

January 2024



Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a safe and wonderful holiday season. A thoughtful thank you to those who contributed to the Annual Gift for the Forever Fund. Our Budget & Finance Committee will meet later in January to determine how much of our Forever Fund will be used for community grants in 2024. In 2023, we utilized \$21,000 from the Forever Fund for grants.

As we go into 2024, we want to incorporate more ways to connect with you. We are always excited to meet with you in person. Leslie and I had the opportunity to attend the Wisconsin Philanthropy Network conference in November. This was a time to learn about the latest trends in philanthropy including Values Driven Philanthropy and Trust Based Philanthropy. We look forward to talking about these more in 2024.



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Community Updates & Collaborations



Ralph & Dianne Mueller Scholarship

Ralph & Diane have certainly left their legacy. If you attended Diane's memorial in October 2023 you would have heard stories, many quite humorous, about their love and commitment to the Marshfield community. Their scholarship is endowed so it will benefit students for many, many, years to come. A large criteria for the recipients is to be active in their community. Ralph & Diane were examples to many for their service to community. Thank you Ralph & Diane. Your stories will be missed but YOUR story will live on.

Keep Kids Warm 2023 was a big success!

Each year we want to improve this event a little more. We are happy to say this has continued. This year, we did this by collaborating with Soup or Socks 'Best Snow Day' event so parents could attend both events in one day. We also eliminated registration times and let families attend anytime on the day of the event. Thank you to everyone who supported this event. We were able to donate close to 500 coats again this year.



Rotary Winter Wonderland

Rotary Winter Wonderland had another great year. Food cash donations were collected for food pantries around the area. The Marshfield Area Community Foundation enjoyed another year of volunteering. This year we volunteered with students from National Honor Society from Stratford High School. This, along with Adopt-A-Highway, Tree planting at Bream Park are all activities we helped Rotary with in 2023. We look forward to working together with several other service organizations on March 14th at MidState Technical college for a blood drive. Join us!



Ronald McDonald House and Parks & Rec

The holidays always bring an opportunity to join together with others to help those in need. This year, we had a little fun in the process. We joined Marshfield Parks & Recreation in the holiday door decorating contest. We used it as an chance to give a shout out to our amazing board of directors. Entry fees went to support a family at Ronald Mc Donald House so they could bring holiday cheer to their kids. Almost \$300 was raised to help this family.

New This Quarter:



Marty Reinhart retired from our board of directors at the end of 2019 but continued on as a community committee member for the budget & finance committee. We are grateful for his financial expertise and always friendly demeanor. We wish him the very best as he concentrates his time on family and hobbies. Well deserved for you Marty! Thank you. We'll share more about Marty in our Annual Report.

Spending Policy set for 2024

The board approved the 4% spending policy for all endowed funds. We look at the balance of a fund over 12 quarters. For example, if a fund has a balance of \$50,000 over 12 quarters, the spendable amount is \$2,000. Scholarships fall under this policy but also designated funds. We also have 38 designated funds which follow this policy. Organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Marshfield Area Friends of the Trail benefit from a donor who set up this type of fund. Each year they receive this 4%.