



# COMMUNITY CORNERSTONE

The Newsletter of the Community Foundation of Dunn County



## Over \$76,000 Awarded at Annual Luncheon

The Community Foundation of Dunn County held its Annual Luncheon on April 18th at The Dunn County Historical Society's Holtby Hall and gave away over \$76,000 to 25 local nonprofit organizations and other agencies through our February 2024 grant cycle. We saw a record number of applications this February, and thanks to generous fund holders here at the Foundation, we were able to provide additional funding for vital programs and projects in Dunn County!

**Thank you to Synergy Retirement Planning Strategies for sponsoring this event!**



DONATE NOW online at <https://cfdunncounty.fcsuite.com/erp/donate> or by mail using the inserted envelope.

## FEBRUARY 2024 GRANT RECIPIENTS

**Alano Club of Menomonie**  
**Alliance of Dunn County Conservation & Sports Clubs, Inc.**  
**Boyceville Community School District**  
**Big Brothers Big Sisters of NW Wisconsin**  
**Boys & Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley**  
**Bridge to Hope**  
**Colfax Public Library**  
**Colfax Wildlife Rehabilitation & Release, Inc.**  
**Dunn County Health Department**  
**Dunn County Historical Society**  
**Dunn County Humane Society**  
**Hmong Friendship Center**  
**Junior Achievement of Wisconsin**

**Literacy Chippewa Valley**  
**Menomonie Area Free Clinic**  
**Menomonie Theater Guild**  
**Menomonie United Methodist Church**  
**Mission Restoring Hope**  
**Pablo Theater at the Confluence**  
**School District of Colfax**  
**Stepping Stones of Dunn County**  
**St. Luke's Catholic Church**  
**Wisconsin Foster Closet**  
**YMCA - Camp Pepin**

Our next competitive grant-cycle submission deadline is **August 1st**. Apply through the online portal at [cfdunncounty.org](https://cfdunncounty.org).

# PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT: KARI SCOTT



The Community Foundation is here to help professional advisors better serve clients who have charitable goals. The Foundation is a resource that can develop plans that fit a client's financial needs while fulfilling their philanthropic passions.

The Community Foundation is excited to unveil a new spotlight for professional advisors who work at firms that have partnered with their clients and the Community Foundation to strengthen Dunn County.

## Kari Scott

Associate at Thrivent in Menomonie, Red Cedar Team

Hobby: Art - painting & sketching

Favorite Dunn County eatery: Scatterbrain Cafe

Favorite Community Foundation event: Professional Advisor Tasting

Favorite Dunn County event: The Dunn County Fair

If I had a million dollars to give: \$500,000 into an investment vehicle and \$500,000 to Stepping Stones and The Bridge to Hope



As an up and coming financial associate in Dunn County, Kari is passionate about helping people make informed decisions in their financial lives. Kari is especially enthusiastic about working with and talking to clients who, like her, are in the earlier stages of their career and helping them discover what they can do now to plan for their future and their children's futures.

"I want to be that person that I wish I had for myself at this age," Kari said. "People around my age, we don't have a lot of money, we have kids we need to support, we are constantly worried about what tomorrow is going to look like...I find myself in this unique position where I can meet with people my age and tell them how they can plan for tomorrow...so that they know their families are taken care of, so they can plan ahead for their retirement, for their kids futures...it's not always easy, but it's really neat to see these kinds of pieces in the financial world that you can make work for people."

Kari added that this group of younger professionals often do not have the financial ability to support their community, but there are other ways. Kari referred to what Thrivent calls "Choice Dollars," which some clients with investments at Thrivent may access and donate to a charity of their choice. She said many clients don't know about these dollars or where to put them, and Thrivent may suggest giving to the Foundation since they are the experts on where that money can be allocated where help is needed most.

Kari said that the most important advice she can give to a client is to not be afraid to ask questions. She emphasized that she is a very down to earth person and is eager to help.

"If you want to talk money, insurance, helping your community, or just talk in general, our doors are always open and the coffee is always hot."

**Talk to your professional advisor to find out how you can support your community through the Foundation!**



# NEWS & NOTES



## Welcome Dustin Olson to the Community!

Menomonie's Historic Mabel Tainter Theater and The Community Foundation of Dunn County have joined forces to help the community thrive. In a historic partnership, both organizations have teamed up to hire Dustin J. Olson as the new Fund Development Officer, who will work to grow The Mabel's endowment at the Foundation, and assist the Foundation with raising funds for its portfolio of endowments.

Through some long-term strategic planning, it was evident that partnering together for a Fund Development Officer that worked for both organizations would help raise funds to help the community as a whole. Welcome to the team, Dustin!

Dustin can be reached at [dolson@cfdundunncounty.org](mailto:dolson@cfdundunncounty.org) or by calling 715-232-8019.



## Saying Goodbye and Hello!

The Community Foundation will be saying goodbye to Past Board Chair, Sue Traxler. Sue served on the Foundation Board from 2018-2024, including as the Board Chair for two years. We thank Sue for her dedication and years of service!

The Foundation Board welcomes three new board members to the team: Elizabeth Serratore, Paul Horvath, and Sandi Scott. Elizabeth works as the IT Mfg. Ops Manager at Solventum, Paul works in Emergency Services at Mayo Clinic Health System Red Cedar, and Sandi is the Dean of Students at UW-Stout.

Welcome aboard, Elizabeth, Paul, and Sandi!  
We are excited to have you with us!

## Sponsor a CFDC 2024 Event

Are you part of a local business or organization that is looking for ways to become more involved in the community? We are looking for event sponsors for two events in 2024: The Legacy Picnic and Evening of Gratitude.

Please visit

<https://cfdundunncounty.org/eventsponsor2024/>

to learn more.



## Upcoming Events



### June 14th - Flag Day Ceremony

Dunn County Veterans Memorial (201 6th Ave. E)  
Free to the public



### Education Meeting - August 7th

UW-Stout Memorial Student Center



## Coffee & Community Series

The Foundation is hosting a series of FREE informational sessions to help community members learn about how they can become involved in the Foundation. All sessions will be held at the Mabel Tainter Theater from 8-9am. Below are the dates for our first two sessions. Register online at [cfdundunncounty.org](https://cfdundunncounty.org).

**July 24th - The Power of Endowment**

**August 28th - Assets & Options: Giving that Benefits You and Your Community**



**Is Dunn County where you grew up? Fell in love and raised a family? Built a business?** Now is your chance to turn those fond memories into more. Consider opening an endowed fund at the Foundation and help your community flourish! We invite you to come learn more about the Power of Endowments at our first Coffee & Community session at the Mabel on July 24th from 8-9am. Register online at [cfdunncounty.org](http://cfdunncounty.org).

**THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF DUNN COUNTY**

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