NMF Scholarships Leave Lasting Impact for Northwest Minnesota Students

THOMPSON FAMILY GIVES LOCALLY TO CREATE A STRONGER COMMUNITY FOR ALL

Attention Reader: This is the first newsletter mailing we have done since migrating to our new database system. If you would like to update your contact information or mailing preferences with us, please contact Kari Cooper, communications manager, at karic@nwmf.org. Thank you!
I’m a strong believer that for words to mean anything, they need to be backed up with action. After the murder of George Floyd and the tragic death of Officer Cody Holte, we released a statement expressing our sorrow over the violence, destruction, and senseless loss of life. To follow this statement with action, we granted funding to the Community Foundation of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks & Region and also to Voices for Racial Justice. We also joined the Minnesota Philanthropic Collective to Combat Anti-Blackness & Realize Racial Justice and will be furthering our partnership with this collective to advance racial justice throughout Northwest Minnesota.

To assist in the relief of the COVID-19 pandemic, we’ve been processing grants and loans at a rate we’ve never before attempted. We’ve processed more grants and loans in two months than we usually do in a year. It’s been busy, but we get energy and motivation from all of you throughout the region who are working so hard during this time, including:

- Entrepreneurs and small businesses making changes to how they do business
- Child care providers adding cleaning and physical distancing to how they care for children
- Food shelves striving to meet the increased demand
- Organizations that support our elderly, who have been hit especially hard by this pandemic
- Homeless shelters adding cleaning and physical distancing to how they provide services
- Frontline workers in health, emergency services, food services, and essential supply chains
- Teachers, paraprofessionals, and everyone supporting the education and well-being of the region’s students

Thank you for all that you do and for your dedication to all of us. Please know that you are valued and appreciated.

Thank you to all of our generous donors and funders. Your gifts truly make a difference and help to Build Better Lives for those who call the region home.

During this tumultuous and busy time, I am reminded of a quote from Martin Luther King Jr.:

*If you can’t fly, run.*
*If you can’t run, walk.*
*If you can’t walk, crawl.*
*But by all means, keep moving.*

Know that we will keep moving for Northwest Minnesota.

With gratitude,

Karen White
President and CEO
To make a gift to support our COVID-19 relief efforts around the region, go to www.nwmf.org and click "Give Now" or text SUPPORTNORTHWESTMN to 50155.

**COVID-19 Dashboard**

NMF’s impact and contributions as of July 2020

- **NMF Funding Allocated** $303,000
- **External Grant Funding Received** $490,500

**Northwest Minnesota Emergency Disaster Recovery Fund Grants**

- **Grants Awarded** 48
- **$197,000 Total**

**COVID-19 Component Fund Grants**

- **7 Grants - $54,500 Total**

**External Loan Funding Received** $1,195,000

**Loans Approved** 76

**Northwest Minnesota Child Care Emergency Grants**

- **259 Grants**
- **$279,000 Total**

**Approved Loan Total** $869,048
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If you would like to learn more about how to make a meaningful gift in your community, visit www.nwmf.org and click “Ways to Give.” Text “NMF” to 50155 to donate from your phone to our general endowment fund!
DALE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIPS SUPPORT RED LAKE FALLS STUDENTS GOING INTO THE MEDICAL FIELD

Growing up in a small town has its advantages: you know your neighbors, enjoy small class sizes in schools, and have easy access to the outdoors. However, small towns also have limitations. High school graduates often have to look beyond their towns in search of the next opportunity. The Dale family, originally of Red Lake Falls, wanted to help Lafayette High School graduates take that next big step.

Dr. Lester “Les” Norris Dale was the only physician in Red Lake Falls during the 16 years he lived there and was raising his family. His daughter, Terry Dale-Pfister, remembers how special it was growing up in Red Lake Falls. “It was a great community that really provided me with a good start in life,” she said. In 1963, the Dales moved to Hastings, Minnesota, where Les continued to practice medicine.

After Dr. Dale passed away in 2000, his adult children came together to find a meaningful way to honor their father’s memory. In 2001, they established the Lester Norris Dale, MD Scholarship Fund at NMF. This restricted fund of the Red Lake Falls Education Fund supports furthering the educational opportunities of young people going into medical and related health sciences fields. Since the scholarship was established, the fund has provided twenty Red Lake Falls students with educational scholarships. Additionally, in 2014, Terry established her own scholarship, which provides the same students who receive her father’s scholarship with an additional year of financial support. Six students from Red Lake Falls have benefitted from this two-year support so far.

“This is just a small way for me to pay it forward for a community that means so much to me,” said Terry. Although she has been a resident of Hayward, Wisconsin, for the past thirty years, she enjoys staying connected with the Red Lake Falls community, and has returned to her hometown through the years for school reunions and other community events.

Thank you to everyone who made a gift to our Cheers to NMF! virtual fundraiser on June 24, 2020!

We exceeded our goal and raised a grand total of $2,605 for our General Endowment Fund.

If you would like to learn more about leaving a legacy in Northwest Minnesota through scholarship funds, visit our website at www.nwmf.org and click on “Ways to Give.” Text “NMF” to 50155 to donate from your phone to our general endowment fund!
You can help us Build Better Lives in Northwest Minnesota by making a gift today! Visit www.nwmf.org/give-now to donate online. Text “NMF” to 50155 to donate from your phone to our general endowment fund!

“She believed strongly in philanthropy and in living below one’s means,” said her sister, Rebecca Evans. “She was humble, modest, and very frugal. She was aware of the increasing income inequality in our country and wanted to be helpful to less fortunate people—and to do it quietly, without looking for credit or praise while she was still alive.”

If you have questions about how you may leave a lasting legacy, contact Northwest Minnesota Foundation to speak to one of our development officers. Visit www.nwmf.org/ways-to-give for more information.
Northwest Minnesota Foundation (NMF) is proud to announce its 2019–2020 IDEA Competition winners. The IDEA Competition was established in 2008 as a result of a region-wide effort to support and incentivize local talent and ingenuity. Since its inception, the IDEA Competition has awarded over $408,000 to thirty-six winners and runners-up.

First place was awarded to Muskox in Mentor, Minnesota. Muskox received a $15,000 cash award and a $5,000 service package from IdeaWorks, whose mission is to provide consultation and direct investment in businesses on a case-by-case basis. The Muskox makes snow removal a single-step process by continuing to blow snow in reverse. Traditional snowblower attachments only work moving forward, and the chutes block vision and lack throwing power. The Muskox offers bidirectional snow blowing, upper cutting edges, an angled back wall for better sight, a slip clutch, and a lowered chute.

The runners-up (in no particular order) include Moonlit Analytics, Table for 7, and F&H Design.

Moonlit Analytics in Bemidji, Minnesota, received a $5,000 cash award from the competition and a 15-hour Awareness Campaign package from Evolve Creative. The Moonlit Analytics team offers customized and affordable data modeling that can be applied to equipment anomaly detection, customer payment forecasting, sales projections, employee schedule optimization, and much more.

Table for 7 in Bemidji, Minnesota, received a $4,000 cash award. Table for 7 will be a niche restaurant that will bring Bemidji back to its roots, where every local community should look for the source of its food. Not only will it support and raise up the local growing community, but it will also provide education for people who are passionate about good food. In turn, those people will go on to be more equipped in the food industry as they advance in their career. It is a niche restaurant that is unlike what Bemidji already has for choices of places to eat out.

F&H Design in Shevlin, Minnesota received a $1,000 cash award, a $5,000 service package from Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, and $5,000 worth of services from LVI Supply. F&H Design's organizer system will act to protect equipment, or items within the Ice Fishing embodiment. The needless destruction of equipment during hauling, towing the ice fishing sled, and the entanglement of equipment or items will be reduced. This adjustable system is to fit all sizes of the ice fishing sled, and can be customized for individual use planning, and placement of items. The adjustability and interlocking panels will help to secure the load within the sled.

“Although this year’s competition had some hiccups due to COVID-19, we were still able to finish strong, move the final judging rounds to a virtual process, and name our 2020 winners,” said Mic McCrory, competition organizer. “Everyone who participated this year had impressive ideas, and I am looking forward to seeing where these winners take their businesses next.”

There is something simple within our reach that we can do that even the most conditioned athlete would envy, and that is to prepare well and finish strong. The thrill of winning a race lasts only moments. However, a well-planned estate provides joy and satisfaction for years.

Working with an attorney to plan your estate is probably less expensive than you might think, and the results, fortunately, are more rewarding. We have simple, free tools to help you get started, prepare and complete your plan. For our free, no-obligation tools, visit www.nwmfgifts.org.
NORTHWEST MINNESOTA FOUNDATION GIVING CIRCLE

Northwest Minnesota Foundation’s Giving Circle members are individuals and businesses that care deeply about Northwest Minnesota and want to support the continued well-being of the region—helping to sustain the place we call home.

As a donor, your gift helps accomplish much in the development and impact of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation. Giving Circle members support all areas of our work—helping people start and grow new businesses, support collaboratives to address housing capacity in the region, better serve those in our community experiencing homelessness, find sustainable solutions to quality child care in Northwest Minnesota, and addressing long-standing social challenges.

Members of our Annual Circle of Giving make an annual contribution of $500 or more to the NMF Endowment. That’s just $40 a month to make an impact on the region in which you live! The gift may be made outright in cash or in stock as well.