
Ralph Schultz Scholarship
John and Ruth Sherman Scholarship
Burton C. Smith Scholarship
Randy Smith Leadership Fund
William E. Storandt Scholarship
William P. and Lorna C. Vafeas
Art Scholarship
Clayton and Vivian Veum Scholarship
David and Sandra
Whiteley Scholarship-LPEF



Thirty two Hmong adults and 23 children received their US citizenship with the help of the Hmong Citizenship Task Force of AMOS (funded by LCF). Some of the new citizens are pictured here with AMOS Task Force members, Mayor Kabat, and Korean War Veterans.

LA CROSSE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	<u>YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,</u>	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Public support - contributions and bequests	\$ 567,041	\$ 3,241,203
Interest and dividend income	1,866,977	2,383,539
Net (loss) gain on investments	(2,098,607)	632,900
Other income	36,049	39,934
Change in perpetual trust	(304,166)	(95,475)
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	67,294	6,202,101
EXPENSES		
Grants and scholarships	3,565,927	3,341,636
Program-related expenses	10,394	6,830
Support services:		
Management and general	503,769	491,922
Fundraising	29,188	28,419
Investment and trustee fees	279,902	283,724
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,389,180	4,152,531
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(4,321,886)	2,049,570
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	59,505,634	57,456,064
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 55,183,748	\$ 59,505,634



LA CROSSE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>DECEMBER 31,</u>	
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 306,486	\$ 291,991
Investments	55,155,671	59,264,952
Leasehold Improvements, fixtures and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$13,743 in 2015 and \$8,623 in 2014	25,749	30,869
Other assets	52,779	52,236
Beneficial interest in perpetual trusts	3,913,275	4,217,441
	\$ 59,453,960	\$ 63,857,489
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 59,453,960	\$ 63,857,489
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</u>		
LIABILITIES		
Payroll taxes payable	\$ 918	\$ 925
Grants payable	1,249,303	1,069,218
Agency endowment funds	3,019,991	3,281,712
	4,270,212	4,351,855
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,270,212	4,351,855
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted net assets		
Undesignated funds	7,079,180	8,059,287
Special Initiative fund	33,807	97,384
Field of interest funds	2,509,875	2,630,118
Donor designated funds	10,329,670	11,066,016
Donor advised funds	9,219,183	9,844,139
Supporting organizations	7,467,893	8,055,618
Total unrestricted net assets	36,639,608	39,752,562
Temporarily restricted net assets	14,630,865	15,535,631
Permanently restricted net assets	3,913,275	4,217,441
	55,183,748	59,505,634
TOTAL NET ASSETS	55,183,748	59,505,634
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 59,453,960	\$ 63,857,489

Auditors: Franke & Turnbull CPAs, Trustee: Trust Point

This is a summarized financial statement. The complete audited financial statements and
 IRS Form 990 are available on request or online at www.laxcommfoundation.com.

2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Community Foundation Board of Directors is the governing body responsible for the operation of the Foundation including investment oversight and grant and scholarship distributions. Specific authorities charged with appointing board members are delineated in the Foundation Declaration of Trust, Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.

All Board members are appointed accordingly: one by the President of the La Crosse County Bar Association; one by the Senior Circuit Judge, one by the mayor of the City of La Crosse; two by the Board of Trust Point (trustee); six members are appointed by the Foundation Board of Directors.



SUE CHRISTOPHERSON
Chair, Board of Directors
Appointed by the La Crosse Community Foundation Board of Directors;
2nd term expires 12-31-2018

SANDRA BREKKE, R.N.
Vice Chair, Board of Directors
Appointed by the La Crosse Community Foundation Board of Directors;
2nd term expires 12-31-2019

BARB ERICKSON
Secretary, Board of Directors
Appointed by the La Crosse Community Foundation Board of Directors;
1st term expires 12-31-2016

TOM KENNEDY, CPA
Treasurer, Board of Directors
Appointed by the Senior Circuit Court Judge; completing unexpired term expires 12-31-2017

TAGGERT J. BROOKS, PH.D.
Appointed by the La Crosse Community Foundation Board of Directors;
1st term expires 12-31-2017

JAMIE DAHL
Appointed by the Trustee Trust Point; completing unexpired term 12-31-2019

RICK KYTE, PH.D.
Appointed by the Mayor of the City of La Crosse; 1st term expires 12-31-2020

JOE MOUA
Appointed by the La Crosse Community Foundation Board of Directors; completing unexpired term 12-31-2018

JULIE S. NORDEEN, J.D.
Appointed by the Trustee Trust Point; 2nd term expires 12-31-2019

TOM SLEIK, J.D.
Appointed by the La Crosse Community Foundation Board of Directors; 2nd term expires 12-31-2018

BRENT SMITH, J.D.
Appointed by the La Crosse County Bar Association; 1st term expires 12-31-2018

2016 COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS



DYANNE BRUDOS
FINANCE

JERRY ARDNT
FINANCE

CECIL ADAMS
GRANTS

JACKSON JANTZEN
GRANTS

RUSTY CUNNINGHAM
MARKETING

DICK RECORD
MARKETING



*Effecting
Change*

John Magerus:

“Everett and I believe strongly in the La Crosse Community Foundation because of all the people who contribute to it and because of the wide range of community projects the foundation supports.

The effective leadership of Sheila Garrity and the Board makes it a very valuable asset for La Crosse. ”

Lincoln Middle School Circle Keeper training focused on the causes and roots of problems, conflicts, and behaviors. Circle Keepers assist their peers in resolving conflicts and learning why a behavior is occurring so true solutions and relationships can develop.

FINANCE & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Tom Kennedy, Committee Chair

Jerry Arndt
 Dyane Brudos
 Joe Moua
 Tom Sleik, J.D.
 Brent Smith, J.D.
 Randy Smith
 Board Chair Sue Christopherson

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE

T.J. Brooks, Ph.D., Committee Chair

Cecil Adams
 Sandra Brekke, R.N.
 Jamie Dahl
 Barb Erickson
 Jackson Jantzen
 Rick Kyte, Ph.D.
 Julie S. Nordeen, J.D.
 Tom Sleik, J.D.
 Board Chair Sue Christopherson

MARKETING COMMITTEE

Brent Smith, J.D., Committee Chair

Rusty Cunningham
 Julie Nordeen, J.D.
 Dick Record
 Tom Sleik, J.D.
 Board Chair Sue Christopherson

FOUNDATION STAFF

Sheila Garrity, MASL
 Executive Director

Heather Quackenboss, MS
 Program Director

Stephanie Reinke, CPA
 Accountant

Roxanne Hafner
 Executive Assistant

From 1942 to the present, community leaders have served on the Board of Directors. The following individuals have provided generous leadership for the La Crosse Community Foundation.

Joseph Bartl	1942-1957	Todd Poss	2010-2015
John Felton	1942-1958	Pang Moua	2011-2012
Henry Gund	1942-1945	Larry Kirch	2013-2014
Harry Spence	1942-1956	Gina Yang	2013-2015
Eva Wolf	1942-1949		
Gunnar Gundersen	1946-1977		
Stella Trane Jackson	1950-1965		
Carl H. Iverson	1957-1985		
W. Leo Murphy	1958-1972		
H. Newell Holley	1959-1980		
Helen Hood Trane	1966-1977		
Albert P. Funk	1972-1984		
Elaine B. Yerly	1977-1986		
Emily Hutson	1978-1986		
Louis Robinson, Jr.	1980-1989		
David Baptie	1985-1990		
Jack Glendenning	1984-1993		
Signe Schroeder	1986-1997		
Ruth M. Dalton, M.D.	1987-1996		
Lindon Saline	1989-1998		
Roberta K. Gelatt	1990-1999		
Mike Hutson	1990-1999		
Richard Lommen	1991-2000		
Norma J. Vinger	1993-2002		
Joseph Connell	1994-2003		
June Kjome	1994-2003		
Anita Froegel	1995-2004		
Sanders Hook	1998-2002		
Pauline Jackson, M.D.	1998-2007		
Elmer Topel	1999-2001		
Peg Nolan	1999-2001		
Duane Ring, Jr.	1999-2008		
Charles F. Mathy	2000-2002		
Susan Durtsche	2001-2009		
Richard Swantz	2002-2007		
Brad Sturm	2002-2011		
John Wettstein	2003-2012		
My Mao Xiong	2004		
Roger LeGrand	2004-2013		
David Morrison	2004-2013		
Chip Schilling	2005-2009		
John Waubensee	2005-2008		
Moua Lee	2008-2010		
Randy Smith	2008-2015		

Unless otherwise indicated, the photos throughout this annual report were taken by La Crosse Community Foundation Program Director, **Heather Quackenboss**



FOUNDATION STAFF



To learn more, scan the code!



The La Crosse Community Foundation celebrates philanthropy. Donors to the Foundation are role models who inspire us by giving, and it is our hope that they will help cultivate a new group of philanthropists now and for generations to come.



LA CROSSE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

401 Main Street, Suite 205
La Crosse, WI 54601

608.782.3223
www.laxcommfoundation.com

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