$300,000+ in Scholarships Granted through WCCF

Congratulations to all of the 2018 high school graduates and scholarship recipients throughout Waukesha County high schools! The Waukesha County Community Foundation (WCCF) is elated to distribute over $300,000 to 270 Waukesha County students because of the generosity of our fund holders and our community.

The scholarship recipients are from 17 high schools, both private and public. The dollar amounts of the scholarships range from $250 to $5,000, with the average amount being $1,000. Students can choose to attend in-state and out-of-state colleges and universities as well as technical schools. In the past, students have selected Waukesha County Technical College, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design, Concordia, Florida State, St. Louis University and Wisconsin state schools.

The foundation is proud to collaborate with and facilitate multiple funds that support education.

“The money to support these scholarships comes from a variety of resources and most are from endowed funds,” explains Shelley Michalski, WCCF Finance and Operations. “There are memorial gifts, individual school education or scholarship funds and scholarships that are the result of community support.”

Continual generosity drives our program. Since its inception in 2006, the WCCF scholarship program has grown exponentially. In 2006, the foundation awarded $6,300 from eight scholarship funds to 30 recipients. This year, it is an honor to be able to support 270 students with more than $300,000 from 62 scholarship funds. This represents a 1000% increase in the number of scholarships in just 12 years!

The foundation is responsible for various aspects of the process, based on the type of scholarship.

“Once the scholarships are announced by the multiple schools and organizations, we process and monitor the scholarships,” said Michalski. “We send the money to the school. We keep track of who has been paid and who has not been paid. For some scholarships, we provide award letters or coordinate plaques and distribute these to the schools.”

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Pat Boelter has over 30 years of experience in nonprofit marketing, public relations and fund development. She serves on the Board of the National Retail Federation CMO Council. Since joining Goodwill 16 years ago, Pat created relationships with the Green Bay Packers, specifically Donald Driver; the Milwaukee Brewers; and the Chicago Blackhawks. She launched a new Retail “Amazing” advertising campaign and created a fundraiser, now in its 12th year, called Retro Rendezvous. Before joining Goodwill, Pat served as vice president of development/PR for a Wisconsin health care system and president of a health care foundation. She has developed award-winning advertising campaigns, established foundations, and raised millions of dollars.

Coreen Dicus-Johnson is instrumental in guiding the strategic direction of Network Health Wisconsin as the President and CEO. Before joining Network Health in October 2016, Coreen served as a president of Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare (WFH), held senior leader roles at WFH and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wisconsin, now known as Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield. Coreen earned a bachelor’s degree in communications and public relations from Marquette University and a Juris Doctor from DePaul University College of Law. In 2007, she was selected as one of The Business Journal’s Forty Under 40 and in 2015 she was selected as a Woman of Influence. She has been involved with the American Cancer Society, the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association, and Sojourner Family Peace Center.

Dave Provancher is WaterStone Bank’s Senior Vice President and Chief Lending Officer managing the bank’s lending staff and loan products since January 2018. He has been with the bank since 2008 as Chief Credit Officer to oversee the bank’s loan underwriting processes, including policy development, program guidelines, and risk rating processes for all consumer and business purpose loans. He serves on the bank’s executive committee providing strategic direction as well as various other committees. Prior to WaterStone, he was at M&I Bank in the Eau Claire market and then in company-wide positions based in Milwaukee. Dave is involved in his community through WBD, Inc., and has previously worked with the Milwaukee Exchange Club, Junior Achievement, chambers of commerce, YMCA boards, and the Red Cross.

Jane Stromwall actively helps clients with total wealth preservation as a Senior Vice President – Financial Advisor, at the Stromwall Investment Group, RBC Wealth Management. Her previous positions include First Vice President – Investments – and Branch Manager at Wells Fargo Advisors; Assistant Branch Manager at Smith Barney in areas of business development, recruiting and compliance, to name a few. Jane earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities. She earned her MBA with emphasis on finance and management consulting at Cardinal Stritch University. Her personal passion is volunteering with local non-profit organizations and participating in community activities.

Additionally, the foundation staff acts as a point of contact for the students in case they have any questions pertaining to their award. As the cost of college climbs, so does student debt. According to the universities’ websites, in 2007 a student could attend the University of Wisconsin, Madison, at an annual tuition cost of $6,678. The cost in 2018 was $10,533. To attend Marquette University in 2007, the annual tuition cost was $27,720 as compared to $41,290 in 2018.

To combat the rising cost of a post-secondary education, scholarship opportunities are invaluable. The WCCF is the place to contact if you have an interest in starting a fund to support a scholarship. “It is really easy to establish a scholarship fund,” said Michalski. “We can work with you to research options, determine the best type of scholarship, set up the criteria, develop guidelines and even coordinate the selection process.”

Another benefit to establishing a fund with WCCF is the foundation also invests your funds, utilizing an in-place system that allows for continual giving. Contact the foundation at (262)513-1861 for more information about establishing a scholarship fund.

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CELEBRATION OF GIVING

Ken Riesch is the recipient of our Celebration of Giving Award, 2018. The award was presented May 22 at the 18th annual Celebration of Giving event held at Westmoor Country Club, Brookfield.

Bestowed annually, the award recognizes community members who exhibit significant sustained support of Waukesha County nonprofit organizations and giving that results in noteworthy impact on the non-profit’s beneficiaries.

In addition to being the current owner and president of R&R Insurance Services Inc., Ken serves his community extensively in multiple organizations including Goodwill Industries of Southeast Wisconsin; Waukesha County Community Foundation; Bryon Riesch Paralysis Foundation; Waukesha Memorial Hospital; and La Casa de Esperanza Foundation.

Since 2006 the WCCF has recognized members of the community who have significantly exhibited charitable giving to nonprofit organizations in Waukesha County. Ken was the 14th recipient of the award.

“I am thrilled we recognized Ken as he fosters a culture of giving,” said Shelli Marquardt, WCCF president. “Through philanthropy, volunteerism, board support and corporate partnerships, he sets the example for others in creating a legacy of giving for generations to come.”

The foundation appreciates the support of Northern Trust, R&R Insurance Services, Inc., Waukesha State Bank and Sikich, Inc. for this event.
Nancy Mistele, Director, Office of Business Development, Wisconsin Department of Administration, provided information concerning how to navigate through the challenges and red tape occasionally encountered when working with government agencies at a June 12 breakfast held in the Wine Cellar of Tuscan Hall, Waukesha.

During this breakfast, Nancy explained the role of her department. Her office acts as a business ombudsman advocating for business interests within government; troubleshoots to get answers and solutions for consumers from state agencies; gathers ideas on how to support business, improve processes and reduce the regulatory burden; and how to navigate state resources.

Those in attendance were also entertained with the stories of success experienced by Nancy and those she serves.

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**Fightting the Growing Opioid Epidemic**

The foundation was honored to be part of the Fourth Annual Day in the Park to benefit Saving Others for Archie (SOFA, Inc.) held on Saturday, May 19, at Oconomowoc City Beach Bandshell. The day, held in conjunction with National Prevention Day, featured several jumps into the lake: Recovery Jump, Jump for Archie and Others, Elected Officials Jump and Jump for Prevention.

Proceeds from the event benefited the SOFA, Inc. Archie Badura Memorial Fund, which assists in the fight against the opioid epidemic. Archie died of a heroin overdose in 2014. After his death, his mother founded SOFA, Inc. in hopes of raising awareness and bringing an end to the opioid epidemic by pioneering solutions for unmet needs across Wisconsin and the country. Their focus is also on the treatment of mental illness. The SOFA, Inc., Archie Badura Memorial Fund is a fund within the WCCF.

In addition, community member Jen Veum wanted to make a difference and help. After learning through the founder’s sister about SOFA, Inc. and the group’s quest to raise awareness of the epidemic, she felt spiritually led to do something. She wanted to help raise awareness and gain support from the community for the epidemic that is destroying so many lives.

“Several people in my life have been affected by this awful evil and my goal is that not one more life would be lost to it,” said Veum. “With everyone coming together to tackle this nation-wide issue, I believe we can accomplish this.” She raised more than $4,000 to benefit the SOFA, Inc. Archie Badura Memorial Fund by participating in a 50K ultra-marathon.

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Jen Veum ran a 50K marathon to support SOFA.
Gathering in the Garden — Last Call
You still have time to RSVP for our Gathering in the Garden to be held at the beautiful home of Geri Fotsch in Elm Grove. This event benefits our Community Grants and Field of Interest Funds, namely LGBT, Literacy, Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and Women and Girls. The evening starts at 5 p.m., on Thursday, July 19. RSVP by calling 262-513-1861 or register online at: www.WaukeshaFoundation.org/GardenParty.

Giving Forward Breakfast — Save the Date
This year’s Giving Forward Breakfast is in November and will highlight Women and Girls, Christmas Clearing Council and Salvation Army. Our community grant recipients will also be announced at this event. The newly renovated Ingleside Hotel (formerly known as Country Springs) in Pewaukee will be the location. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, November 7, 2018.

New Foundation Software
The foundation has converted to a new integrated software system for all of the foundation operations. In the near future, all fundholders will have access to online fund information including fund balance, spending amount availability and the ability to request grants from their funds electronically.

Additionally, the 2018 community grants application window recently opened and starting this year will be all electronic, from the letter of intent through the review process. Nonprofit organizations can apply at www.WaukeshaFoundation.org/grant-application/.

Waukesha County Provides
Online-giving campaign successful for multiple county agencies
The Waukesha County Provides annual campaign raised over $81,000 in March for The Women’s Center, Hebron House of Hospitality, Hope Center, and Food Pantry of Waukesha County. Over 655 individual donations were received. The partnership will assist with feeding, clothing, sheltering or counseling at the four agencies.

“We can’t do this alone,” explained The Women’s Center’s Executive Director Angela Mancuso. “We need a partnership with and investment from the community to keep our lights on and doors open. The Waukesha County Provides campaign provides just that, allowing us to give families who’ve fled their homes due to violence a safe, warm and supportive environment here at The Women’s Center.”

This event also aimed to increase awareness and capacity for these agencies. Through the use of Facebook and Facebook Live, county residents gained greater insight to what these agencies do.

KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT
If you have a new or different home address or primary email address, please be sure the WCCF is notified. Contact lwohlfiel@WaukeshaFoundation.org with most current contact information.

Community Grant Application Window
NOW OPEN
Apply before August 1, 2018
www.WaukeshaFoundation.org/grant-application/
Northern Trust is proud to support the Waukesha County Community Foundation. For more than 125 years, we’ve been meeting our clients’ financial needs while nurturing a culture of caring and a commitment to invest in the communities we serve. It’s all part of being a good neighbor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
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