RESOURCE

NORTHEAST MINNESOTA DONORS FOSTER A CULTURE OF PHILANTHROPY

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome!
New Members Inducted into NMF’S Giving Circle

RUTH HOWE CONTINUES GIVING LEGACY IN HONOR OF LATE HUSBAND

ANONYMOUS GIFT SETS UP NEVIS SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS
As I am writing this message the holiday season is almost upon us. 2020 has been a year like no other. I am uplifted by witnessing neighbor helping neighbor, the frontline and health workers putting themselves at risk every day, the adjustments schools, colleges, and universities are making to keep students in the classrooms, and the adaptability and resiliency of small businesses throughout the region. Thank you for all that you do!

We are so thankful for all of our partners and donors who help to make Northwest Minnesota a better place to live and work.

As you think about your year-end or holiday giving, please consider donating to the Northwest Minnesota Foundation General Endowment Fund. Through the General Endowment Fund, we seek to fulfill our purpose to Build Better Lives for those who call the region home. Your donation, in any amount, will help us continue our efforts to:

- Support non-profits, small businesses, and child care providers through this challenging time
- Help communities thrive and attract young, millennial families
- Match donors with philanthropic needs in the region
- Serve local philanthropic funds
- Provide loans to small businesses and entrepreneurs
- Support existing and recruit new child care providers
- Innovate new solutions for housing challenges in the region
- Support the agencies and organizations that are housing those experiencing homelessness in the region, especially supporting the youth, ages 16 – 24, who are vulnerable to drug addictions, abuse, and sex trafficking.

The fastest, easiest way to Build Better Lives is by visiting our website at www.nwmf.org and clicking on the “Give Now” button. You can also click on the “Ways to Give” tab to view other meaningful ways to support our work.

Your gift, combined with the resiliency of the region we serve, will have a lasting, forever impact.

With gratitude,

Karen White
President

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.

We are excited to share that the following funds have reached the Circle of Vision level – contributing lifetime gifts of $100,000 or more:

- Betty Murray Estate
- Phil and Gloria Thompson

continued on page 4
ANONYMOUS GIFT SETS UP NEVIS SCHOOLS FOR SUCCESS

The Northwest Minnesota Foundation (NMF) is home to over 30 Donor Advised Funds with a wide range of purposes and dedicated causes they support. One of them made an anonymous gift of $50,000 to the Nevis School District in January 2020 so the district could upgrade their technology capacity. Little did the donor know, this gift would become a critical necessity in March 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic made its way to Northwest Minnesota.

RUTH HOWE CONTINUES GIVING LEGACY IN HONOR OF LATE HUSBAND

Ruth Howe and Merrill Thiel were both raised in families that valued giving back. Growing up in farm communities during the Great Depression, Ruth’s mother provided meals to anyone in need, and always made sure she and her siblings had a penny to contribute to the church offering on Sundays.

Merril worked hard every day on his family farm and learned the value of helping neighbors and being a steward of the land. Those values continued throughout his life as he was an avid outdoorsman, gardener, and a committed weekly volunteer of 24 years at the Bemidji Food Shelf. “We were both taught that if you have, you share,” said Ruth.

Merril passed away last year, but his legacy lives on through the Howe Thiel Charitable Fund, a donor advised fund the couple established in 2013. Merrill’s estate was left to the Howe Thiel Charitable Fund and a beneficiary of that gift was the Bemidji Community Food Shelf.

“Philanthropy is impact. The anonymous donor who gave this gift to the Nevis School District understands this,” said Dawn Ganje, senior development officer at NMF. “They also understand they had the opportunity to make a difference in this community, and they really did! The students in Nevis are the real winners. It is fantastic to see the young people of Nevis benefit from this generous gift.”

It’s evident that this pandemic is going to have a lasting impact on our region, and it’s up to all of us to pitch in and help our neighbors in need. The anonymous donor who was able to help the Nevis school district understands that the need is now, so now is the time to give. If you are able to contribute to these relief efforts, please consider making a gift to NMF. You can donate online by visiting www.nwmf.org/give-now or contact a development officer to discuss a meaningful way for you to give back to your community.

The devices purchased with the gift money were extremely valuable to us during Distance Learning last spring,” said Gregg Parks, superintendent of Nevis School District. “Thanks to the beneficence of our donors, we had the capability of providing an E-Learning device for all of our students. Most of the devices were sent home. I am happy to report that they all came back in good condition as well.”

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GIFT OF CORPORATE STOCK

You can give a small percentage of voting or non-voting shares in your business to a charity or a donor advised fund (DAF). Doing so qualifies you for a charitable deduction equal to the appraised fair market value of the shares. The charity or DAF will hold your shares for a future sale or redemption. In the meantime, it will receive its prorated share of any dividends paid to shareholders, which can be used for a charitable purpose.

Contact a development officer at NMF to learn more about how to benefit by making gifts of corporate stock. Visit www.nwmf.org/ways-to-give or call 218-759-2057.

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. Visit www.nwmf.org/ways-to-give to learn more.