## The Fond du Lac Area Foundation

# 2013-2014 Report To The Community



#### Message from the Chairman and Executive Director

Wouldn't it be great if there were an organization that existed to allow people to give back to their own community? Wouldn't it be great if there were an organization that existed to support the needs in their own community? Wouldn't it be even better if there were an organization that existed to allow donors to make a long-term investment in their community? Guess what? There is just such an organization: the Fond du Lac Area Foundation.

The Fond du Lac Area Foundation has a vision to enhance the quality of life in the Fond du Lac Area. It was established many years ago in 1975 by members of this community that wanted to give back...to create their own legacies for this community. These forward-thinking people wanted to establish an organization that would be in place with

the single focus of creating a better and stronger community. Since 1975, your friends and neighbors have quietly established more than 295 funds to benefit many areas in this community. Funds have been established to support music departments of schools, churches, the lonely elderly, flowers in Lakeside Park and most recently, Lakeside Park in general, the Galloway House and Village, the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, United Way, youth projects, educational scholarships, just to name a few. The Foundation's capacity for doing good in the community has increased dramatically from that first year. Then, only a single grant - of \$350 to support the United Way - was awarded. Contrast that to 2013, when awards of more than \$850,000 were made from the Foundation's endowment funds, all going to enhance the quality of life in our community

We challenge you to think about what you would like to do to make your community a better place. What do you care about? What would you like your legacy to be? At the time you leave this earth...won't you want to know that your life did make a difference and that you left the world a better place? Contact the Fond du Lac Area Foundation to learn more. Let the Fond du Lac Area Foundation help you to create your own lasting legacy for this community. Be part of an organization with a 39-year tradition of community investment in the Fond du Lac area!





Thomas A. Herre Sandi Roehrig
Board Chairman Executive Director

#### What We Do

The Fond du Lac Area Foundation is a nonprofit, public charity serving the residents of the Fond du Lac area. With over \$29 million in assets, the Foundation provides grants and scholarships across the Fond du Lac area. As a philanthropic leader, the Foundation is widely recognized for its convening and collaboration on building initiatives that address many of our area's most important quality of life issues. The mission of the Foundation is "Creating a better community by promoting philanthropy, awarding effective grants, and proving leadership on important community issues....today & forever."

The Fond du Lac Area Foundation currently has over 300 charitable funds. All these funds have been started by people, families, or businesses that had a charitable dream or objective that the Foundation was able to help them accomplish. Some have chosen to 'give while they live' and start the fund now. Others have chosen to remember the Fond du Lac Area Foundation in their will or estate plan. Both of these options also provide many tax benefits that go along with the charitable designation. However you choose to create your fund, the power of endowment is a very powerful tool that has

helped the Fond du Lac Area Foundation support our community now and forever.

Are these funds difficult to start? Not at all. Establishing a fund is easy. Foundation personnel can meet with you to learn about your charitable intentions. Foundation personnel will explain the kind of funds that can be established and the variety of ways to give. Endowments are permanent funds in which the principal is preserved and invested, and a percentage of the earnings are then distributed to support charitable works in perpetuity. Just as Albert Einstein once called compounded interest "the most powerful force in the universe," endowments carry an inherent power to provide for



**Grant for Taylor Park Pool** 



community needs through continued growth. Over time, the distributions exceed the original gift, while the fund balance continues to grow.

Some organizations thrive on one-time gifts. However, the Fond du Lac Area Foundation focuses on endowed gifts. These gifts don't just provide support for one or two years, but for many lifetimes. These gifts will grow and continue to enhance and support your community for generations. Think about how you want to be remembered. Think about what mark you want to leave on your community. It is also a great way to honor or memorialize a spouse, a parent, a loved one, or a friend. These funds will allow their name to live on forever.

**Grant for Park Flowers** 

An endowment fund can support the charity or charities you currently give to, it can also support a field of interest (Youth, poor and needy, arts, elderly. scholarship, etc), or you can create a fund that is unrestricted. Unrestricted Funds are granted at the discretion of the Fond du Lac Area Foundation's Board of Directors who determine where the most needs are in the community. These funds offer great flexibility in meeting existing and future needs in the community.



**Grant To Very Special Arts** 

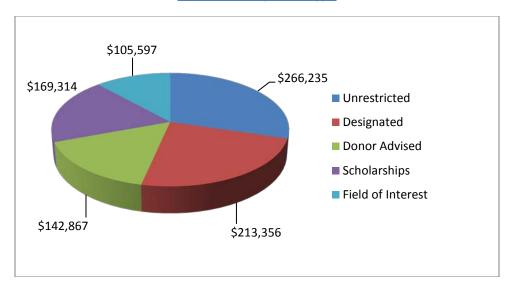


### **Building A Strong Community**

## **Grant Support**

Since the Fond du Lac Area Foundation was formed it has now invested more than \$13 Million back into the community in the form of grants. These grants have helped to make our community a better place to live, work and grow. These grants address needs ranging from Social Services, Health, the Arts, the Environment, Education, Leadership, other non-profit organizations, and various emerging needs that have come up over time. In 2013, the Foundation awarded grants to more than 50 organizations for more \$895,000.

#### **2013 Grants By Fund Type**



### **Leave A Legacy**

What's your passion? From churches, neighborhood and educational organizations to children's health, animal welfare, fine arts, and the environment, there is no shortage of causes to support in our community. Making a legacy gift is an opportunity to reflect on your values and passions. Perhaps there is a cause you have felt strongly about through the years, or a local organization that has helped you or a loved one in a time of need. Whatever your inspiration for giving, your legacy gift is an enduring testament to the causes you hold dear.

The Fond du Lac Area Foundation would like you to join the ranks of Fond du Lac area's most generous and forward-thinking residents as a member of the Legacy Society of the Fond du Lac Area Foundation. Members of the Legacy Society have one thing in common: all have made a commitment to support the future of their community through a planned gift to the Fond du Lac Area Foundation. They have other things in common as well. They have worked hard, saved wisely and invested well. They understand the power of endowment. And they know that the assets they leave to the community will continue to grow, supporting good works for generations to come.

You can become a member of the Legacy Society whether you are a current donor to the Fond du Lac Area Foundation or if you are new to us. Those who plan to remember the Foundation through a will, trust, designation, beneficiary of a life insurance policy or IRA, or other planned gift are invited to join our Legacy Society. Too often, these gifts are unrecognized because they come at the end of donors' lives. The Legacy Society provides a way to recognize and thank donors during their lifetimes and allow them to meet others who have done the same.

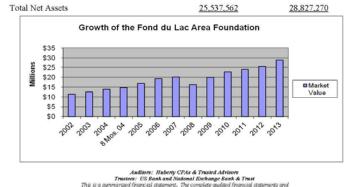
The Fond du Lac Area Foundation is dedicated to helping people just like you achieve your charitable dreams. Your planned gift will allow you to help your community, support your favorite causes and allow your family name to live on forever. Contact us to find out how to create your own lasting legacy.

The Fond du Lac Area Foundation is pleased to announce the addition of two new funds that will benefit Lakeside Park and the beautiful flowers in our city parks. The Lakeside Park Charitable Fund was established by Fond du Lac Festivals, Inc (FFI) to provide enhancements to Lakeside Park above that which would normally be supported by tax dollars. "The Fond du Lac Area Foundation applauds Fond du Lac Festivals for establishing this new fund. Lakeside Park is one of this community's treasures. The establishment of this fund is truly a gift to the residents of the Fond du Lac area. Who hasn't spent wonderful days walking along the shoreline or having a picnic in Lakeside Park," said Sandi Roehrig, Executive Director of the Fond du Lac Area Foundation.

The Fond du Lac City Parks Flower Fund was established as a component fund by Fond du Lac County Master Gardener Association for the purpose of providing support to the City of Fond du Lac Flower program and flowerbed improvements. The money will be used solely for the City of Fond du Lac Parks flower program to purchase grow and maintain the flowers and flowerbeds. The money will not be used for general city or park maintenance or other expense. "The FDL County Master Gardener Association stepped up to establish a permanent fund so community members could contribute to ensure the continuation of the beautiful flowers we have all enjoyed," said Roehrig.

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES			
	2012	2013	
Income			
Additions to Funds	655,120	992,602	
Investment Income (Loss)	563,825	423,277	
Income (loss) on investments	1,512,868	3020858	
Other Income	31,570	38758	
Total Revenue and Support	2,763,383	4,475,495	
Grants and Expenses			
Grants	1,130,037	897,369	
Administrative Expenses	333,878	344,496	
Program Related Expenses	10,231	12,094	
Other Disbursements	11,413	11,412	
Total Disbursements	1,485,559	1,265,370	
Change in Net Assets	1,277,825	3,210,125	
Net Assets - Beginning	23,307,617	24,585,442	
Net Assets - Ending	24,585,442	27,795,567	
Supporting Organization - Sophia Foundation, Inc.	952,120	1,030,703	

FOND DU LAC AREA FOUNDATION



The Fond du Lac Area Foundation is governed by a 14-member volunteer board of directors who each are eligible to serve three three-year terms. Current Board Members serving as volunteers to the Fond du Lac Area Foundation are Stephen M. Cramer, Steven J. Dilling, Stephen L. Franke, Thomas A. Herre, Carol B. Hyland, Therese Massey, Patricia A. Miller, Steven G. Millin, Stephen M. Peterson, Paul W. Rosenfeldt, Aaron A. Sadoff, Jack E. Twohig, Karen A. Wuest and Scott I. Wittchow.

\*Mimi Sager termed off after 10 years of service to the Foundation Board

Foundation Staff: Executive Director: Sandi Roehrig, Scholarship Director and Executive Assistant: Sue Steinbarth, Director of Finance & Development: Joe Braun, and Administrative Assistant Jenny Zacherl have a combined 57 years of community foundation service experience to help serve our valued donors.

Fond du Lac Area Foundation 384 N. Main Street, Suite 4 Fond du Lac, WI 54935

See us at www.fdlareafoundation.com and Like us on Facebook

Ph: 920-921-2215

Leave a legacy: Include the Fond du Lac Area Foundation in your will or estate plan