



SIoux FALLS AREA
**COMMUNITY
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FOR GOOD FOR EVER

Sioux Falls Area
 Community
 Foundation
**WINTER
 2009**

In partnership with donors, Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation provides philanthropic leadership that assures the quality of life in our area, for good, for ever.

WHAT'S in this ISSUE

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FACE IT! DIALS FOR RECOVERY WITH SFACF GRANT



Face It!, a nonprofit formed to help the community fight alcohol and drug addiction, brings a new approach to recovery services and support networks. Its leaders say Sioux Falls' health systems and business climate make it a perfect place to develop breakthrough programs. L-R: Board member Brooke Beckham, CEO Matt Walz, Volunteer Manager Tanya Montgomery.

Forbes and *FORTUNE Small Business* magazines agree Sioux Falls is one of the best places in the country for people working to start a new company. As it turns out, Sioux Falls also is a great place to launch nonprofit innovations.

With SFACF's help, Face It! is challenging the way we think about addiction and recovery — from the stigma that surrounds those who battle alcohol and drug use to the need for ongoing support for affected families.

Modeling local efforts after a statewide program in Connecticut, Face It! puts Sioux Falls on the leading edge of recovery-oriented care. Their goal is to move away from an acute-response system and toward a community that views recovery as a long-term process.

"Addiction has a lot more in common with a lifelong illness that needs to be managed over time than it does with a broken bone," says Face It! CEO Matt Walz, whose group frames addiction as both a workforce development issue and a quality of life factor.

Face It! organizers hope to help people understand that addiction is a community problem, not something that affects only an individual and his or her family. In addition to raising public awareness, Face It! is connecting addicts and their families to a range of treatment programs and other resources.

Central to those resources is Face It!'s innovative telephone recovery system, which offers weekly support to recoverees through a call center staffed by trained volunteers. Face It! is using a \$20,000 SFACF Community Grant to get the system off the ground. The funds will pay for a volunteer manager who will recruit and train as many as 200 volunteers — people in recovery themselves or family members who have lived through a loved one's addiction journey.

"Sioux Falls is the perfect test site for a program like Face It! because we have two health systems that provide care and referrals through a network of clinics, and they each manage a health benefits plan that allows them to track trends in how services are used and the cost to patients and employers," Walz says. "We can use that aggregate information to demonstrate real value to the community in the way we approach recovery."

In the Sioux Falls area, Walz says, about 10 percent of the population meets the clinical definition of chemical dependency. Of those, between 85 and 90 percent never seek help. "We can conservatively say that one addicted person has a direct, negative impact on the lives of four other people. That's a lot of people affected by this chronic disease."

Contrary to popular opinion, most of the people dealing with alcohol or drug abuse have jobs. In an effort to reach people where they work, Face It! recently partnered with 13 leading employers, including Sanford Health and Avera McKennan Hospital. Face It! will provide support services and arrange a speakers' bureau for recoverees who are willing to share their personal stories and a message of hope. In turn, human resource managers committed to integrate Face It! into existing wellness or employee assistance programs.

Face It! cofounders Kevin Kirby and Charles Day studied dozens of programs before choosing the Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery as the blueprint for Face It! Local recommendations also helped shape strategy. This past year, Face It! held a series of town hall meetings to gather input from people across virtually every sector touched by addiction — health care, public services, and business among them.

"The community gave us our mission, vision, direction, and board of directors," Walz says. He knows the nonprofit's long-term success will be measured by the people helped and the positive results reached in our community. "Whenever you do a community change initiative, it's the community that is the most important part," he says.

SFACF couldn't agree more. Putting community first is what we do — for good, for ever.

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IRA ROLLOVER CAN MAKE DREAMS COME TRUE



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO

CANDY HANSON



Every day at the Community Foundation, we meet someone who wants to do something good for the Sioux Falls area. It's a heartwarming experience, one even more satisfying when the donor with a dream is new to us.

That's how we felt when Karen Roth of First Bank & Trust called to find out whether SFACF could receive contributions from Individual Retirement Accounts. Our answer was "yes," and within a couple of days, we met Arthur and Margaret Thornton.

The Thorntons — married 40 years — worked side-by-side building a successful manufacturing business. In the late 1960s, when they retired for the first time, they answered a call to an economic development mission on the Rosebud reservation. Seven years later, they moved Rosebud Manufacturing — a supplier of kitchen, bath, and hotel industry cabinetry — to Madison. The company thrived. In 1982, the Thorntons sold Rosebud to their employees and

began a second, well-earned retirement, wintering in Arizona and traveling the world from their home base in Sioux Falls.

Arthur is a Sioux Falls native. Margaret grew up in Hills, Minn. So when Arthur had a disabling spill last year, they came home and snuggled in at Dow Rummel Village. That's when Arthur started dreaming of giving back to Madison and to the Sioux Falls area.

Thanks to the Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, the "IRA Rollover" — a tax free option that allows traditional IRA holders who are at least 70½ years old to make direct contributions of up to \$100,000 from an IRA to charity — was extended through December 2009.

Arthur figured it was time to act. He and Margaret arranged several IRA contributions to organizations in Madison and made two very special gifts to Sioux Falls.

The first gift stems from Arthur's service during WWII. Just after Pearl Harbor, Arthur resigned his teaching job in Minneapolis and enlisted as a buck private. Two weeks later, he was on a transport in the South Pacific.

He spent the war years supervising construction of and operating field hospital laundries in the Pacific and ended his service as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

This summer, when Arthur and Margaret toured the city's Veterans' Memorial Park, they knew they wanted to ensure that the Park would be maintained as a lasting tribute to America's service men and women. With part of their IRA gift to SFACF, they founded the VETERANS' MEMORIAL PARK ENDOWMENT.

The couple became *Community Builders*, SFACF's most visionary donors, when they directed their second gift to our COMMUNITY FUND ENDOWMENT — the money we use to make grants to worthy projects throughout the Sioux Falls area.

If you're eligible to make a charitable gift through your IRA, time is short. Contact your tax advisor to decide whether the option is a good one for you. Then give SFACF a ring. We can make your dream come true, for good, for ever.

Print a copy of this newsletter at www.sfacf.org

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Gifts from Sustaining Members support SFACF's development activities, including special events and the publication of this newsletter. These gifts were received between September 2008 and October 2009.

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Our efforts to build the charitable capital of our area are also supported by the Sioux Empire United Way and Sioux Empire Combined Federal Campaign.



SFACF PARTNERS WITH THE KRESGE FOUNDATION TO BOOST ARTS AND CULTURE CAPACITY

A community without arts and culture is not an option. That's the message The Kresge Foundation sent this fall when it invited SFACF to respond to its Arts and Culture Capacity Building request for proposals.

"We had just 10 working days to assess the impact the economic downturn has had on our cultural institutions and come up with a plan to give them the tools to craft creative solutions to their operational challenges," says Candy Hanson, the Community Foundation's CEO.

The proposal for the *Transforming Arts and Culture Initiative* was successful, and The Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich., awarded SFACF a \$120,000 capacity-building grant.

Mary Tidwell, SFACF Board Chair, is pleased with the news on several counts. "First of all, it's a natural extension of the *Transforming Leadership* training series we've offered to all nonprofits in the past year," she says. "Second, but more important, Paul Schiller — past chair of our board — has encouraged us to make developing a local arts endowment a strategic priority. Undertaking this initiative is a big step toward that vision."

The SFACF *Transforming Arts and Culture Initiative* will make two tiers of capacity-building grants, depending upon the size of an organization's annual operating budget. Applicant agencies will be required to complete an organizational capacity assessment to demonstrate their need for assistance.

SFACF will work with an arts consultant and a three-member grants committee to iron out the details of the new initiative. Hanson says the applications will be available by March 2010, with grants awarded in April. All projects are to be completed by December 2011.

SFACF established a relationship with The Kresge Foundation in 1999, when it was awarded a *Partnership to Raise Community Capital* challenge grant. The successful \$10-million, five-year campaign developed endowments for 18 neighborhood nonprofits. Visibility from the *Partnership* campaign established SFACF as the go-to place for long-term organizational investments. Today, SFACF manages permanent funds for more than 100 other nonprofits.

SOUTH DAKOTA TRUST COMPANY FOUNDATION FINDS A HOME AT SFACF



The Sioux Falls-based South Dakota Trust Company and its leaders wanted a way to help clients give back to our community. They found it through SFACF, where a new charitable foundation named for the business will handle administrative details for giving, grantmaking, and careful investing. L-R: Company President Pierce H. McDowell III and Managing Director Matthew T. Tobin.

Sometimes, it takes an expert to know one.

When South Dakota Trust Company went looking for a way to connect their clients to charitable projects here, it was only natural for them to turn to Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation and its grantmaking expertise.

This fall, the downtown business created the SOUTH DAKOTA TRUST COMPANY FOUNDATION through SFACF. The new Foundation will use an endowment to grow its long-term assets and a short-term charitable fund to kick-start current grantmaking efforts. Members of the firm's

management team value supporting community causes and believe their enterprise can use philanthropy to make important contributions to our quality of life.

"We felt we could play a more active role in bringing together prospective donors and charitable groups," says Managing Director Matthew T. Tobin, an attorney who studied the costs of creating a private foundation before enlisting SFACF's help. "There are so many efficiencies in using the Community Foundation to accomplish what we needed to do. It's really a one-stop shop because we wanted a resource that also could help guide us in connecting clients to organizations in need as well as opportunities that exist for community giving."

SFACF made the choice easy. Working with Tobin and company President Pierce H. McDowell III, SFACF structured a plan that's flexible enough to fit donors' broad goals and handles the details of administering charitable gifts, grants, and investments — at a fraction of the cost to launch and maintain a private foundation.

The new Foundation also will benefit from SFACF's strong investment performance. And because SFACF is a public, 501(c)(3) nonprofit, contributions to the SOUTH DAKOTA TRUST COMPANY FOUNDATION are deductible to the maximum extent allowed by federal law.

Tobin says those advantages, combined with SFACF's knowledge of community needs, means many donors will be encouraged to give year after year. "We think a good mix is to direct about 70 to 75 percent of every gift to endowment and 25 to 30 percent to the charitable account for current grantmaking," he says. "Our hope is to grow the endowment so it can spin off revenue in the future, but we want to hit the ground running and be effective immediately, too. Working with SFACF will allow us to establish our Foundation now so that our clients can further develop roots here."

SFACF's annual Donor Reception always is a cause for celebration, but this fall's event also marked an important Community Foundation milestone — our 25th anniversary. During the October 8 program, guests saw the premiere of a video that details SFACF's beginnings and highlights major achievements along the way. After presenting the 2009 *Friend of the Foundation* award to Jeff and Katie Scherschligt, SFACF hosted current and former board members for an anniversary dinner and invited them to share their favorite SFACF memories. L-R: SFACF Board Chair Mary Tidwell, Jeff and Katie Scherschligt.



GIFTS

Gifts July 2009 – September 2009

29-90 Sportsman's Club Endowment

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Jan and Jerry Nicolay
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In Honor of Joshua J. Garner
Larry and Kathie Garner
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In Memory of Marcella Bergeson
Marvin Stoterau
In Memory of John McDowell
Emmet Rogers

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In Memory of Lottie Aman
Opal Rogness

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Ronald Christensen through Monsanto
Fund Matching Gift Program

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Peter and Berit Andreone

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The Arboretum Society Fund

Austad's Golf
Dacotah Bank
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Matching Gifts and Volunteer
Incentive Program
Proceeds from water sales
RISK Administration Services, Inc.
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Sam Trebilcock and Beth Lewis
Wells Fargo
In Honor of Judy Jasper
In Memory of Jorene Larson
Jerry Larson

Charles and Carol Austin Family Endowment

Chuck and Carol Austin

The Banquet Endowment

In Memory of Alma Reinecke
Howard and Eunice Hovland

Bill Barlow "Second Chance" Scholarship

In Memory of Bill Barlow
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Robert Barlow and Deborah Gleason
Warren and Betty Bastian
Tom Batcheller and
Becky Cory Batcheller
Dick and Sue Brown
Joel and Nancy Brown
Alice Brusky
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Rehabilitation – Washington
Division

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The First National Bank in Sioux Falls
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Battleship South Dakota Memorial Foundation Endowment

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In Memory of Paul C. Shellman, EM3c USN
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Brandon Community Foundation

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Pizza Ranch of Brandon
In Memory of Addyson Lee
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Richard E. "Dick" and Sue Brown Family Fund

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Kendall and Freeda Burns Family Medical Research Trust

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United Way of the Bay Area

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Bill and Lynne Byrne

Children's Home Society Funds Children's Home Society Endowment

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The Citibank Employee Crisis Fund

Books Are Fun

Paul and Mary Ellen Connelly Charitable Fund

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Gary and Kathleen Conradi Family Fund

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Mike Crane and Candy Hanson Charitable Fund

Candy Hanson

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Shawn and Lynn Culey Family Endowment

Shawn and Lynn Culey

DakotAbilities Endowment

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In Memory of Greg Smith
Mark and Beth Jensen

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In Memory of Joseph "Joe" Geraets
In Memory of Robert "Bob" Lerdal
Richard and Virginia Mergen
In Memory of Harold Hansen
In Memory of Darwin Larson
In Memory of Mary Jean Nielsen
In Memory of Greg Smith
Bette and Dan Huss
In Memory of Florine Rickeman
Cindy Rickeman

Tim and Tonya Dwire Family Charitable Fund

Tim and Tonya Dwire

Jay and Dorothy Egge Family Fund

Dorothy Egge

Excel Achievement Center Scholarship

Excel Achievement, Inc.

Fool Soldier Scholarship Fund

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Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons Council Funds

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Sonia and Randy Bury

Going Home Special Project Fund

In Memory of Staff Sergeant
Robb Roling
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Mark and Kathryn Sundvold

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Joel and Jane Hathaway
In Memory of Bill Barlow
Joel and Jane Hathaway

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Gil and Dorothy Koepsell

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In Memory of Evelyn Simon
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In Memory of Wayne Stewart
Mavis Steever

The Lost Boys Education Fund

Casa Del Rey
Proceeds from Casa Del Rey Fundraiser
Haley McInnes

GIFTS

Gifts July 2009 – September 2009

**Lindsey Ann Masterson
Memorial Scholarship**

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Robert and Dr. Judy Nissen Scholarship

Judy Nissen

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John M. Roll

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Roy and Rodora Nyberg Charitable Fund

Roy and Rodora Nyberg

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Sanford Clinic – Worthington

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Singing Boys Endowment Fund

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Lois Harchanko
Diana Kappen
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Dennis and Pamela Hanneman
Dennis Jarabek
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Kristi Niechwadowicz
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Jeffrey and Shelley Stingley
Dick and Kathleen Sweetman
James and Laura Westby
Brian and Susan Wiswall
In Memory of Betty Bonacker
The Board and Staff of the Sioux Falls
Area Community Foundation
In Memory of Charley Gutch
Leland and Marilyn Hult
In Memory of Dwight Hauff
Tom and Patti Ralph

**Sioux Falls Area Retired
Teachers Scholarship**

In Memory of Ethel Alness
Johanna Iken
In Memory of Kaye Ludeman
Jim and Arlene Lefler
Sioux Falls Area Retired
Teachers Association
In Memory of Jean Meier
Howard and Linda Maxwell
In Memory of Alma Reinecke
Mary Ann Hofer
Mary Ann Hohman
Howard and Eunice Hovland
Kenneth and Laurice Iseminger
Gwen Valkenaar

**Sioux Falls Jazz and Blues Society
Endowment**

Loren and Mavis Amundson

**Sioux Falls Public Schools
Education Foundation**

Architecture Incorporated
The Honorable Deana Barth
The Honorable Darin Daby
The Honorable Debbie Hoffman
KSFY TV
The Honorable Doug Morrison
Showplace Wood Products, Inc.
In Memory of Bill Barlow
Pam and Tim Homan

**Sioux Falls Stampede Hockey
Foundation For Kids**

Sioux Falls Stampede Hockey
Foundation For Kids

Sioux Falls Woman's Alliance Fund

Frank and Ethel West Charitable
Trust, Benefactor

**Sister Cities Association of
Sioux Falls Fund**

In Memory of Bill Barlow
Steve and Sue Hauff

**Dean and Rita Sorenson
Charitable Fund**

Dean and Rita Sorenson

**South Dakota High School
Honor Choir Endowment**

In Memory of Paul Allen
In Memory of Bill Barlow

In Memory of Eric LeVan
In Memory of Donald Peterson
Alan and Arlys Stanga
In Memory of Leon Kliewer
Mark and Stacy Gross
Collin and Lora Moriarty
Alan and Arlys Stanga
In Memory of Jeanne Schuldies
Mark and Stacy Gross
In Memory of Lowell Voigt
Clarice Voigt

**South Dakota Symphony
Orchestra Funds**

**South Dakota Symphony
Orchestra League Endowment**
In Memory of Marian (Getting)
Rubinson
Don and Ann Platt

**South Dakota Tennis Hall of Fame
Endowment**

Dorothy Donohue
In Memory of Phyllis Hunter
Bobbi Bergh
Dorothy Schurrer
Grace Wetterberg
In Memory of Randy Kochenderfer
William Clayton
Maurice Kochenderfer
In Memory of Libby Rogers
Jan Rogers

**Southeast Technical Institute
Memorial Fund**

In Memory of Sylvia Bruinsma
In Memory of Lois Cody
In Memory of Theodore Fuerst
In Memory of Berge Edward Johnson
In Memory of Theresa Mickalowski
In Memory of Martin Harmon Pennock
In Memory of Ervin Pommer
In Memory of Edor Streyle
In Memory of Mike Wynthein
Friends of Southeast
Technical Institute

**Southeastern Behavioral
HealthCare Funds**

**Parnell J. and Dorothy Donohue
Family Endowment**

In Honor of Dorothy
Donohue's Birthday
Jim and Phyllis Clark

— IN MEMORY OF —

We extend our deepest sympathy
to the friends and family of

BILL BARLOW

Who as the president of Sioux
Empire United Way helped found
Sioux Falls Area Community
Foundation 25 years ago.

BETTY B. BEST

Who during her lifetime created
the ROBERT W. BEST SCHOLARSHIP in
her husband's memory.

BETTY BONACKER

Who with her husband
established the EARL AND BETTY
BONACKER ENDOWMENT and a
scholarship for USF students.

NORBERT "STUB" SCHMIDT
Who during his lifetime founded
the DAVID JAY SCHMIDT MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP with Mary Burkard
Schmidt and family members.

GIFTS

Gifts July 2009 – September 2009

Special Olympics South Dakota Fund

In Memory of Kelly Gross
 Jon and Karla Parsons
 In Memory of Don Hentges
 Arlis Hentges and Family
 In Memory of Bud Morrison
 Beckman Construction
 Walter and Deborah Bozentko
 Paul and Janet Gruenwaldt
 Dan and Jean Hylland
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Kauth
 Duane E. Larson
 Richard and Alayne Rowcliffe
 June and Harry Wipf
 Hally and Rodney Witte
 In Memory of Goldie Wieman
 The Wieman Family

Cameron and Susan Stokka Fund

Cameron and Susan Stokka

Tea Area Community Funds

Tea Area Community Fund
 Clarice Voigt
Tea Area Community Scholarship
 In Memory of Eric LeVan
 Ray and Sandy Cheney

Trent Area Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Donald Graves
 Larry and Ada Jorgenson
 Melvin and Sharon Scherff
 In Memory of William Meyer, Jr.
 Wes Van Daalen
 In Memory of Ronald Reed
 Bette and Dan Huss
 In Memory of Vernon Youel
 Larry and Ada Jorgenson
 Alvin and Bernadette Scherff
 Wes Van Daalen

Washington High Alumni Scholarship Fund

Donald Blackburn

Mary Jo Wegner Sioux Falls Arboretum Fund

In Honor of Mary Jo and David Christensen
 Milt and Ruby Mutch
 In Honor of Maddy Wegner's Birthday
 Anne Voglewede Green and Paul Green
 In Memory of Bill Barlow
 Carl Schmitzer

Westward Ho Country Club Honor

Golf Scholarship
 Westward Ho Country Club

YMCA Funds

Sioux Falls YMCA Endowment

In Memory of Robert "Bob" Zenas Hazard

Frank L. Boyce YMCA Camp Scholarship Fund

In Memory of Robert "Bob" Zenas Hazard
 Candy Hanson and Mike Crane
 In Memory of Dennis Severson
 Richard and Barbara Graff
 JT Solutions Management, LLC
 Don and Florence Toft
 Peggy Wagner
 Beverley Wicklund

Ivan H. Howes YMCA Camp Scholarship Fund

Mike and Bunny Howes
 In Honor of Mike and Bunny Howes' Wedding Anniversary
 Rae Smith

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Each year, SFACF honors more than 100 students with awards from more than 90 scholarship funds. Most students receive their awards in April, but a few winners are selected during the summer. SFACF congratulates the following recipients, who were selected between May and September 2009.

ALCESTER SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

HARRY LEE SCHOLARSHIP

Kayla Halverson

ANNA AND PAUL LIND SCHOLARSHIP

Julia Sundstrom

LOUIS H. SHORAGA SCHOLARSHIP

Lindsey Schempp

AMY ERICKSON SCHOLARSHIP

Justin Laube

ASHLEY ELIZABETH EVANS

MEDICAL SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP

Adam Miller

HOVLAND SCHOLARSHIP

Sasha Bergsagel

Amber Jackson

Andrea Krogstad

Lisa Thvedt

JULIUS A. AND DOROTHY L. JACOBSEN

INTERNSHIP

Rachel Carsrud

DUANE ODLAND SCHOLARSHIP

Cassie Garner

P & M STEEL-PROFILET FAMILY

ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP

Alyssa Taylor

DAVID L. PROFILET SCHOLARSHIP

Natalie Kathol

Kayley Maas

Rollie Steck

SEVENTH DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

SCHOLARSHIP

BreAnn Neiger

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT DENTAL SOCIETY

BENEVOLENT SCHOLARSHIP

Heather Sorensen

SPIRIT OF SIOUX FALLS SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD

Jessica Evans

Michael McFarland

Jessica Vlasman

Sarah Wyant

Print a copy of this newsletter at www.sfacf.org

One family's tribute to all who serve our country now is a permanent work of art in Veterans' Memorial Park. "Going Home," a bronze statue that depicts a fallen soldier being lifted to heaven in an angel's arms, was dedicated during a commemorative ceremony on Nov. 7. Rex and Margie Roling began raising funds for the sculpture through an SFACF special project fund not long after their son Staff Sgt. Robb Roling — a U.S. Army Green Beret — was killed on active duty in Baghdad. L-R: Rex Roling, sculptor Sondra L. Jonson.



How to Give

Contributions to Funds in the Community Foundation

Yes, I'd like to make a gift to my community through the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation.

My gift is enclosed. Please contribute it to this SFACF fund —

UNRESTRICTED COMMUNITY FUND ENDOWMENT, SFACF'S grantmaking program

Name of another SFACF Fund

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (YAC) FUND

This gift is made in honor of:

This gift is a memorial to:

Please send a gift card to:

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Make your tax-deductible check payable to Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation, 300 N. Phillips Avenue, #102, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 57104-6035. Alternately, phone (605) 336-7055, ext. 13 to make a gift by credit card. Note: SFACF is charged a 4.75% fee for credit card transactions

SFACF GRANT APPLICATION DUE DATES

SFACF COMMUNITY FUND

\$3,000 and up: Jan. 1, 2010; March 1, 2010

\$3,000 or less: Accepted at any time

APPLICATIONS FOR:

Youth Advisory Council

Available: Nov. 20, 2009; Due: Jan. 8, 2010

Print copies of SFACF's grant application at www.sfacf.org

SFACF ANNOUNCES EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS



SFACF's *Excellence in Education* program funds creative classroom projects when school budgets fall short. Applicants' names and home schools are removed from submissions prior to judging. L-R: Selection panel members Chris and Shelly Skinner, Sharon Schueler, Linda Larson.

It's nothing new for teachers to pay for classroom supplies out of their own pockets. That's why *Excellence in Education*, SFACF's sponsorship program for area public and private school teachers in grades K-12, sees more than 30 applications each year. The grants help teachers cover costs for innovative projects that keep students engaged and learning.

"It's exciting to see how many teachers in our community want to go above and beyond for their students," says Patrick Gale, SFACF program officer. "We saw so many creative ideas this year, especially in the areas of math and special education. I think it demonstrates the passion our teachers have for their work. It's truly inspiring."

Sharon Schueler is a veteran volunteer on the *Excellence in Education* selection panel and looks forward to the project year after year. "We get to do a job everyone dreams of: giving away money," says Schueler, who is coordinator of assessment and evaluation for the Sioux Falls School District. "We had the quantity of applicants this year and more important, we also had quality projects. We hope these programs enhance classroom instruction in a way that improves student achievement. That's what it's all about."

In all, Schueler and fellow panel members Chris and Shelly Skinner and Linda Larson funded 16 projects, for a total of \$11,658 in direct classroom support.

Brenda Bahnson et al
Tri-Valley School District
Kindergarten through 12th grades
Sponsors a "Love our Planet" celebration in May 2010 to teach students and parents the basics of soil, nature, and water conservation — including recycling, alternative energy sources, and horticulture. \$1,000

Angi Cable
Harrisburg Liberty Elementary School
Kindergarten through second grades
Increases oral reading fluency through "Reader's Theater," incorporating scripts from nursery rhymes, fables, and nonfiction that students will perform aloud — much like a stage play without the physical action. \$997

Jason Donnelly and Katie Sheets
Harrisburg Middle School
Fifth through eighth grades
Provides hands-on math learning experiences for students enrolled in the advanced placement courses of the "SpringBoard" curriculum. \$832

Stacia Ericsson et al
Brandon Valley Middle School
Seventh grade
Develops communication skills, inventive thinking, and collaboration among the "Aspiring Advertisers," who research and debate topics before designing campaigns to sell their product brand to classmates. \$510

Danielle Fatland
Christ the King Elementary School
Kindergarten through third grades
Increases understanding of math concepts through stories found in "Math Through Children's Literature," which suggests various trade books that intertwine language arts and math skills. \$1,000

Jeff Gordon
O'Gorman High School
10th through 12th grades
Develops critical reading and assessment skills as students compare outcomes from reading "Brave Companions" in standard book form and using a Kindle e-reader to read the same work. Students will discuss how technology helps shape comprehension and why some tech gadgets transcend fads to become an enduring part of modern society. \$219

Terri Jensen and Nancy Feinstein
Patrick Henry Middle School
Sixth through eighth grades
Enhances both receptive and expressive vocabulary skills in students with cognitive challenges and multiple disabilities through a component of the "Team up with TIMO" curriculum. \$249

Kathy Lone
Anne Sullivan Elementary School
Kindergarten through fifth grades
Strengthens student-teacher relationships as a foundation for trust and learning through the concepts described in "The Five Love Languages of Children." The book encourages educators to discover each child's primary love language so they may better meet children's growing emotional and intellectual needs. \$225

Rochelle Pierson et al
All City Elementary at Jane Addams
Second through fourth grades
Fosters cooperation, hard work, fitness, and other goal-oriented topics through stations that relate to the Pyramid of Success described in former UCLA coach John Wooden's book, "Inch and Miles: The Journey to Success." \$1,000

Molly Ring
Brandon Valley Middle School
Sixth grade
Demystifies story problems by helping students "Picture the Problem." The grant purchases disposable cameras and pays for film developing. Student pairs will have two weeks to capture real-life math applications all around them, then create a story problem to solve for each photo. \$820

Jo Ann Schultz et al
St. Mary Catholic School – Dell Rapids
Fourth through sixth grades
Provides workbooks, computer games, prizes, and other incentives for members of the new Math Fact Club in hopes of creating "Marvelous Mathematicians." \$820

Laura Slama and Sherri Schneider
Garfield Elementary School
Kindergarten through fifth grades
Actively engages students through "Math Tool Kits" designed to enhance problem-solving and collaborative skills. \$1,000

Margo Smith
Christ the King Elementary School
First grade
Uses learning centers to teach the building blocks of sentence structure, word choice, and other writing skills to young students who are only beginning to understand letter and sound recognition. \$997

Marcee Stahly
St. Mary Catholic School – Dell Rapids
Sixth grade
Integrates language arts and drama, videos, and field trips in "Ancient Civilizations: A Multi-Sensory Approach," a unit on lost cultures that will range across all class subjects. \$410

Jennifer Strand and Amber Ernste
Valley Springs Elementary School
Kindergarten through fifth grades
Introduces students to carnivorous plants and teaches them how to set up and maintain a subtropical terrarium through "Classroom Carnivory." Students will log their experiences online and explore how human interaction affects the environment. \$579

Luke Vander Leest
Sioux Falls Christian High School
Ninth through 12th grades
Builds character and develops student leaders in "Living Groups," safe havens where students work with teachers and other staff members in a mentor-like setting to address topics such as dating and respect. \$1,000

GREAT GRANTS FROM COMMUNITY FUNDS

Donors to SFACF unrestricted Community Fund endowments make it possible for the Grants Committee to make grants to a variety of organizations every two months. These grants were made from July through September 2009.

AXTELL PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL, \$2,250

Promotes understanding and pride among the variety of cultures represented in the Axtell Park Middle School student body by sponsoring a different guest educator or entertainer during each month of the school year. The school's diversity committee coordinates the events and also oversees the Student Diversity Council, comprised of students from each grade level.

CITY OF SIOUX FALLS, \$862

Funds environmental conservation efforts through the Parks and Recreation Department. This grant made possible by a partnership with The Macy's *Turn Over a New Leaf* program.

COMMUNITY FOOD BANKS OF SOUTH DAKOTA, \$10,000

Provides children at 34 Sioux Falls public and parochial schools with nutritious snacks and other foods through the *BackPack Program*. Designed to fill the hunger gap between Friday afternoon and Monday morning, the program helps at-risk youth from families who depend on subsidized school breakfasts and lunches during the week.

DAKOTA SKY INTERNATIONAL PIANO FESTIVAL, \$34,750

Supports the charitable activities of the festival, which provides opportunities for audiences to experience live, classical music and for pianists to improve their skills through master classes led by prize-winning musicians. This grant made possible by gifts from many donors.

DOWNTOWN SIOUX FALLS, \$3,800

Enhances the visual environment and promotes downtown events through the use of more than 50 banners hung on historic lamp posts and signage piers along Phillips Avenue. Banners will be up year-round, rotating to reflect the change in seasons and publicize upcoming festivals and other public events.

INTER-LAKES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP, \$1,000

Provides notebooks, crayons, book bags, and other essential back-to-school supplies to children of low-income families in Lincoln and Turner counties.

MINNEHAHA COUNTY FAMILY VIOLENCE COUNCIL, \$1,500

Raises awareness and supports the victims of domestic violence by supporting Take Back the Night. The annual program this fall featured an appearance from the author of "Crazy Love," whose autobiography details a very personal struggle with and survival of abuse.

ST. FRANCIS HOUSE, \$5,967

Affords privacy and dignity to those staying at the emergency shelter by offsetting costs to renovate the main building's restroom. The project retrofits a three-person community shower and divides it into three, individual shower stalls.

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, DAKOTAS, \$4,935

Builds bridges between schools and families by supporting the *Translators of Cultures* program through year's end. Minority representatives with strong leadership skills serve as advocates for students and families, promoting education and cultural understanding to help eliminate distrust, fears, and prejudices.

WASHINGTON PAVILION OF ARTS AND SCIENCE, \$3,000

Introduces students at Pavilion Preschool to diverse cultures through the foreign language program. The French and Spanish tracks teach the beginning skills needed to communicate in a new language and help children develop a greater appreciation of the diverse cultures of the world.

FAITH, FAMILY, MUSIC LIVE ON THROUGH LEGACY GIFT

ZOO SCHEDULES CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In January 2010, the Great Plains Zoo and Delbridge Museum of Natural History will launch a capital campaign for construction of “Monkeys, Magic and More!” an innovative enhancement right at the front of the Zoo.

Overall, the Zoological Society of Sioux Falls, which oversees the Zoo’s operations, has set a \$5 million capital campaign goal. The Society hopes to raise \$1.5 million of their goal through a sanctioned Chamber of Commerce Community Appeal to local business and industry. The 2010 capital campaign will run through July.

The Zoo has a strategic vision for its growth and success in meeting the needs of the community in more engaging and much bigger ways. This project will add curb appeal to the front of the Zoo with a colorful, themed entryway that will draw guests into a new snow monkey exhibit. Motion, sound, and the excitement of monkeys will begin visitors’ new adventure at the Zoo. This exhibit will replace 45-year-old infrastructure that has outlived its useful life.

Phase II of the project will help the Zoo enhance the existing Museum building with better climate control for the treasured Delbridge mounted-animal collection. In addition, classrooms, improved gift shop access, and enhanced member and guest processing will be part of the completed project.

Call Corporate Development Coordinator Leslie Rupiper at 367-8313, extension 18, to learn more, or send your tax-deductible contribution to Great Plains Zoo Capital Campaign, 805 S. Kiwanis Avenue, Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104-3798.



MERLE PFLUEGER

Merle Pflueger circled the globe three times and brought back curiosities that melded foreign and familiar. His nieces and nephews knew they’d find something just for them in his travel trunk — even if it was only hotel shampoo and eye masks from Lufthansa airlines.

The true treasures, though, were the stories he shared. “He understood that we were his family,” says grandnephew Christian Lehmann, “and no matter where he went and no matter how long he was gone, to us he could always return, and we would always wait for some story, some exotic locale, some bizarre outfit.”

When Pflueger died, in August 2008, those stories became family legend. But Pflueger left other gifts, too. After making a few specific bequests, Pflueger willed his estate to Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation. Each year, grants from the MERLE PFLUEGER ENDOWMENT will support the three institutions that shaped his life.

A scholarship in his name gives a boost to music students at Augustana College, where he taught organ and music education for more than three decades. A second award, honoring his parents, benefits students at his alma mater. The third bequest provides ongoing care for the Aeolian-Skinner organ at First Lutheran Church. Pflueger worked with company engineers to design the instrument from stops to pedalboard, and he made it sing for 33 years as the congregation’s organist.

“He was an inspiration as a musician — and also a perceptive critic,” says Marcia Kittleson, who studied under Pflueger at Augustana and later succeeded him as First Lutheran’s organist. “I once came to my lesson, and I must not have been practicing. He said, ‘Well, what are you going to thrill me with today?’ He always was very supportive. He’d say, ‘Thank you for playing the Bach today,’ or, ‘I loved the way you handled the Vierre.’”

World traveler Merle Pflueger made Sioux Falls his home base. Pflueger taught music education and organ at Augustana College and he served as First Lutheran Church’s organist for 33 years. His legacy gift through SFACF will fund scholarships at Augustana and his alma mater, Pacific Lutheran University, as well as provide ongoing care for the organ he helped design at First Lutheran.

Music was an integral part of Pflueger’s life. Born March 15, 1921, in Seattle, he grew up with sacred music in the churches where his father served as pastor. He studied arts and school music first at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash., where his father taught religion, and earned his undergraduate degree from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio.

World War II took the 22-year-old to the South Pacific. He served the U.S. Army in anti-aircraft intelligence, spending the last few months of his duty in Gen. Douglas MacArthur’s Manila headquarters.

The war over, Pflueger returned to Washington to teach choral and instrumental music. Then, in 1953, he moved to Sioux Falls for an opportunity at Augustana College, where he’d also direct the chapel choir for 25 years. He continued learning, too, receiving a doctorate degree from Columbia University in New York.

“He was a wonderful man,” says Augustana bandleader emeritus Leland Lillehaug. “His sister and her family lived next door to us, so we saw a lot of each other off campus as well. He was simply devoted to the College, devoted to the musical organizations in Sioux Falls, and devoted to his faith as a Christian.”

Pflueger’s niece, Erika Lehmann, was one of those children next door to the Lillehaugs. “We were his kids, my two brothers and I,” she says. “He had a car long before my parents did, and I was a colicky baby. When my mom got desperate, she’d call and he’d drive us around town until I fell asleep.”

Pflueger also created an extended family of Augustana students. “He kept an envelope of clippings for each city and tracked where they ended up,” Erika says. “He would’ve loved Facebook. When he was planning a trip somewhere, he’d pull out that city’s envelope and look people up for a visit.”

Those many students who now teach in schools or play organ at churches around the world are a tribute to Pflueger’s dedication. With SFACF’s help, his legacy is sure to inspire new performers and music lovers, for good, for ever.

Print a copy of this newsletter at www.sfacf.org



SIoux FALLS AREA
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
FOR GOOD • FOR EVER

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