

WASECA AREA FOUNDATION

# NIGHT OF CELEBRATION

November 7, 2024

STARTING  
AT 05.00 PM

## SOCIAL HOUR

STARTING  
AT 05.30 PM

## WELCOME

David Oraskovich, Board Member

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Amy Potter, Executive Director

Fund Holders

Community Builders

Sustaining Partners

Past & Present Board Members

STARTING  
AT 5:50 PM

## GRANT AWARDS

Amy Potter, Executive Director

David Oraskovich, Board Member

WASECA AREA FOUNDATION  
507-835-5990  
pota@waseca.k12.mn.us  
Website: [wasecaareafoundation.org](http://wasecaareafoundation.org)  
Facebook: Waseca Area Foundation

35 years of  
Community Giving

## **Community Advised Funds**

Cally Jo Children's Fund  
Dr. Robert M. and Helen C. Collins Memorial Fund  
James B. Corchran Memorial Fund  
The City of Waseca Beautification Fund  
Neil and Sharon Fruechte Fund  
Gedosch-Fell Memorial Fund  
E. F. Johnson Foundation  
Janesville Area Foundation Endowment Fund  
Jane and John King Family Fund  
The Gregg "Marty" Martin Scholarship Fund  
Homer and Elizabeth McIntire Fund  
New Richland Area Foundation Fund  
Barb Penny Youth Fund  
The John P. Priebe Fund for K-12 Education  
The John P. Priebe Fund for Community Runs  
Wes and Carol Rethwill Fund  
W.H. and Estelle Rethwill Fund  
Rutledge Family Fund  
Bud Schmidt Trucking Company Fund  
Harold H. and Gertrude C. Sturner Memorial Fund  
Herb Streitz Memorial Band Fund  
The Dr. O.J. and Betty Swenson Memorial Fund  
Curt and Nita Sjoberg Education Fund  
Roy and Jeanette Tollefson Fund  
Vollbrecht Cultural Arts Legacy Fund  
The Waseca Area Foundation Endowment Fund  
Waseca Area Foundation Operating Endowment Fund  
Waseca Blue Jays Public Schools Endowment Fund

## **Donor Advised Funds**

Barbara & Jack Dahl Fund  
Caleb Lane Erickson Memorial Fund  
By The Grace of God Fund II  
iWealth Foundation Fund  
The Tracy Jevning Memorial Fund  
John W. Priebe Family Foundation  
Noah and Samuel Priebe Memorial Fund  
The Pope Family Fund  
Rosenau Legacy of Angels Fund  
Rosenau Waseca Parks and Trails Fund

Rosenau Waseca Schools Scholarship Fund  
Rosenau Fire Department Fund  
Rosenau Law Enforcement Fund  
Stacy Lynn Rosenau Fund  
Rosenau Waseca Schools Band Fund  
Rosenau Waseca Schools Technology Fund  
Sankovitz Family Foundation-Keen Bank of Waseca  
Schoenfeld Family Fund  
Curtis Swenson Family Fund  
Abigail Claire Wendland Performing Arts Fund

## **Designated Funds**

Harold & Bonita Ackman and Myron & Caryn Wendt Fund  
Greg Ashland Memorial Fund  
Faith in the Future  
The Joe Finley Family Scholarship Fund  
Edgar F. and Ethel Johnson Fund  
Medo Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery Association Fund  
Monday Study Club Scholarship Fund  
Clarence D Paulson Memorial Fund  
Jurgen Peters Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Stoltenberg Rotary Scholarship Fund  
Jerry & Linda Rutledge Heritage Fund for the Waseca County  
Historical Society  
Wes and Carol Rethwill History Fund  
Dr. Mel Strand's English Educator Enrichment Endeavor Fund  
Schroeder Family Scholarship Fund For Nursing  
Dr. Mel Strand Spartan Scholarship Soliloquy  
Waseca Public Library Fund  
The Waseca Historical Society Endowment Fund  
Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center Food Shelf Fund  
Waseca High School Class of 1960 Community Scholarship Fund  
Mavis Wheelock Memorial Health Care Scholarship Fund  
Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center Food Shelf Fund  
Katie Zika Athletic Scholarship Fund

## **Non-Profit Endowment Funds**

Donald D. Eustice Memorial Fund  
Frank and Barbara Goodspeed Memorial Fund  
Marvin and Ardis Sutter Family Fund  
Waseca County Historical Society Lifetime Endowment Fund

# Community Builders

*Contributed Gifts over \$10,000; Established a Fund; or have WAF as a beneficiary in their estate plans.*

Anonymous  
Harold & Bonita Ackman  
Patrice K. Abbe  
Mary Allen  
Dr. Leslie Ahlers  
Roger & Cheryl Ashland  
Brown Printing, Inc.  
Karen Boom  
Arno & Gerda Bucholz  
Allen & Gloria Butler  
Robert & Lois Chaffin  
Carol, Larry, and Stephen Collins  
Brad & Trudi Connors  
James & Maria Elizabeth Corchran  
Maria Elizabeth Corchran  
Barbara & Jack Dahl  
Dave Dunn  
Barry Erickson  
Karla Erickson/Rue Erickson  
Esther Eustice  
Faith in the Future  
June Fell  
Carol Fell  
Joe Finley  
Kevin & Julie Frazier  
Neil & Sharon Fruechte  
Barbara Gauger

Jerry & Rita Janish  
Irene Jeddelloh  
Mike Jevning  
Minnwest Bank  
Ethel & Edgar Johnson  
Mr. & Mrs. Wendell Johnson  
John & Jane King  
Keen Bank  
Connie Larson  
Linda Lohse  
Margaret C. Roberts Trust  
Scott & Holly Martin  
Betty & Homer McIntire  
Monday Study Club  
Medo Evangelical Lutheran Church  
City of New Richland  
Dan & Linda Nitz  
Clarence Paulson  
Tim Penny  
Jurgen Peters Family  
Terry & Arlene Pooley  
Dave & Vanette Pope  
Matt & Amy Potter  
John W. Priebe Family  
John P. Priebe  
Michele Priebe  
Gyles & Carol Randall

Marian E. Reinhardt  
Estelle Rethwill  
Dr. Wes Rethwill, Jr.  
Paul & Sue Rosenau  
Stacy Lynn Rosenau  
Roundbank  
Jerry & Carol Rutledge  
Jerry & Linda Rutledge  
Bud & Lorraine Schmidt  
Jeanette Schoenfeld  
Karla Schroeder  
Gerd & Irene Schulte-Hillen  
Kent Schultz  
Rodney Searle  
Roy Sjoberg  
Dr. Mel Strand  
William Streitz  
Dr. William Sturner  
Marvin & Ardis Sutter  
Curtis Swenson Family  
Dr. Rebecca Thompson  
Jim & Moira Tippy  
Roy & Jeanette Tollefson  
Al Vollbrecht  
Myron & Caryn Wendt  
Waseca Area Hospice  
Waseca Area Memorial Hospital  
Waseca Arts Council  
Waseca County Historical Society  
Waseca Foods  
Waseca Freemasons  
Waseca High School Class of 1960  
Waseca Rotary  
Brad and Monica Wendland

## Waseca Area Foundation Board Members ~ Past & Present ~

*THANK YOU for giving of your time, treasures and talents!*

Abbe, Pat (E.D.)  
Amundson, Mike  
Anderson, Karie  
Ashland, Roger #  
Barr, Leslie  
Bartelt, Nina  
Beckmann, Diane #  
Beery, Elizabeth  
Boyce, Bruce  
Buchele, Marcy  
Boom, Karen (E.D.)  
Busse, Kris  
Butler, Gloria \*\*  
Byron, Molly  
Byron, Leo  
Chaffin, Bob #  
Chaffin, Lois #

Christianson, Virgil  
Christopherson, Karla #  
Collins, Larry  
Connors, Brad  
Delgado, JD  
Deppe, Nancy  
Denn, Mark  
Dey, Cathy  
Dietz, Brian  
Donelan, June \*\*  
Dukes, Larry \*\*  
Dunn, Dave #  
Dunn, Jane  
Erdman, Molly #  
Flor, Margaret  
Frazier, Julie  
Fritz, Joe

Fruechte, Neil \*\*  
Gail, Schmidt  
Gauger, Barbara  
Gaytko, Bernie & Ann #  
Gilbertson, Terry  
Grams, Rosalie #  
Grant, Linda \*\*  
Groh, Bill \*\*  
Hager, Ruth Ann  
Hanks, Carol  
Hanson, John #  
Helms, Rob  
Herman, Sondra  
Hildebrandt, Peggy #  
Hintz, Beth  
Hoffman, Bob  
Hudspith, Eric #

Hup, Stan  
Johnson, Blaine  
Kanewischer, Trevor  
Kingsley, Al  
Knudsen, Emily #  
Kraus, Tom \*\*  
Kraus, Benya  
Lazaris, Pam \*\*  
Lee, Tom  
Lewer, Dave  
Lohse, Linda  
Lucek, Don  
Manthe, Joan  
Mathern, Charlie \*\*  
McRaith, Dan  
Mertesdorf, Colleen  
Metzdorff, Tom

Milbrath, Brad #  
Miller, Andy  
Murphy, Michelle  
Nitz, Linda  
Noble, Chuck \*\*  
Oliver, Rita  
Oraskovich, David #  
Peterson, Carol  
Peterson, Craig  
Peterson, Luther \*\*  
Pooley, Arlene  
Pope, David  
Potter, Amy (E.D.)

Priebe, Michele #  
Priebe, John  
Pribble, Teri  
Rajala, Laina  
Randall, Gyles  
Reck, Marilee  
Rethwill, Wes  
Rethwill Jr., W.H.  
Rieck, Al \*\*  
Rifenbergh, Jim \*\*  
Ristau, Sherry (E.D.) \*\*  
Rokke, John  
Rongstad, Paul

Rutledge, Jerry \*\*  
Schmidt, Gail  
Schmidt, Bob  
Schmitt, Jim  
Schultz, Kent  
Schwieters, Glenn  
Srp, Roy #  
Swanberg, Lauren #  
Swanson, Jeanne  
Tippy, Jim  
Vought, Penny #  
Walter, Kevin #  
Wendland, Monica

Wenzel, Tim #  
West, Margaret  
West, Tom \*\*  
Whitney, Bob  
Williams, Mary  
Williams, Tom \*\*  
Wirtz, Tina (office asst)  
Youngberg, Katie #  
Zika, Lisa  
Zimmerman, Paul  
Zwach, Don \*\*

\*\* Inaugural Board Members  
# Current Board Members

## 2023 Sustaining Partners

*Gave an annual donation for the support of the operations and ongoing mission of the Waseca Area Foundation.*

Ahlman, Curt & Barb  
Ameriprise, Kevin Walter  
Ashland, Roger  
Bendix, Deanna  
Bosch Automotive Service  
Britton Plumbing, Amy & Brian Britton  
Buchele, Ryan & Marcy  
Buum, Marty & Karen  
Byron, Leo  
Channel Seeds, Neil & Jill Schlaak  
Collins, Kyle & Stacy  
Connors, Brad & Trudi  
Connors Plumbing & Heating  
Deml Ford, Deml Families  
Denn, Mark & Nancy  
Dennis/Steffel/Omtvedt Funeral Home  
Dettmer, Matt & Abby  
Dey, Jim & Cathy  
Dunn, Dave & Melissa  
Edward Jones, Brian Hansen  
Eustice, Keith & Kelly  
Fette, Jeff  
Fox, Harriet  
Frederick, Ed  
Fruechte, Neil & Sharon  
Galvin, Carrol & Grace  
Gaytko, Bernie & Ann  
Gilbertson, Terry & Carolyn  
Gjelten, Ann  
Glitter & Grace, Monica Wendland  
Grams, Rosalie  
Hagen, Nyla  
Halvorson, Larry & Mary

Hanks, Carol  
Hanson, John & Lori  
Hanson, Pat  
Hartfiel, Lane & Nancy  
Helms, Rob & Coleen  
Herman, Jay & Sondra  
Hoffman, Bob & Judy  
Huttemier, John & Kristi  
ICAN, Inc.  
Janesville State Bank  
Jensen, Dan  
Kanewischer, Aaron & Dee  
Kaphers, Jerald  
Keen Bank  
Kingsley, Al & Dana  
Leet, Doug & Judi  
Lewer, Dave & Cheri  
Lu's Beauty Shop  
Lyon Dickirson, Pat  
Maass, Marvin & Beverly  
Madel, Pete  
McKay, Sue  
Mediacom Communications  
Metzdorff, Tom & Kris  
Mickelson, Bob & Lori  
Minnwest Bank  
New Richland Sportsmen's Club  
Northland Trenching  
O'Brien, Mike & Bea  
Omtvedt, Aaron & Carol  
Oraskovich, David & Gwen  
Petersburg, John & Susan  
Pooley, Arlene

Pope, David & Vanette  
Potter, Matt & Amy  
Priebe, Michele  
Quality Repair Service  
Randall, Gyles & Carol  
Reck, Milo & Marilee  
Rohwer, Charles & Anne Gerber  
Rucker, Roger & Marilyn  
Sankovitz, Tom & Gretchen  
Schimming, Chris & Rebecca  
Schoenrock, Kermit  
Schultz, Kent  
Srp, Roy & Delores  
Thrivent  
Tlougan, Les & Karen  
United Prairie Bank  
Waseca Agency, Paul Rongstad  
Waseca Dental Care,  
Rebeca Thompson  
Waseca Education Association  
Waseca Floral  
Waseca Glass  
Waseca Sleigh & Cutter  
Wheelock, Gregory & Donnette  
Wilder, Ken & Sheryl  
Winegar, Inc.  
Wirtz, Aaron & Tina  
Worke, Gary & Kathy  
Zika, David & Lisa  
Zimmerman, Paul & Andrea  
Zwach, Don & Fran

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount	Funds Which Supported
Riverland (Austin), South Central College (Mankato & Faribault)	Non-Traditional Scholarships	\$10,000	EF Johnson Foundation
Waseca Jr Sr High School	Senior Scholarships <i>Dr. Jason Miller</i>	\$20,000	EF Johnson Foundation
Waseca Jr Sr High School	Courage Retreat <i>Dr. Jason Miller</i>	\$2162	Cally Jo Children's Fund
Waseca Jr Sr High School	Color Printer, Heat Press, Supplies <i>Jen Popp, Donna Hodgkins</i>	\$500	EF Johnson Foundation
Waseca Jr Sr High School	Therapeutic Pgm. Movement Chairs <i>Shealyn Salgado</i>	\$2000	EF Johnson Foundation
Waseca Alternative Learning Center	Science Museum Field Trip <i>Emily Cremeans</i>	\$300	EF Johnson Foundation
Waseca Community Ed	Swim Training Platform Summer Youth Theater Youth Development Grants <i>Nikki Benson</i>	\$600 \$3000 \$10,000	EF Johnson Foundation EF Johnson Foundation EF Johnson Foundation
Waseca School Age Care	Sandbox Materials <i>Katie Staloch</i>	\$250	EF Johnson Foundation
JWP High School	Senior Scholarship <i>David Rysdam</i>	\$3,000	EF Johnson Foundation
NRHEG High School	Senior Scholarship <i>Barb Hagen</i>	\$3,000	EF Johnson Foundation
NRHEG Secondary Band	Storage Lockers/Cabinets <i>Seth Schaefer</i>	\$3000	EF Johnson Foundation
NRHEG Community Ed	Youth Development Grants <i>Macy Whiteside</i>	\$3000	EF Johnson Foundation
Jr. Achievement	Waseca Schools Programming <i>Vanessa Jensen</i>	\$3000	EF Johnson Foundation
Farmamerica	Ag Career Exploration Program Park Benches for Time Line Trail <i>Kari Wadd, Morgan Mudgett</i>	\$2200 \$2500	EF Johnson Foundation Greg & Donnette Wheelock Ag Fund
Waseca Public Library	Event Offerings for Teens Summer Concert Series Waseca Water Carnival <i>Afton Finley</i>	\$2000 \$4000 \$2500	EF Johnson Foundation EF Johnson Foundation EF Johnson Foundation

Grant Recipient	Purpose of Grant	Amount	Funds Which Supported
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Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center	Backpack Program - Waseca Schools	\$5000	EF Johnson Foundation
	Food Shelf Support <i>Cindy Kolander</i>	\$9000	EF Johnson Foundation

Feeding our Communities Partners	Backpack Program - JWP Schools <i>Heather Bierer</i>	\$1500	EF Johnson Foundation
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Lutheran Social Services	Foster Care Family Programming <i>Candy Picka</i>	\$2164	EF Johnson Foundation
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Big Brothers Big Sisters	Mentoring Support -Waseca Cty. <i>Jon Dziurawiec</i>	\$7500	EF Johnson Foundation
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Beds for Kids	Bed Kits - Waseca Cty. <i>Jolayne Mohs</i>	\$1500	Cally Jo Children's Fund
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MN Valley Action Council	Soap Closet Supplies <i>Kerri Dziubak</i>	\$1000	EF Johnson Foundation
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Waseca Area Caregiver Services	Lycynt Pro Interactive System <i>Kelly Boedekker, Beth Stankiewicz</i>	\$1000	EF Johnson Foundation
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Life Work Planning Center	Women In Transition Program <i>Stephanie Gonzalez</i>	\$2000	EF Johnson Foundation
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New Richland Care Center	Portable Vital Machines <i>Jessica Madson, Rebecca Schauer</i>	\$1500	EF Johnson Foundation
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Waseca Fire Dept	Gas Monitor <i>Jason Forshee</i>	\$3000	Waseca Area Foundation Fund
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Waseca Sleigh & Cutter	75th Anniversary Event Support <i>Ken Borgmann, Jen Burt, Madeline Johnson</i>	\$1000	EF Johnson Foundation
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Waseca Chorale	Program/Concert Support <i>Deb Wantoch-Yess, Al Judd</i>	\$2500	EF Johnson Foundation
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## GIVING FACTS:

**\$106,514** granted TODAY from EF Johnson Foundation Fund

**\$3662** granted TODAY from Cally Jo Children's Fund

**\$10,639** granted Wednesday, Nov 13th from Janesville Area Foundation Fund

# E.F. Johnson Foundation of the WAF Family of Funds

*Article from 2007 WAF Annual Report*



Edgar and Ethel Johnson

**“One committee member observed that whatever the outcome, the foundation should be renamed the ‘E.F. Johnson Foundation’ in honor of the founder.”**

The E. F. Johnson Foundation was established in the 1960s by the Johnson family for the purpose of funding scholarships and other worthwhile projects in the Waseca area that might be developed to attract potential employees to the E. F. Johnson Company. Employees of Johnson’s were accorded preferential treatment for scholarships, for example. Johnson’s daughter, Lois, and her husband, Robert Chaffin, served on the original Foundation’s Board. Bob did much of the paper work in setting up the Foundation and also served as Secretary.

When the company was sold, the E. F. Johnson Company President gave the Foundation to Western Union despite the protests of the Johnson family. From that point on, the Foundation bounced around from one purchaser to another—Ark-La/Minnegasco, NorAm Minnegasco, and then its successors including Reliant Energy, and CenterPoint. None of these companies ever put a dime of funding into the Foundation—all funding went back to the original founders, the Johnsons.

By the early 1990s, there was some concern over the fate of this fund, which had grown over the years to over \$1,000,000 in assets! At the behest of several concerned Waseca citizens, the Waseca Area Foundation stepped in to attempt to intervene. In 1994, President June Donelan managed to engineer an agreement with the then Minnegasco owners to place management of the fund with the Minnesota Community Foundation. But the real foresight was in naming the granting advisory committee. The committee was to consist of the Waseca Area Foundation Board of Directors and one person named by Minnegasco. At this point the assets totalled \$1.6 million.

For the next 13 years, WAF and Minnegasco worked together to make grants in accordance with the original fund guidelines. Sixty percent of grants were to go for educational purposes and the other 40% to arts, culture and human services.

By 2007 it appeared that CenterPoint began looking at their relationship with the fund. At the April grant round, announced that “changes” were in the air. One committee member observed that whatever the outcome, the foundation should be renamed the E. F. Johnson Foundation in honor of the founder.

An appointment was made to discuss the issue with the Chaffin family. They not only supported renaming it back to the original name, but also bringing it back to Waseca and making it a fund of the Waseca Area Foundation. The Chaffins drafted a letter clearly outlining their position and sent it to Minnegasco, CenterPoint Energy, Waseca Area Foundation and the Minnesota Community Foundation.

To CenterPoint Energy’s great credit, they acceded to the Johnson family’s wishes and in August of 2007, the transfer to the Waseca Area Foundation Family of Funds was finalized. At that point, the E.F. Johnson Foundation’s assets exceeded \$3,600,000.

To summarize, in the 13 years since the original agreement, the E.F. Johnson Foundation, through the Waseca Area Foundation Board, has granted in excess of \$1.4 million while also growing from approximately \$1.6 million to \$3.6 million. This addition to our Fund Family is a huge boost for the Waseca Area Foundation and the community owes a big thank you to all of those who helped make this happen.

**EF Johnson Foundation Giving Impact  
(2007 - 2024) = \$ 1,789,316**





# Thank You for being part of our 35th Anniversary Celebration

THANK YOU FOR ANY DONATIONS TO WAF!  
Use this QR code to DONATE NOW!



Choose the specific fund you'd like to support in the drop-down menu.  
(The Waseca Area Fdn. Endowment Fund benefits all purposes.)



**WASECA AREA FOUNDATION**  
GENEROSITY • COMMUNITY • GRATITUDE

wasecaareafoundation.org **Twitter:** @wasecaareafdtn  
**Facebook:** Waseca Area Foundation