



**MINNESOTA  
STATE FAIR  
FOUNDATION**

**2018 ANNUAL REPORT**

Minnesota State Fair  
**FOUNDATION**  
Annual Report





Dear Foundation Friend-

Thank you for your generous support of the Minnesota State Fair Foundation and its mission to support the Minnesota State Fair's cultural and educational programs along with improvements to the fairgrounds and its buildings.

Your support made it possible for the Foundation to grant over \$1.4 million in support to the State Fair in 2018, enhancing the experience for all. These grants funded projects in agriculture, art, the fairgrounds environment, history and education.

Notably, at the 2018 State Fair, visitors were able to enjoy cooking demonstrations at the beautiful new Cambria Kitchen in the Creative Activities Building, a project of the Foundation. Funds were also granted to the State Fair in 2018 to begin improvements on the Swine Barn, now named the Robert A. Christensen Pavilion after a visionary master of the swine industry, through a lead gift from Christensen Farms. Many of these improvements will debut for fair guests at the 2019 State Fair with more planned for the future.

One of the most unique phenomena of the Minnesota State Fair is the passionate response that it inspires in people. It is a place where families create traditions and memories that they hold dear. It is a place where enthusiastic experts have the chance to share their knowledge with thousands of visitors. It is a place to be entertained, to learn and just soak it all in. That is the magic that is the fair – past, present and future.

As a supporter of the Foundation, you were a part of that magic for the over 2 million visitors in 2018, and your gifts will make a mark far beyond that. In the following pages, you will read stories of passionate State Fair and Foundation supporters, all who find purpose and joy in giving back to the State Fair through the Foundation, both through gifts funding areas of personal passion as well as the experience as a whole. Through their support, and yours, the Foundation will continue to play a key role in improving the Minnesota State Fair experience for both today's visitors and future generations.

Sincerely,

Patty Smith  
Chair, Board of Directors

Mary Chung  
Executive Director

# Minnesota State Fair FOUNDATION

## 2018 Grants



### AGRICULTURE

- Supreme Champion Livestock Awards
- Swine Barn Improvements



### EDUCATION

- Cambria Kitchen Redesign
- Educational Programs



### ENVIRONMENT

- Bench Seating
- Recognition Brick Plaza
- New Trees



### ARTS & CULTURE

- Creative Activities
- Giant Sing Along
- Fine Arts Awards
- Studio: Here, Artist Stipends
- Arts & Culture Programs



### HISTORY

- State Fair Archives
- West End Market
- History & Heritage Center
- History Walking Tour

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal Year November 1, 2017 – October 31, 2018

Statements of Financial Position	10/31/18	10/31/17
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,939,520</b>	<b>\$ 2,659,561</b>
Total Liabilities	\$ 95,952	\$ 41,250
Net Assets: Undesignated	\$ 1,089,541	\$ 1,030,292
Net Assets: Board Designated – Fine Arts	\$ 64,689	\$ 47,039
Net Assets: Temporarily Restricted	\$ 673,892	\$ 933,818
Net Assets: Permanently Restricted	\$ 1,015,446	\$ 607,162
Total Net Assets	\$ 2,843,568	\$ 2,618,311
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 2,939,520</b>	<b>\$ 2,659,561</b>

Statements of Activities	2018	2017
<b>REVENUES</b>		
Contributions	\$ 1,856,139	\$ 1,377,093
Support from the Minnesota State Agricultural Society (State Fair)	\$ 213,690	\$ 324,869
In-kind Contributions	\$ 283,342	\$ 62,003
Special Events, Net of Direct Benefits	\$ 101,880	\$ 77,855
Interest and Dividends	\$ 7,583	\$ 3,813
Unrealized Gains on Investments	\$ (\$3,203)	\$ 75,701
Net Merchandise Sales	\$ 264,281	\$ 272,166
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 2,723,712</b>	<b>\$ 2,193,500</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Grants to the Minnesota State Agricultural Society (State Fair)	\$ 1,464,581	\$ 998,487
Payroll	\$ 719,901	\$ 648,503
Professional Services	\$ 48,328	\$ 41,815
Office and Production	\$ 164,875	\$ 170,620
Occupancy	\$ 24,925	\$ 24,526
Business Expenses	\$ 55,750	\$ 42,966
Other	\$ 20,096	\$ 12,667
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 2,498,455</b>	<b>\$ 1,939,584</b>
<b>CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 225,257</b>	<b>\$ 253,916</b>

Net Assets, Beginning	\$ 2,618,311	\$ 2,364,395
Net Assets, Ending	\$ 2,843,568	\$ 2,618,311

And all around support of the  
Minnesota State Fair

# FRIENDS ★ OF THE ★ FAIR

We celebrate our Friends of the Fair who generously support our nonprofit mission to preserve and improve Minnesota State Fair buildings, the fairgrounds and educational programs with contributions at every level.

With the help of Friends of the Fair, the Foundation was able to support projects big and small such as Swine Barn improvements, updated signage in the Fine Arts Center, a record number of benches (120!) added to the fairgrounds, awards and experiences in art and agriculture, and general support for keeping the fairgrounds green and welcoming.

Thank you for being loyal State Fair fans! To learn more about our Friends of the Fair program and other ways to support the Minnesota State Fair through the Minnesota State Fair Foundation, visit [msffoundation.org](http://msffoundation.org).



# Leave a **LEGACY** At the Fair

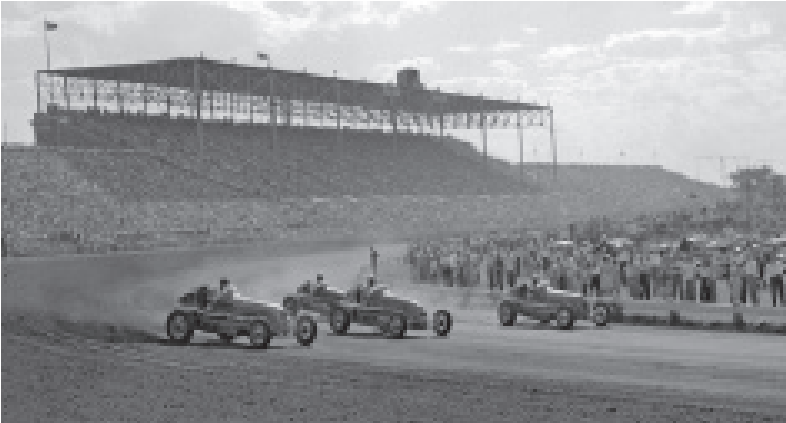
Establishing an endowment or making a planned gift are two ways helping the Minnesota State Fair ensure a successful future. They are ways to show your support for the Minnesota State Fair while accommodating your own personal, financial, estate planning, and philanthropic goals.

## **Endowments**

Endowments grow over time, extending the impact of a donor's generosity beyond their lifetime. Any donor may choose to give to the general endowment, program area endowments, or an endowment that has been established by another donor. Named endowments can be created with gifts of cash, securities, and other assets. They can be established through one-time gifts, estate gifts, and multiyear pledges. Endowments are permanent, which means endowments established now are already benefiting the fair and will continue to do so for generations to come.

***Thank you to the donors who have created the following endowments that are already making an impact across the fairgrounds:***

- Kay Cady Endowment Fund for the Fairgrounds
- Alan Calavano Fund for History & Heritage
- Marie Cavallaro Fund for Fairgrounds Environment
- Christensen Family Fund for Swine Barn Maintenance
- Christensen Family Fund for Youth Scholarships
- Mitch and Laurie Davis Fund for Animal Agriculture
- Fabie Family Fund for General Support of the Foundation and its Mission
- Jeff and Diane Hawkins Family Fund
- Ginny Hubbard Fund for Access
- Huntington-Eilertson Family Fund for Arts and Culture
- Dick and Peggy Lidstad Fund for Bee Programming
- Minnesota Livestock Breeders' Association Agricultural Fund for Livestock
- Minnesota State Fair Archive Fund
- Minnesota State Fair Foundation General Endowment
- Sorensen Family Fund to Preserve the History and Legacy of the State Fair and Minnesota
- Tree Preservation and Canopy Support Fund
- Werner-Jameson Family Fund



# Supporting the Future

## Sara Edel and Dee Reinking

### Planned Giving

Planned giving is arranged in the present and allocated at a future date. It is the process of making a charitable gift during your life or at death that is part of your financial or estate plan. You can choose to give a specific dollar amount, specific property, or percentage of your estate. When making a planned gift, it's important to work with your financial advisor as everyone's situation is different.

Planned gifts can be set up to benefit the greatest needs of the Minnesota State Fair in the future or you may choose to set up future endowments supporting an area of the fair you are most passionate about.

#### ***Thank you to the generous donors who have planned to create the following endowments with future gifts:***

- Jerry and Jan Albrecht Fund for Minnesota State Fair Dairy Shows
- Brian and Carol Boeke Fund for Agriculture/Horticulture and Fairgrounds Environment
- Ray Diekrager Fund
- Thomas Dzik and Hannah McGraw-Dzik Fund for Arts and Culture
- Edel-Reinking Fund for Support of the Minnesota State Fair
- Reinking-Edel Fund for Youth Scholarships
- Helen Wagner Fund for Children's Programming

You can learn about endowments and planned gifts by visiting the Minnesota State Fair Foundation website at [plannedgiving.msffoundation.org](http://plannedgiving.msffoundation.org). If you would like to talk to one of our gift officers about how a gift like this can help you meet your charitable goals, please contact the Minnesota State Fair Foundation at 651-288-4328.

When Sara Edel and Dee Reinking set up their estate plan, they wanted to make sure that causes close to their hearts would receive benefits from their assets. The couple set up a handful of endowments, including two that benefit the Minnesota State Fair Foundation. "The Foundation staff helped make the process really easy," said Dee. These endowments create a legacy that will support the mission of the Foundation beyond the couple's lifetimes.

One endowment will benefit a wide range of competitions at the fair and the other will go towards academic scholarships that the Foundation offers to students who compete at the fair. "The competitions are what makes the fair the fair," said Sara. "We want to support the Foundation's mission by making sure that young people continue to participate in the fair, cherish its rich history and develop leadership and teamwork skills."

A friend introduced the couple to the Foundation in 2008 by inviting them to attend the organization's annual Taste of the Fair event. Impressed by what they learned, they became Friends of the Fair the following year and have remained loyal supporters and volunteers for the Foundation ever since. Sara, a retired law enforcement officer, can be found at the fair most days, while Dee, director of human resources for the University of Minnesota School of Nursing, carves out time to be there when she can. "Even though this is a very busy time at work for me, there's no way I'm going to miss it," she said.



# Taste of the Fair

*The get together before the Get-Together*



The Minnesota State Fair Foundation's annual fundraiser is the ultimate State Fair pre-party. Each year, the Foundation invites donors and their guests to Taste of the Fair, a fun-filled kick-off celebration held one week prior

to the start of the fair. Taste of the Fair features food and drinks from a host of State Fair vendors, along with entertainment by performers ahead of their sets at the Great Minnesota Get-Together. Attendees can try their hand at an assortment of Mighty Midway games, take a turn on one of the fair's signature rides, and grab a photo with the fair's rascally mascots Fairborne and Fairchild.

As a fundraising event, Taste of the Fair is an integral part of the Foundation's ability to support the State Fair's capital improvements and programming.

Funds are raised through event ticket sales and sponsorships as well as silent and live auction proceeds.

The Foundation offers sincere thanks to the many sponsors who make this event a success, especially By The Yard for their support as lead sponsor of the 2018 Taste of the Fair.



## Saluting Dave Cavallaro

While growing up in suburban St. Paul, Dave Cavallaro was drawn to the Minnesota State Fair by the excitement of the Midway and the barns full of farm animals. He was also fascinated watching vendors interact with the fair's diverse audience. As a teen, he honed his salesmanship skills by manning his family's roadside produce stand in Mendota Heights. Dave credits these youthful experiences with inspiring him to get into the concession business.

He bought his first concession trailer in 1985 and worked for decades in the business throughout the country before landing a spot at the Minnesota State Fair in 2002 with the Mouth Trap cheese curd booth. That year also marked Dave's beginning as an annual contributor to the Minnesota State Fair Foundation.

A strong believer in giving back, Dave said that contributing to the Foundation is his way of honoring the generous concessionaires who mentored him in his career.

In 2014, he established a legacy endowment in order to keep his contributions working in perpetuity. "I like that an endowment is the gift that keeps on giving," he said. That endowment was named for his daughter Marie

Cavallaro, a teacher and youth minister whose giving nature is an ongoing source of inspiration for him.

In 2019, Dave plans to contribute to the fair's North End redevelopment as a way to further honor his daughter, and because he wants to support the educational and entertainment aspects of the project. "My hope is that this gift impacts in some small way the future of young fair visitors," he said.





# 2018 FOUNDATION Donors

## FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

### GRAND CHAMPIONS \$10,000 and above

- Ames Construction Inc.
- Bremer Bank
- By The Yard Inc.
- Christensen Farms
- Gale Family Foundation
- Hubbard Broadcasting Inc.
- Margaret H. and James E. Kelley Foundation Inc.
- Manitou Fund
- Midwest Dairy Association
- Miller's Flavored Cheese Curds
- The Saint Paul Foundation
- The Scrooby Foundation
- Sweet Martha's Cookie Jar
- Upper Midwest Dairy Industry Association

### GRAND CHAMPIONS \$1,000-\$9,999

- AgCountry Farm Credit Services
- Allied Blacktop Company
- Bailey Nurseries Foundation
- Bailey Nurseries Inc.
- The Ball Park Cafe
- Bud Rotter Family Foundation
- Cambria
- Carefree Capital Management
- CliftonLarsonAllen
- Collins Electrical
- Culligan Minnesota Co-op
- Cuningham Group Architecture P.A.
- Davis Family Dairies
- The Dellwood Foundation
- Dino's Gyros
- Fair Ride Entertainment LLC
- First District Association
- Fredrikson & Byron
- Giggles Campfire Grill
- Gray, Plant, Mooty, Mooty & Bennett, P.A.
- J.B. Nelson
- Lieberman Companies
- The Longview Foundation
- Lorenz Bus Service
- Maertens-Brenny Construction Co.
- McGough Construction
- Metropolitan Library Service Agency
- Mills Fleet Farm
- Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation

- Minnesota Historical Society
- Minnesota Rusco Inc.
- Minnesota Vikings
- Northern Precision Sales
- Old National Bank
- Patio Umbrellas - M&E Sales
- Peterson Brothers Roofing
- Pioneer Foundation FPA
- Prairie Farms Dairy, Inc.
- Pronto Pups
- Richard and Nancy Nicholson Fund of the Nicholson Foundation
- River Raft Ride Inc.
- Sampson Family Charitable Foundation
- Sausage Sister and Me
- Securian Foundation
- Spriggs
- Stinson Leonard Street Foundation
- TKDA Engineers Architects Planners
- Twin City Jacuzzi LLC

### \$250-\$999

- Alamo Amusements Inc.
- American Restaurant Consultants Inc.
- Apron Elegance
- Becker Concessions
- Bongards' Creameries
- Butcher Boys - F&W Concessions
- Cassata Concessions
- Custom Remodelers Inc.
- Fidelity Charitable
- The Fouta Spa
- Grandstand Donuts
- Groth Family Farms
- Harrington Enterprises
- J D Fair Dealers LLC
- Lakeside Products
- LuLu's Public House
- Midway Men's Club
- Minnesota Dairy Goat Association
- Minnesota Farmers Union
- Neuenfeldt & Co.
- Northern Stars Homecare
- St. Paul Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 34
- Strawberry Patch
- Sun Country Airlines
- Two Rivers Kettle Korn
- Udder Tech Inc.
- Vagabond Imports of South America
- Wee Dazzle
- Zeller Realty Group

*We acknowledge you for your generous support. Donors listed here gave to endowments, State Fair programs and projects, campaigns and Foundation operations. Gifts and pledges listed here represent contributions of \$250 or more made between November 1, 2017 and October 31, 2018. We salute our Grand Champions who made gifts of \$1,000 or more. Our complete list of 2018 contributors can be found at [msffoundation.org](http://msffoundation.org).*

### \$100-\$249

- African Violet Society of Minnesota
- Apple Dumplings - Rutana Concessions
- Brede Exposition Services
- Butterfly House - Spineless Wonders
- Cabinetpak Kitchens of Minneapolis
- Carver County Fair
- Cotton Candy - Immerman
- Country Scones & Coffee
- Donna's Bar-B-Q Rib Sandwich Concessions
- Flowering Onion - A & M Concessions
- French Meadow Bakery
- Friedman and Associates
- Gifts Made By Hand
- Haunted House - K & M Recreation Inc.
- Hopkins Food Service Inc.
- Mexican Hat
- Michael Borg Images LLC
- Mickey's Grill & Kabobs - Ormic Concessions
- Minnesoftub
- Minnesota Apples Inc.
- Minnesota Federation of County Fairs
- Oasis Aqua Massage
- Oofda Tacos
- Peaceful Village Imports
- Rockler Co. Inc.
- Sharon and James Co.
- St. Paul East Parks Lions Club
- Swine Services Unlimited Inc.
- Three B's LLC
- Top Notch Stock Farm

### \$1-\$99

- 3B Concessions Inc.
- Benson's Concessions Inc.
- Block Concessions
- Claycraft Inc.
- Cotton Candy - Yah
- DuBois Designs - ABC Seamless
- Exotic Everest Imports
- Gem Mountain Studio
- Hulterstrum Brothers Inc.
- MakeShift Accessories
- Marshall County Fair
- Minnesota Jersey Cattle Association
- Old Time Portraits
- Pickle Dog
- PowerFX
- Settergren Farm

- Silver Strands
- Soaps - Skyline Sales
- Wagner Family Farm
- Waseca County Fair
- Weetown Outpost Inc.

## INDIVIDUALS

### GRAND CHAMPIONS \$10,000 and above

- Estate of Alan Calavano
- Dave Cavallaro/"Mouth Trap" Cheese Curds
- Sandy and Don Craighead
- Mitch and Laurie Davis
- Steve and Cynthia Eilertson
- Jeff and Diane Hawkins
- The John and Ruth Huss Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation
- Brad and Lori Ribar
- Richard Werner/The Frontier
- Daniel Wozniak

### GRAND CHAMPIONS \$5,000 - \$9,999

- Mark and Mary Davis
- Charlton Dietz
- Carmel Dyer and Fred Pittroff
- John and Anne Fabie
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- Sonia Fuerstneau
- Hank and Ellen Hanten
- Anne and Bob Horn
- Tim and Diane Madden
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- Postiglione Family
- Dave and Erika Rustad
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- David and Kathryn Sorensen

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- Kristine Anderson
- Mary Apuli
- Autrey/Parisi Family Foundation
- Bernadette Barker
- Dorine and Jerry Behrendt
- Thomas Bettenburg/Tom Thumb Donuts
- Kurt Blomgren
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- David and Carolyn Brandt

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- Paul Wigley
- Betty Williams and Bob Ollila
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- Karen Wurst
- Mary Zehrer
- Tom Zeman
- Richard Zeyen and Carol Van Why

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- Randy and Kari Drinkall
- Cindy Duddleston
- Nancy Dunivin
- Anthony and Tiffany Dunlap
- Thomas Dzik and Hannah McGraw-Dzik
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- Debbie Edman
- Shelley Eisele
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- Becky and Brady Elston
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- Benjamin Englund
- Gene and Lori Ernst
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- Cassie Fearing
- Leland and Jeanne Ferden
- Charles A. Flinn Jr.
- Jennifer and Mark Foley
- Rose Forst

# Honoring STATE FAIR Generations

For more than 160 years, the Minnesota State Fair has been the place where families have shown livestock, created life-long connections and enjoyed camaraderie. Numerous families of State Fair exhibitors have recommitted themselves with each succeeding generation.

At the 2018 State Fair, the Minnesota State Agricultural Society and the Minnesota State Fair Foundation recognized the Moses family for their dedicated and remarkable century of exhibiting sheep at the Minnesota State Fair.

In 1918, Clayton Moses started exhibiting at the fair with Shropshire and Southdown sheep. He continued every year until early in the 1930s. The sheep were then exhibited as C. Moses & Sons, showing Shropshires, Hampshires and Southdowns.

In 1948, Duane Moses entered the fair as a sheep exhibitor and competed against his grandpa, Clayton, and father, Clarion. In 1958 the farm changed to D & J Moses, exhibiting Shropshires, Hampshires and Southdowns. In 1963 D & J Moses began showing Dorsets.

In the 1980s they dispersed the Hampshire flock and expanded the Dorset numbers. Currently exhibiting as D & J Moses Sheep Farm, Duane and Jay show Dorsets and Southdowns at the Minnesota State Fair.

Duane and Jay can share many stories how the sheep have changed over the years. They have many good memories exhibiting at the Minnesota State Fair.



# Volunteer Spotlight : Ken and Ellie Sandvik

Ken Sandvik and his 12-year-old granddaughter Ellie have a close relationship built on more than just a familial bond. The pair are partners in volunteerism, spending multiple days during the State Fair each year donating their time to the Minnesota State Fair Foundation. The duo can most often be found in the J.V. Bailey House, where Ken shares the Foundation's mission with visitors and Ellie is a blur of activity, keeping cups stocked for water, brochures neatly arranged and doling out the Foundation's signature Biscoff "airplane cookies."

Ken spent 27 years as a court judge for Minnesota's Sixth District. Now-retired, he says volunteering for the Foundation allows him to be a "small fish in a big pond," where he enjoys chatting with people from all walks of life.

Ken, Ellie and extended family members also volunteer a couple of days each fair at the Hamline Dining Hall. "The fair is as big a deal as Christmas in my family," said Ellie. "I love being a small part of something that means so much to me."

In 2016, Ken became further involved with the Foundation when he was elected to its board of directors. Still, he says that what he enjoys most is enlightening fair visitors about the Foundation's good work. "Most people don't realize that the fair receives no appropriations from the state," he said. "Once they learn that, they are often eager to contribute to this wonderful cause."



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## Volunteer Spotlight : Ron Jacobson

It's not unreasonable to think Ron Jacobson might have a clone. After all, the Ron who hands out maps and gives helpful advice each morning at a Minnesota State Fair information booth is a dead ringer for the Ron who greets visitors in the afternoons at the Minnesota State Fair Foundation headquarters in the J.V. Bailey House. The energetic (and non-cloned) analytic consultant for a major financial institution is an enthusiastic supporter of both the State Fair AND the Foundation that supports it.

Ron has been involved with the Foundation since its inception in 2002, when, between full-time work assignments, he sought out the State Fair Employment Center and landed a position assisting the fledgling organization during the 12 days of the fair. His duties involved explaining the mission of the Foundation to fair visitors and selling fundraising buttons from a booth in the Lower Grandstand. He found the experience so fulfilling that he returned the following year in 2003 as a Foundation volunteer and has continued to do so every year since. He is also a dedicated annual financial contributor to the Foundation.

In addition, for the past 12 years, Ron has taken vacation from his full-time job in order to work in a State Fair information booth. "Where else would I want to be?" he said. "There are so many positives about the fair. I love the look of wonderment on kids' faces, seeing older people re-live their youth, and letting folks know about the good work of the Foundation."

*Best efforts are made to include your name(s) correctly. We apologize for any errors and ask that you let us know of changes by calling 651-288-4327. To see our full list of donors, visit our website at [www.msffoundation.org](http://www.msffoundation.org)*

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- Ames Construction Inc.
- Cambria
- Daryl's Dog House
- The First Impression Group
- Green Mill Restaurant
- Mancini's
- Minnesota Historical Society
- Minnesota Honey Producers Association
- Minnesota State Fair
- O'Gara's Bar and Grill
- Sara's Topsy Pies
- Sun Country Airlines
- Sweet Martha's Cookie Jar
- Tot Boss
- West Indies Soul Food

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- Gordy Allison
- Lowell L. Anderson
- Bigelbach Family
- Tim Broeker
- Dr. Alfred Boz
- Kay Cady
- CRI customers

- Curtis and Edith Churness
- William D. Coyne
- Fran Cusack
- Sharon Dillon's Grandkids
- Nate Dungan
- Jan Erickson
- Howard Fountain
- Debra Frasier
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- Gray Volkenant
- Jerry Macho
- Martha Macmillan
- Elaine Magnan
- Jon and Jerrilyn Mathisrud
- Beverly Mattheis
- Mattea Hattie Miette
- Dan, Kevin, and Rick Montpetit of Gabe's by the Park
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- Candace and Mike
- Grandpa Bill
- Kari and Jinna
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- Cedric Adams
- Michele Addington

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- Marion L. Anderson
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