

Flasher Area Community Foundation
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Flasher Area Community Foundation

2024 Annual Update

Welcome to the first issue of the Flasher Area Community Foundation Annual Update. We are a new entity and have exciting news to share!

As many of you may already know, Grid United made a significant donation to our area last year (see article on back). This gift has funded or help fund several important projects in our area.

The donation from Grid United was the impetus for the establishment of the Flasher Area Community Foundation at the North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF). Our community foundation's advisory committee reviewed grant applications and made recommendations for grant awards from the Grid United gift. But in order to create a long-lasting legacy for our area, we would also like to create an endowed fund to support projects in the Flasher/St. Anthony area in perpetuity.

NDCF has over 70 community foundations in North Dakota under their umbrella. Some of them have over \$1 million in assets and award \$40,000 *every year* to projects in their area. We would like to start a permanent fund like that for southern Morton County. Start now, grow over time, and create a permanent resource for our area in the future.

Who's interested in investing in our community? Gifts can be large or small, but all of us contributing a little will help our community foundation grow a LOT. See the back for ideas on how and where to contribute.

Please feel free to contact any of us listed below or email us at Flasher@NDCF.net for more information about this new and exciting chapter in Morton County!

FACF Advisory Committee

Robert Bohl, Chair
Nancy Malm
Darla Schafer

Jeannie Fitterer
Travis Rossow

\$82,500 Awarded in Grants

The Flasher Area Community Foundation (FACF) awarded the following grants in 2023:

- **Flasher Rural Fire Protection District:** \$34,600 for a fire truck
- **Louse Creek Golf Association:** \$17,600 for maintaining the golf course
- **Flasher Lions:** \$17,500 for demolishing unsafe buildings and repurposing the lots for recreation opportunities
- **City of Flasher:**
 - \$7,000 for the Court Street demolition
 - \$5,800 for beautifying the courtyard, park, and ball diamonds

Any organization with a 501(c)(3) status or government agency that provides services in the Flasher area may apply for a grant. More information and the online application process can be accessed at www.NDCF.net/Flasher. ◊



Flasher Area Community Foundation (FACF) Committee Members and grantees at the grant awards presentation from the first round of grants in the Flasher courtyard on Main on August 29, 2023. Left to right: Travis Rossow with FACF, Kelly Hetzel representing the Louse Creek Golf Association, Thomas Osterbauer with the Flasher Park Board, Shannon Gerhardt with Flasher Rural Fire Protection District, and Nancy Malm with FACF.

Grid United Provides Significant Grant Dollars to Area

Grid United, an independent transmission company that builds new long-distance, interregional transmission lines, provided significant grant dollars to the Flasher Area Community Foundation for the 2023 granting season. The Grid United money, from their Community Investment Program (CIP) at the North Dakota Community Foundation, will support the six North Dakota counties in which Grid United's North Plains Connector - a transmission line connecting the U.S. eastern and western electric grids in Montana and North Dakota - will be located (see map below.)



The portion of the gift that was designated for southern Morton County was granted in two different grant rounds as follows:

- **Summer Round: \$41,000**
- **Fall Round: \$41,500**

Eligible projects must have a broad impact on the quality of life for a significant number of people in the Flasher/St. Anthony area. Ineligible projects include religious, partisan, or sectarian programs along with one-time events that are not part of longer-term economic and community development goals. Grants will not be awarded to individuals.

"We aim to foster long-term partnerships with the communities in which we develop projects and look forward to helping address community needs in southern Morton County," said Michael Skelly, Chief Executive Officer of Grid United.

Growing for the Future

While the Grid United donation is an incredible gift to our area, it was to be granted immediately and will not have any impact on future needs. In order to have money available for projects in the future (or maintenance needs for existing projects), we want to grow an endowment fund, which is invested and generates grantable dollars every year from its earnings.

Have you, your company, or your family thought of making an impact in our rural communities? We can help! Here are some options to consider:

- **Donate securely online** at www.NDCF.net/Flasher Make a one-time gift or set up a monthly donation of \$20, \$35, or \$50.
- **Mail a check** to the address below.
- **Make NDCF the beneficiary of your life insurance policy.** Be sure to specify that the funds are for the Flasher Area Community Foundation (FACF)
- **Take advantage of the IRA Charitable Rollover** - you can transfer money directly to NDCF (for FACF). The donated amount counts as your Required Minimum Distribution, but you don't need to claim it as federal income.
- **Make NDCF the beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy.** Suggested verbiage is below:

*"I give and bequeath to the North Dakota Community Foundation (Tax ID 45-0336015), a qualified charitable organization under IRS 501 (c)(3), located in Bismarck, North Dakota, _____ (a percentage, specific dollar amount, or remainder) to the **Flasher Area Community Foundation**, a component fund of the North Dakota Community Foundation."*

Questions - Donate - Apply for Grants?

Flasher Area Community Foundation
c/o NDCF
PO Box 1505, Dickinson, ND 58601

Flasher@NDCF.net

www.NDCF.net/Flasher



The Flasher Area Community Foundation is a component fund of the North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF). NDCF provides comprehensive charitable services for the local committee and its donors including donor gift planning & bequest planning, communication support, and fiduciary services including an annual audit. For more information about NDCF, to make an anonymous gift to the Flasher Area Community Foundation, or for a confidential conversation about charitable-giving options, contact John Heinen, NDCF Development Director at 701-590-4614 or John@NDCF.net.