



# 2023 Annual Report

Empowering and strengthening the Rhinelander community.



*Together, we're creating a positive future, whether enhancing our natural surroundings, fostering arts and culture, aiding those in need, or preserving our Rhinelander heritage.*

## Dear Hodags and Supporters,

Gratitude overflows as we reflect on 2023. Our collective commitment is truly impacting future generations and enabling the Rhinelander Community Foundation to thrive.

We are pleased to announce the Foundation was accredited with Community Foundations National Standards®—the highest standards for philanthropic excellence. National Standards show that we meet the most rigorous standards in philanthropy and is a promise to our community that we'll continue to do this good work together, right here in Rhinelander.

The Rhinelander Community Foundation endowment is invested in 70% equity indexes and 30% fixed income indexes with very low internal costs. The 3-year annualized return through our fiscal year-end of 6/30/22 annualized performance compares very favorably against all foundations/endowments and ranks in the top 20th percentile for performance for all

foundations/endowments under \$25 million in size in the recent NACUBO-TIAA Study of Endowments.

Thanks to your support, the Rhinelander Community Foundation granted \$101,890 to various charitable organizations in 2023. To date, we have gifted nearly \$1 million in community grants. This year marked our inaugural year of gifting from the Cultural Arts Fund. We also launched two new donor advised funds, as well as a new Rhinelander Urban Forestry Fund. Read more about these new funds at [rhinelandercommunityfoundation.com](http://rhinelandercommunityfoundation.com).

The transformations we initiate serve as inspiration for others, resulting in an 11% increase in donors this year. Thank you all for being integral to the Rhinelander Community Foundation's journey.

Warm regards,

Gina Heck

# 2023 Grants

Non-profit organizations have laid a foundation of philanthropy in our community. Our goal is to make community organizations stronger. Charitable organizations provide essential outreach and services to meet needs and enrich lives.

## *Grants made possible through designated gifts, and gifts through established customized funds.*

- \$3,349 Art Start – Agency Fund, Endowed Grant
- \$493 Gaber Family Endowment – Papermill Historical Exhibit
- \$5,000 Friends of Townline Park – ADA Kayak Launch
- \$25,000 Hodag Schools Foundation – Hodag Dome and Activities Complex
- \$100 Let's Go Fishing – Board Service Recognition Grant (Nick Cirilli)
- \$2,000 Lights of the Northwoods – Holiday Lighting Display
- \$8,500 Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church – Donor Advised Grant
- \$1,000 Nicolet College Foundation – Wall that Heals Exhibit
- \$1,500 Northern Arts Council – Northwoods National Arts Competition
- \$1,030 Oneida County Humane Society – General Needs, Rhinelander Area
- \$626 RCF Administrative – RCF Administration Expense, Endowed Grant
- \$626 Rhinelander Area Food Pantry – RAFF, Endowed Grant
- \$350 Rhinelander Fire Department – National Fire Safety Co.
- \$5,000 Rhinelander Police Department – Canine Capital Campaign
- \$840 Rhinelander PIE – Rhinelander PIE, Endowed Grant
- \$2,500 School District of Rhinelander – Cultural Tap Program
- \$10,000 School District of Rhinelander – RHS Fab Lab Printer and Equipment

## *Grants made possible through the competitive grant process.*

- \$4,000 Art Start – Youth Art Center
- \$2,000 Junior Achievement of Wisconsin – Financial Literacy (K-12)
- \$2,000 NAMI Northern Lakes Center
- \$1,772 Northwoods Community Garden – Compost Tumblers
- \$2,000 Oneida County 4-H – Youth Summer Theatre
- \$3,000 Oneida County Biking/Walking Trail – Hanson Lake Trailhead Improvement
- \$1,000 Personal Essentials Pantry – Paper Products
- \$5,000 Project North Festival
- \$5,000 Rhinelander Area Food Pantry – Hodag Kids Program
- \$2,000 Rhinelander Community Band – Summer Riverwalk Concert Series
- \$1,704 Rhinelander District Library – Health and Safety Upgrade
- \$3,000 School District of Rhinelander – Wood Shop Drill, from the Wendt Youth Fund
- \$1,500 WXPR – 40th Anniversary Concert

**TOTAL GRANTS AS OF NOVEMBER 2023 - \$101,890**

# 2023 Gifting Highlights

## Friends of Townline Lake Park

Backed by the spirit of community, this beautiful 20-acre Oneida County Park continues to be preserved and elevated for family-friendly enjoyment. With the support of the Foundation, an ADA kayak launch will soon be incorporated.



## Public Radio 40th Anniversary Concert

To commemorate its 40th milestone, Rhinelander celebrated WXPB's cultural impact with a memorable evening at Hodag Park's amphitheater featuring the vibrant tunes of New Salty Dog. It was a festival to remember, thanks to a generous grant from the Cultural Arts Fund.



## Hanson Lake Trail Improvements

The OCBWTC received a Community Endowment Fund grant for Hanson Lake trailhead upgrades. Supporting accessible trail improvements, we're thrilled to contribute to our community's enjoyment of the picturesque 35-acre lake views on this all-levels-friendly trail.





## COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD RECOGNITION

The Rhinelander Community Foundation was honored with the Community Enhancement Award at RACC's Annual Awards Gala. Board Treasurer Shannon Campy accepted on behalf of the Foundation. Grateful to donors, this recognition underscores RCF's commitment to the Rhinelander area's well-being.



## COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS NATIONAL STANDARDS

Congratulations on an incredible milestone! The Foundation received accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards™. The accreditation provides quality assurance by verifying that foundations maintain legal, ethical and effective practices. For more information on the accreditation, visit [cfstandards.org](http://cfstandards.org).



## 2023 FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Pictured left to right, back:* John Viste; Mike Henry, MD; Regina Richards; Shannon Campy; Janet Jamison. *Front:* Nick Cirilli; Jaclene Tetzlaff; Gina Heck, OD; George Juetten; Jean Miazga. *Not pictured:* Pat LaPorte; Steve Michlig; Jake Weinand. Get to know our board members. Visit [rhinelandercommunityfoundation.com](http://rhinelandercommunityfoundation.com)

## VISION STATEMENT

The Rhinelander Community Foundation envisions the Rhinelander area realizing its full potential through philanthropy.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Rhinelander Community Foundation is to facilitate charitable giving and, together with our donors, enhance the quality of living in the Rhinelander community now and for future generations.

# Empower Rhinelander's Future

- ▶ **We can ALL make a difference.** By sharing the Foundation's mission through word of mouth, we can inspire others to join the cause, driving awareness and support for positive change in Rhinelander.
- ▶ **To make a donation.** To make an unrestricted donation or designate your donation to a particular fund such as the Rhinelander Urban Forestry Fund, Cultural Arts Fund, or another established fund, please use the remittance envelope. Include your preference in your check memo.
- ▶ **Contact us.** To establish a new charitable fund, include RCF in estate planning, or make a tax-deductible gift of securities, please send a message to [info@rhinelandercommunityfoundation.com](mailto:info@rhinelandercommunityfoundation.com).