



Madison

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

November 15, 2023

madisongives.org

A Fund for Women Announces 2023 Grants



As it celebrates 30 years of supporting women and girls in our community, A Fund for Women awarded \$150,400 in grants to 13 organizations. These organizations work in the community with people who identify as women and girls, providing programs and support to empower them and strengthen their opportunities for success.

“When A Fund for Women started 30 years ago, it would have been hard to imagine awarding more in grants than the fund’s entire starting value,” Sue Gaard, chair of A Fund for Women’s advisory committee shared. “We are grateful for our supporters and fundholders who made this growth possible. Economic security for families in Dane County happens when we invest in women.”

This year’s grants will uplift more women and girls to succeed in the workforce through their focus on literacy and bilingual training; remove barriers as they pursue education opportunities; shelter women fleeing domestic abuse; create bridges to stable housing for single mothers; and provide identity affirming programs to reduce barriers to employment for transgender women.

A Fund for Women was founded in 1993 when 100 original donors each gave \$1,000 to start an endowment fund. Today the fund, managed by Madison Community Foundation, is valued at nearly \$4 million and awards approximately \$150,000 in grants annually. AFFW has awarded 179 grants totaling more than \$2 million to area organizations working to empower women.

[See the full list of grants on page 3.](#)

Your gift, big or small, can have an impact.

MAKE A GIFT TODAY



Celebrating Philanthropy Day in Madison

On November 9, people from across Greater Madison came together to celebrate philanthropy in our community. Madison Community Foundation was proud to once again be the Presenting Sponsor of AFP's National Philanthropy Day celebration. As an organization whose mission is to enhance the common good through philanthropy, this celebration is a natural fit.

Once again, the Overture Center – a venue built by philanthropy – played host to this event designed to celebrate the contributions of individuals and organizations to the wellbeing and enrichment of our community and the people who live here. This year's honorees highlight the inspiring ways people in the Greater Madison area are working to help others.

Former MCF board member **Pete Lundberg** received a **Lifetime Achievement** award, an award that recognizes an individual or couple who has 20 years or more of philanthropic involvement, who has demonstrated outstanding civic and charitable responsibility, and whose generosity encourages others to take leadership roles in philanthropic activities.

Pete, who generously gives his time and expertise as well as financial gifts, was nominated by the Aldo Leopold Nature Center for this award. Pete's action-oriented view of philanthropy has led him to serve on the boards of many organizations in our community, and the financial support he provides through his business, Janus Galleries, has benefitted a host of nonprofits in the area.

Also honored for **Lifetime Achievement** was **John Ralston**, in recognition for his long-time dedication as a volunteer and fundraiser for Church Health Services, which nominated him for the award. John's commitment to his community also has led him to support a wide range of organizations in the Beaver Dam area, including the school district.



10 Helpful Tips for Year-End Giving

It is hard to believe, but 2023 is quickly drawing to a close! As you prepare for your year-end giving, here are 10 things to keep in mind:

1. Talk to your tax advisors. Your advisor is a critical part of your year-end giving process, so consult with them before making any type of substantive year-end charitable gift. They can help you determine how your proposed gift might affect your estimated tax liability and your existing estate plan.

2. Charitable gift annuities can help you make a legacy gift while receiving income during your lifetime. By establishing a CGA, you can make an immediately tax-deductible legacy gift to a charity of your choice (or to a fund at MCF established to benefit that charity) while retaining the right to receive quarterly or annual annuity payments during your lifetime. Any amount remaining in your CGA after your lifetime will be transferred to the charity or fund you selected.

(You can also establish a CGA to benefit MCF's Priority Fund, Community Impact Fund, or any of its field of interest funds.)

3. Qualified charitable distributions from your individual retirement account are still tax-free. Anyone age 70 1/2 or older may receive QCD treatment for certain transfers of up to \$100,000 from their IRA directly to a qualified charity (or to a qualifying fund at that charity). Transfers qualifying as QCDs are not included in your taxable income and reduce the balance of your retirement account (on which you and your heirs will ultimately pay tax). While contributions to a donor advised fund typically do not qualify for QCD treatment, contributions to other types of funds at MCF (for example, nonprofit endowment funds, field of interest funds, donor designated funds, MCF's Community Impact or Priority funds) may qualify.



AFFW Grants, continued from page 1

Bayview Foundation

\$15,000 (year two of a two-year grant) to the Women's Advancement Planning Pilot team to identify the greatest barriers facing Bayview's women and girls as they strive for success.

Centro Hispano

\$15,000 to the Latinas in Savings initiative, helping participants understand their finances and overcome barriers to saving through culturally competent financial education and one-on-one support.

Domestic Abuse Intervention Services

\$5,000 to help cover the direct costs of operating the DAIS shelter, which provides support, information and resources to women fleeing domestic abuse.

Friends of the UW Odyssey Project

\$13,000 to help provide wrap-around financial support for women in the UW Odyssey Project and their families so they can focus on continuing their education.

Latino Academy of Workforce Development

\$10,000 toward mentorship of Latina young adults, providing Spanish-language GED courses, bilingual workforce training, college applications and job searches.

Literacy Network

\$10,000 to the Community English program, teaching English language skills to women through online and in-person classes at partnering public schools and libraries throughout Dane County.

Madison Reading Project

\$500 to the Empowering Girls Through Literacy program, connecting girls to books that affirm and reflect their identities.

Omega School

\$15,000 to help provide personalized instruction, virtual learning platforms and wrap-around support services for women pursuing a GED or HSED.

OutReach LGBTQ+ Community Center

\$15,000 to the Transgender Women Employment Program to offer mentoring, career and financial wellness coaching, and connections to LGBTQ+-friendly employers.

Road Home Dane County

\$5,000 to the Women's Employment and Training Fund, offering financial assistance to remove barriers for women in housing programs who are working toward obtaining and maintaining employment.

UNIDOS

\$30,000 to the Mujeres Adelante (Women Moving Forward) Project, facilitating economic and financial independence for Latina survivors of domestic abuse, sexual assault and human trafficking.

Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation

\$10,000 to help provide one-on-one mentoring, training and access to capital to improve economic growth and success for women entrepreneurs.

YWCA

\$11,500 to the Third Street Program, providing affordable housing options and rental, transportation, employment, education and moving assistance to single mothers.





Year-End Giving, continued from page 2

4. Use a qualified charitable distribution to create a charitable gift annuity. New this year, the SECURE 2.0 Act allows you to make a one-time transfer of up to \$50,000 in QCDs to a CGA. Take advantage of this new opportunity to create a CGA benefiting a nonprofit (or fund) of your choice.

NOTE: CGAs created using QCDs receive different tax treatment than CGAs funded with other assets. If you are considering this option, please make sure to consult with your tax advisor.

5. Gifts of appreciated securities may provide an increased tax deduction. If you have stocks or other securities that are worth more than you paid for them, and you've owned them for at least 12 months, consider giving those to charity. Doing so may allow you to avoid capital gains tax and take a charitable deduction for the securities' full fair market value. Your deduction for donations of appreciated stock or securities to public charities is limited to 30% of your AGI each year, but you can carry over any excess deductions for up to five additional years.

NOTE: Since gifts of appreciated securities can take some time to process, you will want to coordinate the gift with the recipient as soon as possible to ensure the transfer of these securities can be completed by year end.

6. Gifts of appreciated real estate may also provide an increased tax deduction. Giving appreciated real estate to charity can provide a tax benefit similar to a transfer of appreciated stock or other securities. However, like stock gifts, real estate transfers can take some time to complete, so planning ahead is important.

NOTE: If you are interested in making a gift of real estate to charity, you should coordinate with the recipient organization as soon as possible to confirm it will accept the property, and to complete the process necessary to transfer the property by year-end.

7. "Bunching" your giving can maximize the benefit of your itemized deductions, resulting in greater tax savings. The standard deductions for 2023 are \$13,850 for single individuals and married couples filing separately, \$20,800 for heads of household, and \$27,700 for married couples filing jointly. Because these standard deduction amounts are relatively high, you may want to ask your advisor if bunching your charitable giving into the years you itemize your deductions would reduce your overall tax liability.

8. Take time to learn about the organizations working in areas you'd like to support. If you have an area of interest or ideas about a specific organization you'd like to support, MCF's [Greater Madison Nonprofit Directory](#) can help. It provides a comprehensive online guide to charitable organizations in our region. You can sort broadly by area of interest, organization size or location. You also can use it to learn more about a specific organization's financial health, programs, operations and impact.

9. If you want to retain flexibility in the causes you support, consider establishing a donor-advised fund. If you are planning for a charitable tax deduction this year and want to retain the flexibility to distribute gifts to charities later or over multiple years, a donor-advised fund may meet your needs. You can find out more about establishing a donor-advised fund with MCF [here](#).

10. Be aware of the year-end giving deadlines. If you do choose to make a gift before year-end, timing is important. Mailed gifts must be postmarked by December 31, and any gifts made by credit card must appear on your credit card statement prior to December 31.

To allow adequate time to process transfers of stock and mutual fund shares, MCF recommends that you initiate these transfers by December 7. Distribution requests from existing MCF funds must be made no later than December 15. You can find the complete list of our year-end giving deadlines [here](#).

Bonus Tip: If you need any information, or have any questions, about the options available for giving at MCF, contact us!

Working with a philanthropic advisor at MCF gives you access to our knowledge of the local nonprofit community and opportunities to make a difference in ways that matter to you. We can also help you and your advisor think strategically about the tools you can use to make gifts during your lifetime or through your estate.

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Philanthropy Day, continued from page 2

Andy and Jenny Czerkas of the River Food Pantry were recognized as this year's **Outstanding Individual Philanthropists**. Andy and Jenny founded the River Food Pantry in 2006 after seeing the number of people in Madison who were regularly forced to choose between paying rent and buying food. Today the River Food Pantry serves more than 2,500 people each week.

Roots & Wings Foundation was honored as the **Outstanding Philanthropic Foundation**, nominated by WayForward Resources. Established in 2019 by Epic founder and CEO Judy Faulkner, Roots & Wings provides support to more than 150 organizations throughout Dane County and Wisconsin under the leadership of Judy's daughter Shana Dall'Osto.

Jenny Pressman was recognized as this year's **Outstanding Fundraising Professional**. Jenny is a passionate fundraiser, social justice activist and community builder who has dedicated her life to the causes she believes in. Many organizations in our community have benefitted from Jenny's passion and expertise, including the UW Odyssey Project, where she currently serves as the Director of Development and Community Partnerships.

John Sims' long-term commitment to helping organizations succeed led UnityPoint Health – Meriter Foundation and Madison Children's Museum to nominate him for recognition as the **Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser**. John leverages his community relationships to matching donors to causes they care about, and regularly serves as a mentor to young board members,

Paul Davis Restoration was recognized as the **Outstanding Business**. Nominated by University of Wisconsin Foundation, the company began fundraising for the Professional Firefighters of Wisconsin Charitable Foundation and for the UW Health Burn and Wound Center. Most recently, the company pledged to complete the funding for the Burn and Wound Center's \$1 million endowment, ensuring it has a steady stream of annual income to meet its mission.

Christian Huber is proof that philanthropy is not just the realm of the older generation. This year's **Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy** award recipient started giving back when he was just eight years old. Christian set up a lemonade and cookie stand and raised \$100 to help save endangered penguins. Now a 14-year-old, Christian's annual cookie and lemonade stands have raised more than \$2,600 to support nonprofits, with the majority of the funds helping families in Dane County.

Join us in congratulating all the 2023 Philanthropy Day winners.

Are you interested in learning how you can have an impact on our community through philanthropy? MCF can help you support the causes that matter most to you, today or through your will or estate plan.

Have an idea for a story? Have exciting news you'd like to share?
Join the conversation.



Legacy Society Luncheon 2023 Recap



It was a pleasure hosting our Legacy Society members at the Legacy Society Luncheon on September 21st at the Overture Center for the Arts. MCF always enjoys having everyone together to celebrate the commitment they've made to leaving a legacy for our community.

At the Luncheon, we shared the story of Sharifa Merchant, and how she is using charitable gift annuities to create legacy and honor the memory of her husband, Saban. The full video is available [here](#).

Above is a small sampling of photos from this momentous day. The full album is featured on MCF's Facebook page. You don't need to have a Facebook account to view the photos, just [follow this link](#).

Thank you to our Legacy Society members for their generosity and support of the common good in Madison!

Upcoming Dates to Remember

NOV

23

MCF Office Closed

Our office will be closed the 23rd and 24th. Enjoy Thanksgiving and time with family and friends.

DEC

25

MCF Office Closed

Our office will be closed today. Enjoy the holidays and time with friends and family.

DEC

29

Giving Deadlines

End of year donations made in person must be received at MCF by 4:30 p.m. on December 29th. Donations sent by mail must be received or postmarked December 31st. [View full list of deadlines.](#)

JAN

09

Community Impact Grant Announcement

Join us at the Central Library to hear the 2023 Community Impact Grants be announced to the community.

[View Our Website](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Email Preferences](#)

Madison Community Foundation

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