



YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY IN ACTION

ROCHESTER AREA FOUNDATION
2019 ANNUAL REPORT



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MISSION: *Building and enhancing the quality of life in the greater Rochester area through philanthropic leadership and community partnerships.*

VISION: *Building better communities for all.*

A MESSAGE FROM RAF LEADERSHIP



In 2019, Rochester Area Foundation celebrated our 75th anniversary. It was a special year to reflect on all that you have helped us accomplish during that time, as well as look forward to our future.

Rochester Area Foundation is built on the idea that when we come together, we can enhance lives and improve our community. In 2019, we continued to build partnerships to address changing needs of our community. This collaborative spirit, along with our ability to amplify the impact of charitable giving, helped us continue to transform generosity into lasting community impact.

This was also another year of us working with you to bring philanthropy and innovative nonprofits together. We engage in a broad range of grantmaking efforts, but at the root of them all is one goal: to improve the quality of life for everyone in our community.

If reflecting upon our history has taught us anything, it is that we cannot possibly predict what the next 75 years may bring. What we do know is that we will invest in the people, places, and programs that make the greater Rochester area so exceptional. Whatever the future brings, we know that the people here will be generous, and will continue to create legacies.

Rochester Area Foundation will continue to harness your collective gifts of time, talents, treasures, and passions to continue to build better communities for all.

Thank you for all you do for our community.










Mark Utz
2019 Chair, Board of Trustees

Jennifer Woodford
President, Rochester Area Foundation

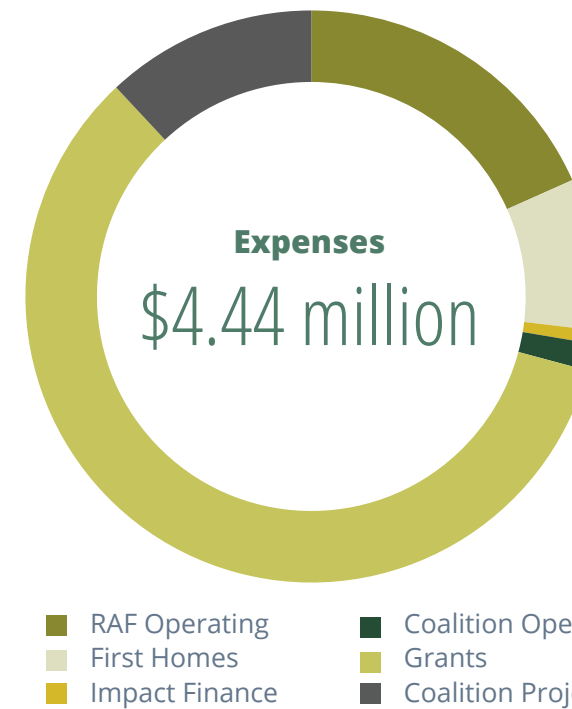
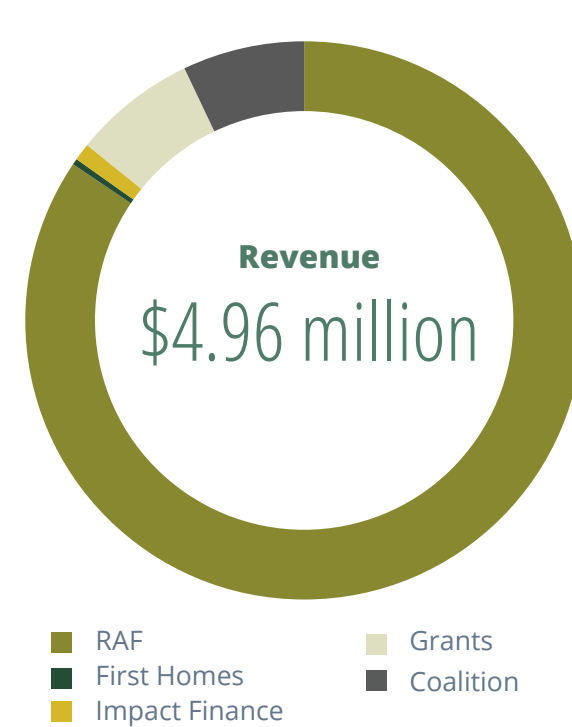
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

 CHAIR Mark Utz	 1ST VICE CHAIR Greg Layton	 2ND VICE CHAIR Don Supalla	 TREASURER Brad Schmidt	 SECRETARY Denise Kelly	 TRUSTEE Tony Benson
 TRUSTEE Lisa Clarke	 TRUSTEE Paul Gorman	 TRUSTEE Mary Ehmke	 TRUSTEE Larry Koshire	 TRUSTEE Walt Ling	 TRUSTEE Kathryn Lombardo
 TRUSTEE Dave Oeth	 TRUSTEE Mike Paradise	 TRUSTEE Steve Spohn	 TRUSTEE Karel Weigel	 EMERITUS Jane Campion	 INCOMING Beth Krehbiel

MEET THE STAFF

 Jennifer Woodford President	 Steve Borchardt Housing Coalition Director	 Tim Burriss Finance Officer	 Jeremy Emmi Community Impact Officer	 Ellen Hegge Philanthropy Officer	 Shirley Lee First Homes Officer
 Carrie Moscho Communications Officer	 Amanda Pelley Administrative Services Manager	 Justin Voss First Homes Program Manager			

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



2019

Revenue	
Contributions - RAF	\$4,186,564
Contributions - First Homes	\$17,315
Contributions - Impact Finance	\$50,000
Grants to RAF Entities	\$353,297
Coalition for Rochester Area Housing Contributions	\$350,102
Total	\$4,957,278

Operating Expenses	
Rochester Area Foundation	\$813,325
First Homes	\$380,230
Impact Finance	\$33,529
Coalition for Rochester Area Housing	\$67,274
Program Expenses	
Grants	\$2,612,649
Coalition for Rochester Area Housing Projects	\$530,755
Total	\$4,437,762



“ IF WE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE ROCHESTER AREA FOUNDATION, WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO BECAUSE THE WORK AND RELATIONSHIPS ARE SO REWARDING. ”

PHIL AND KATHY LOMBARDO

PHIL AND KATHY LOMBARDO ARE FOCUSED ON SERVING THEIR COMMUNITY

Phil and Kathy Lombardo had great role models when it came to philanthropy and being good community citizens.

“We both grew up watching our parents and grandparents work hard and place an emphasis on community service and giving back,” Kathy explained. “We’ve made a concerted effort to continue that legacy both in our mission-driven professional work, and in how we chose to invest in the well-being of our community.”

Kathy and Phil are both recently retired - Kathy from a career as a physician and most recently President of Olmsted Medical Center, and Phil from a career at Mayo Clinic.

“Our children are just starting their families. We’re excited to spend more time with them and our new grandchild,” Phil says. “But we’re also committed to continuing to serve this community that has been so good to us.”

In fact, in addition to having a donor advised fund at Rochester Area Foundation, Kathy recently took on the role of a Vice Chair on Rochester

Area Foundation’s executive committee of the Board of Trustees.

“We’ve become better informed about community needs and the various nonprofits since starting our fund, and the Foundation has allowed us to become better connected to other like-minded philanthropists in the community,” Kathy says.

Phil added, “Our donor advised fund also helped us to simplify and focus our charitable giving. We’re actively planning and looking for where our investment can have the most impact--where gifts can really make a difference.”

Kathy and Phil are hopeful about the future of the Rochester area, “We are constantly so impressed at the generosity and level of energy that people in Rochester exhibit,” Phil says.

Kathy added, “We and others get asked to do a lot -- but I love serving. If I can contribute to the community through organizations like Rochester Area Foundation, I will continue to do so because the work and relationships are so rewarding.”

CHARITABLE FUNDS HELD AT ROCHESTER AREA FOUNDATION

NONPROFIT ENDOWMENTS

Adapta
 Aldrich Memorial Nursery School
 Arc Southeastern Minnesota
 Bear Creek Services
 Boys & Girls Club of Rochester, MN Scholarship
 Byron School District
 Camp Olson YMCA
 Chatfield Public School
 Chatfield Public School - Geiger
 Choral Arts Ensemble
 Chosen Valley Community Foundation - Chatfield Lutheran Church
 Chosen Valley Community Foundation
 Civic League Day Nursery
 Deana Anderson Memorial Scholarship
 Dodge Center Foundation
 Dorothy Day Hospitality House
 Family Promise
 Family Service Rochester - Van Laningham Development
 Friends of Quarry Hill
 Greater Lake City Community Foundation
 Greater Rochester Advocates for Universities and Colleges Workforce Innovators
 History Center of Olmsted County
 James Perkins
 LGR 2006 Miracle Field
 Lourdes Development

Madonna Living Communities
 NAMI Mental Health Matters
 The Reading Center
 RNeighbors Rochester Tree
 Rochester Art Center
 Rochester Civic Music
 Rochester Music Guild - Douglas
 Rochester Music Guild - Dr. Howard and Peggy Andersen
 Rochester Music Guild - Duffy
 Rochester Music Guild - Georgia Daniel
 Rochester Music Guild - Gloria Swanson Senior Winds
 Rochester Music Guild - John Hamilton Edmonson Sr. Voice
 Rochester Music Guild - Karsell Family Junior Winds
 Rochester Music Guild - Spackman Family
 Rochester Music Guild - Suddendorf
 Rochester Music Guild
 Rochester Public School Foundation - Geitzenauer
 Rochester Public School Foundation - Joel E. Luhman Memorial
 Rochester Public School Foundation - Michael Ladin Memorial
 Rochester Public Schools Fund - Goodyear
 Ronald McDonald House
 Rotary Club of Rochester Foundation, Inc.
 Seasons Hospice Endowment for Patient Care Fund
 Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras

St. Luke's Church
 Stewartville Area Community Foundation
 Synergy & Leadership Exchange
 United Way of Olmsted County
 Zumbro Valley Medical Society Foundation

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

Adamson Motors
 William and Caroline Adamson
 Craig and Linda Allen
 George L. and Dorothy H. Allen
 Amadio Family Fund for the Arts
 Neil P. Anderson
 Arc Southeastern Minnesota
 Sarah J. Armstrong
 Mark and Lucy Bahn
 John and Lois Bakke
 Andrea J. Beck
 Lynn Behnke
 Allison and Aaron Benike
 John and Cindy Benike
 Jim Bier and Rita Till
 Art and Maryann Birdseye
 Brandhagen
 Richard and Nancy Brubaker
 Dennis Busche
 Byron School District Impact Fund
 Cain Family
 Dr. Martin and Mary Campion
 Chosen Valley Community Foundation
 Ed and Mary Clark

James D. Clausen
 Dr. Judith and Judge Lawrence Collins
 Curley Family
 Davidson Family
 Dan Davidson
 Daphna Davidson
 Sidney and Iris Davidson
 Tal Davidson
 Donald and Barbara De Cramer
 Al and Ann DeBoer
 Marlene Delfs
 Patrick and Teri Deutsch
 Dodge Center Foundation
 Dodge Center Foundation - Jessica Marie Arnold
 Dodge Center Foundation - Triton Foundation
 Dodge Center Foundation - Veteran's Memorial Fund
 Michael and Nancy Domaille
 Ron and Marsha Durst
 Terri and Brooks Edwards
 Rachel Ehmke Memorial Foundation
 Eudaimonia
 Richard and Ingeborg Emslander
 Family Service Rochester
 Ron and Linda Fess
 Cristine Fischer
 Timothy Fischer
 Patricia and William Fitzgerald
 Barbara A. Flasch
 David B. and Barbara Frogner
 Gamehaven Council - Boy Scouts of America
 T. Emil and Dorothy Gauthier
 Halcon Furniture
 Chuck Handlon Century Scholarship
 Ashley Marie Hanson Memorial
 Hartzell Family
 Mary F. Hauser

Gary and Nancy Hayden Family Foundation
 George and Carolyn Heyne
 Hindermann Family
 Roy L. Hoffman
 David and Virginia Holmes
 Holy Anargyroi Greek Orthodox
 Home Federal Savings Bank
 Scott Hosier Memorial
 Tom Hosier Memorial
 Ironwood Springs Legacy
 David and Della Jenkins
 Janet and Larry Johnson
 Jeffrey E. Johnson
 Leigh J. and Judy Johnson
 Patricia Judd
 Neal and Cynthia Karels
 Karsell Family
 Dan and Mary Jo Kelly
 Kelzer Family
 Cheryl McGrath Key
 John and Dottie Klopp
 KM Telecom
 Knights of Columbus Council 1013
 Janet & Joe Knobbe Family Memorial
 Allen and Anne Koenig
 M.P. Krieger
 Lou and Jeanne Kuhlmann
 Lyle and Nancy Kuhlmann
 John Kyle
 Lasker Jewelers Community
 Greg and Donna Layton
 Locke Family
 Kathryn and Phillip Lombardo
 Ross and Margaret Mattke
 Mayo Clinic
 McGuire Family
 Eric McNamara Live Love Laugh Foundation
 Thomas and Patricia Miller
 Mindset Foundation
 Audrey M. Nelson M.D.

Beverly Nelson Arts Education
 Beth Marie Nienow
 Nuss Family/Nuss Truck & Equipment
 William and Heidi Oehler
 Oeth Family
 Richard Orvold and Marita Heller
 Palmer Family
 Merle Peterson
 Lucille R. Phillips
 Irvin P. and Maureen Plitzuweit
 Post Family
 Joe Powers
 Donald and Barbara Prow
 Purrington Family
 The Rea Family
 Rochester Music Guild
 Rochester Public Library Foundation
 Rochester Rotary Club
 Jill and Chris Rock
 ROCLEMA
 Dick and Joanne Rosener
 RT Autism Awareness Foundation
 Ryan Windows & Siding, Inc.
 Forrest and Faye Sargent
 Lisa J. Schlesinger
 Robert Schoenfelder
 Victor Scott Trust
 Seasons Hospice
 Ronald and Theresa Seeger
 Dennis and Rita Semerad
 Wendy and Larry Shannon
 Patrick and Karen Sheedy
 James and Jeanne Sheehan
 Slightam Family Foundation
 Jim and Judy Sloan
 Hugh and Aynsley Smith
 Sperling Family Foundation
 David and Sara Stenhaus
 Stewartville Community Foundation
 P & K Streit Gratitude

James and Joyce Talen
 James and Patricia Talen
 Mark and Sheryl Tasler
 Thompson/Kirkland
 Wayne L. Trahms
 Alan O. and Sharon Tuntland
 Urban Oasis
 Mark and Julia Utz
 Sharon Van De North and Lee Knight
 Rich and Marian Van Dellen
 Paul and Lucille Vermeersch
 Veterans and Emergency Services Museum of Rochester, MN
 Janet Notheis Volkmar
 Louis and Linda Wagner
 David and Julie Warner
 Natalie Thornton Webb Memorial
 Karel Weigel
 Weis Family
 Wells Fargo Bank
 Wayne and Pam Wesala
 Charles and Barbara Withers
 Ron and Judy Yaggy
 Yanish Family
 Fred and Roxanne Ziecina
 Zubay Family

FIELD OF INTEREST ENDOWMENTS

Affiliated Credit Services Consumer Counseling and Education Fund
 George and Lois Annis Fund
 Be the Bridge Youth Development Fund
 Barbara Brown Fund
 Dr. Virginia Hartridge Fund
 Jenny Mo Fund
 Shirley A. Nelsen Memorial Fund
 Steve Thornton Nonprofit Capacity Building Fund

DONOR DESIGNATED FUNDS

Alan E. Hiley Memorial Hockey Fund
 Steve Bakke Memorial Fund
 Bring Back the Bell Fund
 Kris Brown Memorial Fund
 Bernelda Busian Endowment for Evergreen Cemetery
 Alan Calavano History Center of Olmsted County Library
 Michael John Carryer Memorial Fund
 Christ United Methodist Church
 James L. and Janet Denny Endowment
 Dodge County Historical Society
 Benedict M. and Eloise B. Dresbach
 Pam Frangipane Memorial Fund for the Rochester Area Habitat for Humanity
 Rickee Henoach Memorial Arts
 Iwen Scouting
 Bernice Krug
 Elizabeth LaRoque Memorial
 Mayowood Residence Collection
 Midwest Melanoma Partership
 Harold and Margaret Neece Fund
 Charles Nelsen Memorial Fund for the Dorothy Day Hospitality House
 James W. and Jean A. Newcomer
 Paula Rome Endowment for The Reading Center
 St. Olaf Heritage Association Fund
 Stewartville Area Historical Society
 Mark and Sheryl Tasler Excellence Fund
 Soldiers Field Veterans' Memorial Endowment

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS

Aseda Scholarship
 Aviation Pathways Scholarship
 Blenkush, Dilley, Tvedt, Tyce and Olson Memorial Scholarship
 Dorothy and J. Edwin Brin Scholarship
 Walter and Pauline Castner Scholarship
 Amy Donahoe Memorial Scholarship
 Ron and Marsha Durst Scholarship
 Leona Engel Memorial Scholarship
 Dr. A. O. Hagen - Helen Tews Hagen Scholarship
 Marjorie L. Seeba Holt Scholarship
 John Marshall Class of 1964 Scholarship
 Kasson-Mantorville Scholarship
 Katharine Kilbourne Scholarship
 Kristi L. Lambert Memorial Scholarship
 Rochester Better Chance Scholarship
 Stewartville Anonymous Scholarship
 Stewartville Merit-Based Scholarship
 Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry Scholarship
 Tiger Scholarship

HERITAGE SOCIETY

CREATING A LEGACY

Members of Rochester Area Foundation Heritage Society are individuals who have given, or who have indicated their intent to give, to Rochester Area Foundation upon their passing.

Heritage Society Members

Jeffrey G. Allman
 Neil Anderson
 Lora Anderson
 George and Lois Annis
 Dick and Judy Argue
 John and Lois Bakke
 Robert and Olive Barnhart
 William and Mary Ann Boyne
 Margaret Briese
 Barbara L. Brown
 Philip and Virginia Brown
 Mark T. Bucher
 Bernelda Busian
 Alan Calavano
 Jane K. Champion
 Peter and Carol Carryer
 James and Sue Clausen
 Portia Corbin
 Al and Ann DeBoer
 Janet Denny
 Stephen Dow Mills
 Benedict and Eloise Dresbach
 Dr. Joseph and Lois Duffy

Dr. Richard and Ann Ferguson
 Barbara Flasch
 Martha Frey
 Dorothy and T. Emil Gauthier
 Marjorie Ginn
 Velva A. Gitsch
 Violet Glasby
 Toni A. Hanson
 Oscar and Ella Hanson
 Donald R. Hardy Probate Estate
 Paul and Rebeca Harkess
 Linda Harwick Estate
 Gary and Nancy Hayden
 Wallace and Margaret Herrell
 Marianne Hockema
 Roy L. Hoffman
 John and Rita Hunt
 Lois A. Jorstad
 Dan and Mary Jo Kelly
 Emily J. Kennedy
 Dag Knudsen and Deirdre Flesche
 Lyle and Nancy Kuhlmann
 Dr. Donald and Phyllis Layton
 Jon and Sue Losness
 Violet Lucius
 Kenneth and Louella McGhie
 Dr. Wallace A. Merritt
 Harold and Shirley Miller
 Thomas and Patricia Miller
 Dr. Mary E. Mussey
 Dr. Audrey M. Nelson
 James and Jean Newcomer
 David and Gwen Oeth

Richard Orvold and Marita Heller
 Virginia Payne Charitable Trust
 Daisy B. Plummer
 Joe Powers
 Bruce and Sara Qualey
 Richard and JoAnne Rosener
 Christine Sadowski
 Al and Julie Schafer
 Robert Schoenfelder
 Larry and Wendy Shannon
 Jim and Judy Sloan
 Drs. Hugh and Aynsley Smith
 Marguerite Smith
 William and Luella Stensrud
 Otto Sundvoll
 James and Patricia Talen
 James and Joyce Talen
 Steve and Nancy Thornton
 Leslie and Crystal Thornton
 Al and Sharon Tuntland
 Dr. Gertrude M. Tyce
 Mark and Julia Utz
 Glenn and Ella Van Laningham
 Amy L. Waugh
 Karel M. Weigel
 Joseph and Darlene Weis
 Joyce M. Wenz
 John and Nedra Wicks
 Jennifer and Eric Woodford
 Ronald and Dianne Yanish

SCHOLARSHIP SERVES TO GIVE THANKS AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES

The Aseda Scholarship, established at Rochester Area Foundation by Drs. Rosebud and Lewis Roberts, was named after the word for “Thanksgiving” in the language of their native Ghana.

The unique scholarship is available to African-American students in high school or college from Olmsted County with an interest in careers in science, medicine, math, and engineering. Rosebud and Lewis created the scholarship to honor their parents. Rosebud explained, “Our parents made major sacrifices to give us the best education possible and placed a lot of importance on our future.”

Rosebud and Lewis both have enjoyed long and distinguished careers at Mayo Clinic but stress that, “We’ve had so many people help us in ways we never would have imagined. We wanted to create this scholarship as a way to give back after being so blessed by others in our journey.”

The Roberts had been considering establishing a scholarship for a long time, but were unsure of the best mechanism to administer a scholarship that wasn’t tied to a specific university

or high school, “Rochester Area Foundation’s scholarship program was a perfect fit for what we hoped to accomplish.”

In addition to providing a scholarship award to offset the cost of tuition, the Roberts want to put their expertise and connections to work for students. “We’re both scientists--that’s what we know and we believe we can help others walk that path. We want to act as mentors and support for the students who receive our scholarship.”

The Aseda Scholarship will be one of 19 scholarships managed by Rochester Area Foundation in the 2020 scholarship cycle. In 2019, over \$55,000 was awarded to area students attending higher education institutions across the country.







Rosebud and Lewis hope that by getting to know the student scholarship winners, they are participating in a long chain of generosity. “We started this scholarship to honor our parents, but our hope is that the students will continue to pay it forward and support others.”



“ WE STARTED THIS SCHOLARSHIP TO HONOR OUR PARENTS, BUT OUR HOPE IS THAT THE STUDENTS WILL CONTINUE TO PAY IT FORWARD AND SUPPORT OTHERS. ”

ROSEBUD AND LEWIS ROBERTS

GRANTS BY IMPACT AREA

Youth & Education  \$697,073 289 grants	Health & Human Services  \$589,021 309 grants	Community Development  \$612,632 74 grants
Religious  \$420,715 146 grants	Arts & Culture  \$214,461 86 grants	Environment & Animal Welfare  \$78,746 72 grants

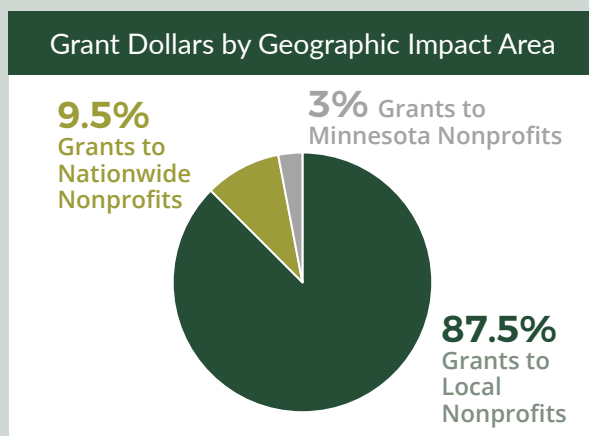
BETTER COMMUNITIES GRANTS

Rochester Area Foundation's Better Communities Grants advance initiatives that impact lives and our communities in the long term. Better Communities Grants include funds from the Better

Communities Fund, Field of Interest Funds, and are often supported by Donor Advised Funds. Rochester Area Foundation awarded \$253,250 in grants to 37 area nonprofits in 2019.

Grant Totals

\$2,612,649 | 976 grants



Organizations Receiving Grants

372
Nonprofit Organizations Benefited from Funds Held at RAF

SPRING GRANTS

APEX Recovery High School and Rochester		Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project	\$3,250
Alternative Learning Center	\$7,000	Legal Assistance of Olmsted County	\$9,500
Bolder Options	\$3,000	Next Chapter Ministries	\$7,750
Camp Victory Ministries	\$2,050	Page Education Foundation	\$4,750
Channel One Regional Food Bank	\$6,250	Rochester Area YMCA	\$11,500
Community Health Service	\$6,000	Rochester Math Club	\$6,000
Elder Network	\$6,000	Rochester Salvation Army	\$4,000
Family Service Rochester	\$3,500	Semcac	\$3,500
Friends of Whitewater State Park	\$2,750	Somalia Rebuild Organization	\$5,250
Heart of Dance	\$7,200	The Diversity Council	\$8,000

FALL GRANTS

180 Degrees	\$3,000	Family Service Rochester	\$6,000
Apple Tree Dental	\$7,300	FamilyMeans	\$8,500
Can Do Canines	\$10,000	Jeremiah Program Rochester	\$20,000
Children's Dental Health Services	\$8,000	Listos Preschool and Childcare	\$10,000
Commonweal Theatre Company	\$3,000	Minnesota Council of Nonprofits	\$4,100
Community Interfaith Dialogue on Islam	\$8,500	NAMI Southeast Minnesota	\$15,750
Eagle Bluff Environmental	\$9,050	ROCKchester	\$5,000
Learning Center		ServeMinnesota	\$6,500
Exercisabilities, Inc.	\$7,800	Sports Mentorship Academy	\$6,000
		Zumbro Ridge Estates	\$7,500

GRANT RECIPIENT: CAN DO CANINES

Can Do Canines' Prison Puppy Raising Program at the Federal Medical Center



"Prison will harden a person," said Edward, who is currently held at the Federal Medical Center in Rochester. "But nothing is softer than the fur on a Labrador puppy."

Can Do Canines recently launched its seventh Prison Puppy Raising Program at the Federal Medical Center - Rochester. This innovative program benefits Can Do Canines, the volunteer inmates who become puppy handlers, and the clients who eventually are placed with assistance dogs.

A grant from Rochester Area Foundation, awarded in 2019, will support Can Do Canines in helping individuals living with a disability lead more independent lives through the use of specially trained assistance dogs.

Can Do Canines' goal is to raise the puppies in a safe and loving environment in order to prepare them for further training and fostering to become an assistance dog for clients with disabilities. Can Do Canines staff works in partnership with the inmates, meeting with them every other week to provide skills training and solve any training challenges.



Although it is costly to raise an assistance dog and it requires up to two years, the payoff is well worth it as Can Do Canines' clients are able to enroll in school, reduce the hours of a personal care attendant, and find employment or increase work hours. For the inmates, they learn a new skill that may be used once their sentence is completed and they have restored some hope and purpose to their lives.

One inmate recently elaborated on how his puppy training experience changed him. "Before, it was always about me, and I was only worried about myself. Now, there's a dog. There's a lot of work involved and lots of responsibility, but I also feel so proud. When he learns something new I just want to jackpot him all the treats I have."

"I've realized that before I always had to have something to say. Now I tell myself to talk less and listen more... I've learned interpersonal skills. When I came into the program I thought about what I can teach the dog, but it's really about what I'm getting out of the program. The dogs have taught me more than I have ever taught any dog."

AVIATION PATHWAYS SCHOLARSHIP TAKES FLIGHT FOR AREA STUDENTS



Rochester is lucky to have a robust aviation industry. The commercial and general aviation air traffic are economic drivers for area communities, and provide high-paying jobs.

And yet, the aviation industry is facing “massive shortages” of pilots, mechanics, and aviation support professionals, according to Nick Fancher, President of Great Planes Aviation.

This need was the impetus for bringing a cross-section of aviation industry professionals together to form the nonprofit Aviation Pathways.

Aviation Pathways President Dave Nelson said, “We really wanted to support the aviation ecosystem and do

something positive for the community. We decided to focus on supporting young people looking to break into aviation as a career path.”

Rochester Community and Technical College partners with Great Planes Aviation to provide the hands-on portion of the Aviation Pilot Associate’s Degree program. While the program is popular, Dave Nelson admits, “It’s an expensive program, and a challenging industry for young people to break into.”

To offset some of those costs, Aviation Pathways began fundraising for scholarships specifically for students going into the program or pursuing other aviation-related careers.

“We had a lot of aviation expertise, but we didn’t know the ins and outs of nonprofits or scholarship management,” said Nick. “The expertise and local focus of Rochester Area Foundation made it a no-brainer for us when looking for a partner to administer the scholarship funds.”

Dave added, “We’ve had great support from the local aviation community, and we’re working to expand our exposure to the general public.”

In 2019, Aviation Pathways worked with Rochester Area Foundation to award the first class of scholarships--two for students pursuing a career in aviation, and two specifically for female pilots in the RCTC Aviation program.

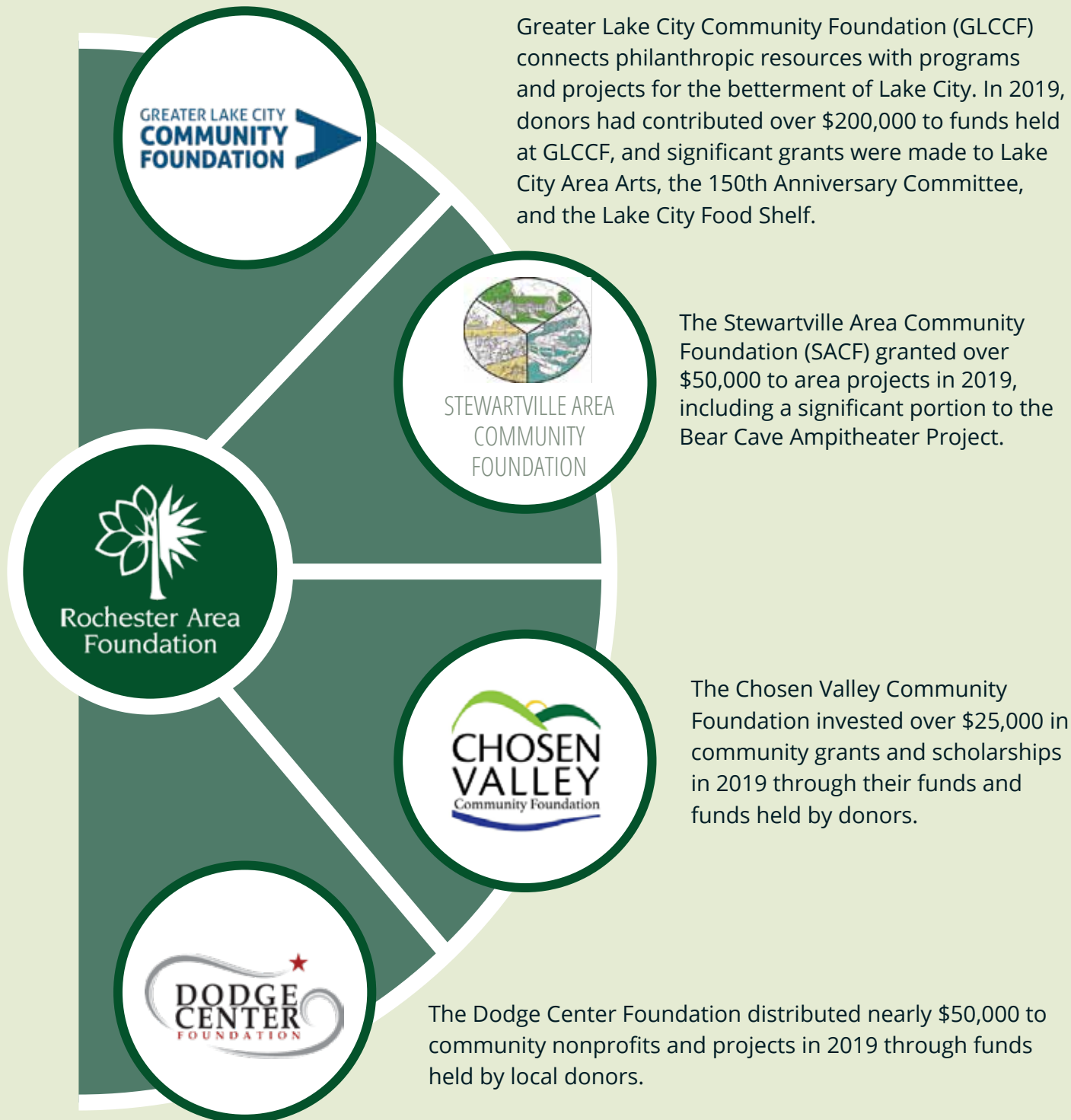
“Everyone has to start somewhere,” said Nick. “It’s so fulfilling to see the passion of these young people and then be there to witness their first time in a plane, or their first solo flight.”

Everyone involved stressed that the success of Aviation Pathways would not be possible without strong collaboration from many industry partners, as well as Rochester Area Foundation.

“Our focus--long before we honed in on raising money for scholarships--was to bring people from across the industry and community together to support something that’s absolutely necessary for the success of our community,” said Dave.

GEOGRAPHIC AFFILIATE FOUNDATIONS

Rochester Area Foundation partners with a number of smaller community foundations to steward their philanthropic investments and offer additional giving options. Our affiliate foundations do great work and have tremendous impact in their communities.



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION: MENTAL HEALTH MIND MATTERS EXHIBIT



In the last decade, the conversation around mental health has increased as depression and anxiety has risen among youth across the nation. Mental illness persists in Olmsted County with 29% of adults reporting mental health issues and 8% of adolescents having clinical diagnosed depression, according to the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment.

Recognizing the need to break down the stigma surrounding mental illness, community partners including Rochester Area Foundation, worked together to bring the Mind Matters exhibit that was hosted at the Rochester Art Center. Through a collaborative process, over twenty-five community partners contributed to make the Mind Matters experience not just an exhibit, but a community dialogue around understanding and empathy for all ages and backgrounds.



100% of survey respondents **AFFIRMED** that Mind Matters' goal of "building empathy and understanding for persons impacted by mental illness" was met.

*Thank you to the following fund holders who joined us in supporting this important exhibit:
David & Ginger Holmes, Judy & Jim Sloan, Sharon Van De North & Lee Knight, Philip & Katherine Karsell*

FIRST HOMES CONTINUES TO SERVE ROCHESTER AREA WITH AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOLUTIONS



200+ Community Land Trust Homes Continue to Serve Families

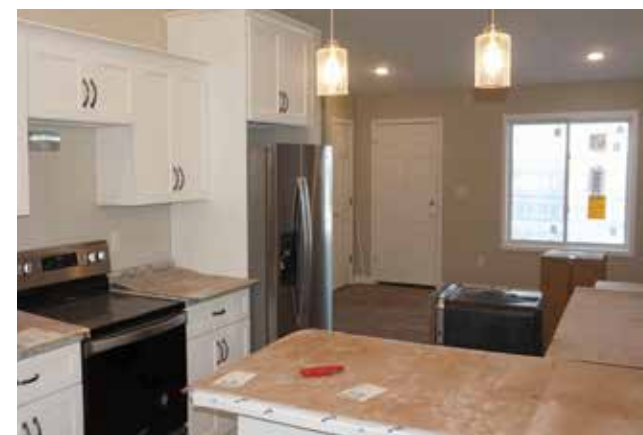
The First Homes Community Land Trust (CLT) creates long-term affordable housing. CLT homeowners purchase their homes with conventional mortgages while First Homes retains ownership of the lot beneath the home. Homeowners pay a monthly ground lease fee to First Homes, and enjoy the security, control, tax advantages and ability to build equity just like any homeowner. If they sell their home, the resale formula insures that the home remains affordable for the next family. First Homes is actively working to increase affordable homeownership opportunities in the Rochester area through the CLT.



12 New Townhomes Being Built at Villas by Valley Side

Construction of 12 new townhomes with varied floorplans began in 2019. These townhomes will all be added to the First Homes Community Land Trust, ensuring that they will remain affordable in perpetuity. First Homes could not have made this project a reality without generous community partners.

Minnesota Housing awarded First Homes a grant of nearly 1.75 million dollars to support this project. Greater Minnesota Housing Finance Agency also made a grant to offer gap loan downpayment assistance to buyers. Home Federal Savings Bank, F&M Community Bank, and First Alliance Credit Union are working together to collaboratively finance the construction loans for these projects.



New Construction Homes to Remain Affordable in Perpetuity

Building new construction homes that are affordable is becoming increasingly difficult. However, with grant funds and strong community partners, First Homes was able to begin construction on two single family homes in Rochester that will serve families with low to moderate incomes.

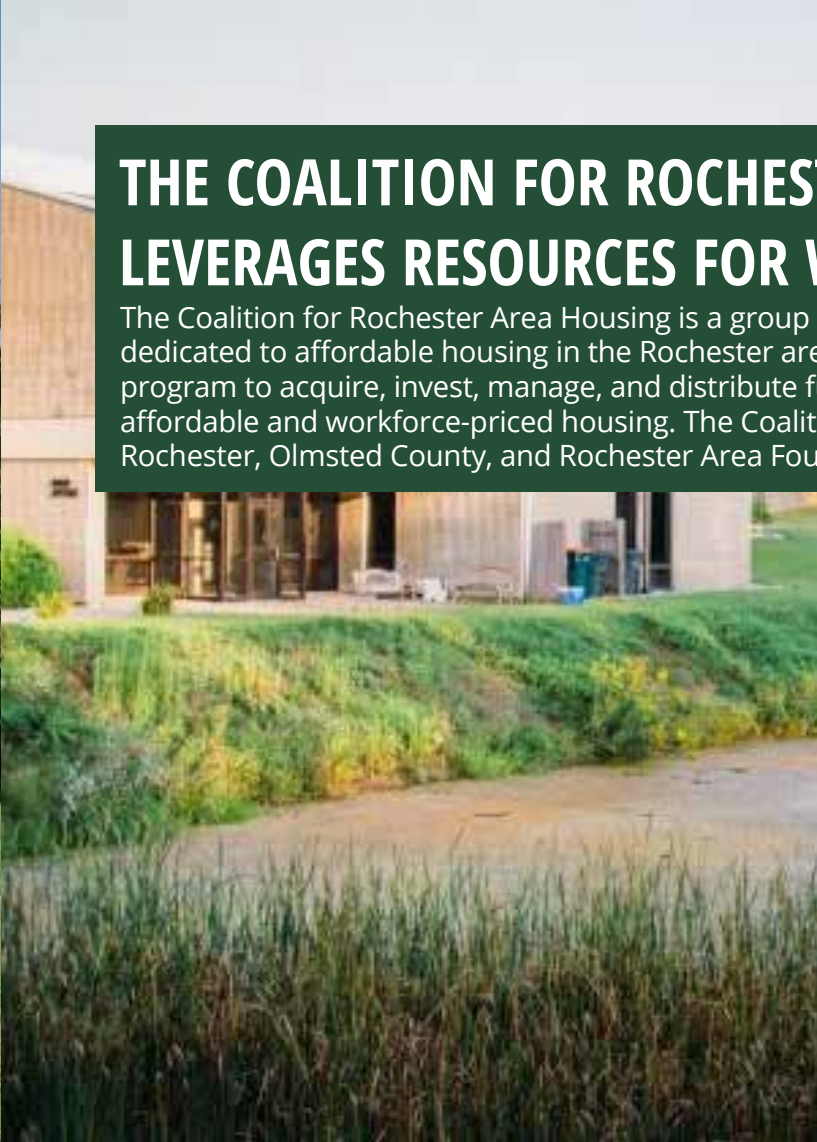
One house in Northeast Rochester is being built by Maplewood Homes, and was designed by CRW Architecture. The lot was acquired through Olmsted County's tax forfeiture process. The other home, in Northwest Rochester, is being built by Dewitz Homebuilders.



Gap Loans Offer Down Payment Assistance and the Dream of Homeownership

First Homes, in partnership with Impact Finance, offers homebuyers financial assistance to reduce monthly mortgage payments.

Loans up to \$10,000 may be available to buyers, if funding is available, and their lender determines it is needed in order to reduce the buyer's first mortgage and/or pay for closing costs. In 2019, twenty-one families received gap loans or down payment assistance to make their homebuying dreams a reality.



THE COALITION FOR ROCHESTER AREA HOUSING LEVERAGES RESOURCES FOR WORKFORCE PRICED HOMES

The Coalition for Rochester Area Housing is a group of public and private sector organizations dedicated to affordable housing in the Rochester area. The Coalition leads a collaborative community program to acquire, invest, manage, and distribute funds and resources to create and preserve affordable and workforce-priced housing. The Coalition's founding partners are Mayo Clinic, the City of Rochester, Olmsted County, and Rochester Area Foundation.

COALITION INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Supportive Housing Helps Jeremiah Program End Cycle of Poverty

Coalition Investment: Loan - \$320,000
City: Tax Increment Financing - \$660,000
County: 20 Housing Choice Vouchers

Jeremiah Program prepares determined single mothers to excel in the workforce, readies their children to succeed in school, and reduces generational dependence on public assistance. This award will support the 40 housing units at the new Rochester campus.

Zumbro Ridge Estates Empowers Residents to Build Community

Coalition Investment: Loan - \$340,000

Zumbro Ridge Estates is a manufactured home community where residents have formed a nonprofit organization and assumed ownership of the park. They are working to rehabilitate the infrastructure, add community resources, and fill out empty and unrented lots. This Coalition loan will purchase, install and offer for sale five manufactured homes at a time until thirty empty lots have been filled.

Crossroads Campus Demonstrates Creative Problem-Solving

Coalition Investment:
Forgivable Loan - \$354,000

Bear Creek Church is a non-denominational Christian Church that has purchased the former Crossroads College campus in Southwest Rochester and is working to restore 43 apartments on the campus as new affordable housing units.

Center City Housing Offers Supportive Housing in Rochester

Coalition Investment:
Deferred Loan - \$210,000

Center City Housing is an affordable housing developer, owner and manager focused on providing quality supportive housing to those who need it most. Mayowood Apartments will provide supportive housing services in a facility with forty-four apartments.

WE CELEBRATED OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY ALL YEAR LONG!



To celebrate 75 years of Rochester Area Foundation's impact on our communities, we gave special community choice grants in 2019! We highlighted a different aspect of "better communities" each month. Five nonprofits representing each month's theme were selected to receive a grant, and YOU voted on which one received the \$1,500 lead grant!



To formally celebrate, Rochester Area Foundation held a Legacy Luncheon. Our program highlighted how we have partnered with you to positively impact individual nonprofit organizations and our community.

It was a truly wonderful day of honoring the legacy of philanthropy Rochester Area Foundation inspires, and we are thankful so many of our partners were able to attend and celebrate with us. Thank you for 75 years of building better communities for all.

GINGER ROBERTS CARSON APPRECIATES THE ADVANTAGES OF DONOR ADVISED FUNDS



Ginger Roberts Carson, a local wealth advisor, doesn't just advise her philanthropic clients to consider opening donor advised funds, she also has one herself at Rochester Area Foundation.

"After the tax law changes took effect in 2018, the tax advantages made opening a donor advised fund a good fit for me," Ginger said. "And because I believe in keeping that investment local, I chose to open my fund at Rochester Area Foundation."

There are a number of organizations that Ginger plans to support with her donor advised fund, but she is especially

passionate about Project Legacy, Seasons Hospice, and Jeremiah Program.

"I appreciate that I can be flexible with the grants from my donor advised fund to support a variety of organizations with timing that makes sense to me."

Ginger is also using her fund as an educational tool for her two young-adult children and named them as co-advisors on the fund.

"By using our donor advised fund as a tool for multi-generational giving, I hope to teach them to be good stewards of resources and be involved in philanthropic efforts of their community."

As a wealth advisor, Ginger appreciates the tax-efficiency of donor advised funds, but she also recognizes that the benefits go beyond ease-of-recordkeeping and financial benefits.

"For both myself and my philanthropic clients, being engaged with Rochester Area Foundation and participating in events is especially helpful. I've learned a lot about different nonprofits and the issues affecting our community, which has made me more dedicated to impactful giving."



weGive365 is a dollar-a-day giving circle that lets members pool their money and make a positive impact on our community through grants to nonprofits and community engagement.

Formed in 2013, weGive365 was created by a group of community leaders and Rochester Area Foundation to encourage philanthropy in a new group of donors. In addition to the grant pool, weGive365 is growing its endowment to provide more grants in perpetuity.



Students Present at the Gateway Science Fair

In 2019, weGive365 members awarded grants to:

- GATEway Rochester to support the administration of their 2020 GATEway Science Fair for RPS students in grades 3-6
- Hiawatha Homes Foundation to support their pet therapy program
- Jeremiah Program Rochester-Southeast MN to help fund their Personal Empowerment and Life Skills Training that equips moms with the tools they need to become stronger role models for their children
- Samaritan Bethany Foundation to support their Cycling Without Age program that pairs residents with volunteer "pilots" to take rides on a motor-assisted bicycle trishaws



A Samaritan Bethany Resident Enjoys a Ride on the Trishaw

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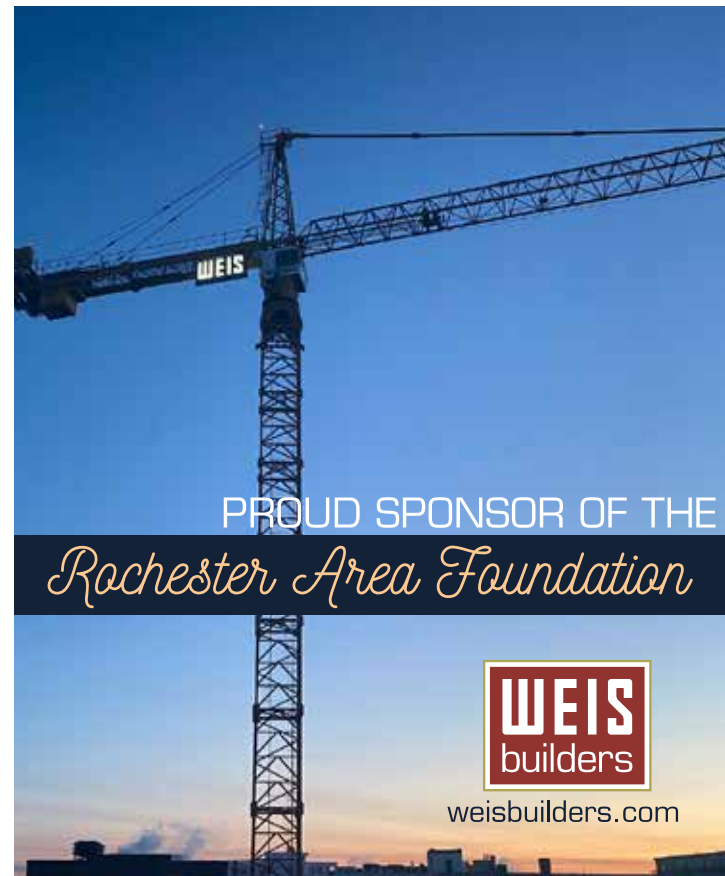
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Carson Bushman & Associates

Ginger R. Carson
Wealth Management Advisor

Jayne M. Bushman
Wealth Management Advisor

Anthony J. Bushman
Financial Advisor

Merrill Lynch
4041 28th Street NW
Suite 100
Rochester, MN 55901
507.281.6710
fa.ml.com/carson_bushman



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It is our honor to recognize those men and women who have provided exemplary leadership to Rochester Area Foundation over its 75 year history.

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 12 Elton Hills Dr NW Rochester, Minnesota 55901

 507-282-0203

 giving@rochesterarea.org

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