As Kenosha’s resource for charitable giving, it is our mission to enhance the present and ensure the future of the community.

To our Donors, Partners and Friends,
2020. Oh what a year it has been.

Globally, all were challenged by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; not only from a medical standpoint but economically as well. Locally, civil unrest and social justice protests rocked our community.

All combined, these circumstances tested the limits of our local non-profit organizations. Many rose to the occasion and instituted unique processes in which to deliver their client services; pivoting to remote delivery, where possible. These “forced” operational changes strained budgets as they necessitated enhancements in technology-based support services. Yet these changes have introduced new ways in which to connect with clients and provide services in a hybrid format. Post-pandemic, many will continue to offer to deliver their services in a hybrid manner. Our Foundation also pivoted to virtual formats that allowed us to continue to connect with our donors, grantee organizations and scholars.

Going forward, these challenges present new opportunities for our organization to support our not-for-profit grantees. We plan to use the lessons from this year’s experiences, emergency responses and new practices, to determine how the Kenosha Community Foundation can best apply its philanthropic support to address Kenosha County’s immediate and long-term needs.

Structurally, the Foundation’s budget is supported by income from our endowment funds. Due to our consistent and responsible management of those funds, we were able to continue our grant support to non-profit organizations in Kenosha County.

This year’s grants included a cross-section of organizations around the critical and intersecting priorities of food, housing/shelter, physical health, mental health and early childhood education. In 2020, the Foundation distributed over $91,000 in educational scholarships. Details of both are included in the report that follows.

The philanthropic work of the Kenosha Community Foundation continues in both good times and bad, through the continuing support of its donors and community partners. “We’ve done so since 1926, and the Foundation’s work and longevity can be summed up in these words, “Private giving, for the public good”.

While 2020 presented its financial challenges to many organizations, our Foundation continues to stay the course, undeterred and unchanged in our support of non-profits and student scholars. This consistent support is possible because of the generosity and foresight of our donors and the endowment funds which have been established. This allows us to continue our mission, “Helping people to enhance the present and ensure the future of the Kenosha Community.” For this, we are most grateful!

The Board of Directors of the Kenosha Community Foundation

The Kenosha Community Foundation operates in compliance with the National Standards for Community Foundations as set forth by the Council on Foundations.
Our Family of Funds

Named Endowment Funds
Fund proceeds are awarded to non-profit organizations:
- Azuma Family Fund • Howard Brown Endowment Fund
- Advantage Bank Officers and Directors Fund
- Mary Frost Ashley Endowment
- Enroth Family Endowment • Jessie R. Hopf Endowment
- Ralph and Francis A. Jaeschke Fund
- A. Allan and Isabel M. Jankus Fund
- Kenosha News Fund • Orvis Family Endowment
- Kathleen Steunke Legacy Fund • Charles Vigneri Fund
- Charles and Kathryn Heide Endowment Funds

Field of Interest Funds
Grants from these funds are awarded, via a competitive process, in areas of interest as specified by the donor:
- Clark-Barber Family Fund • Kenosha Arts Fund
- Grace Kolakowski Fund • Kubasiewicz Family Trust
- The LaFove Family Fund
- The Mary Lou and Arthur F. Mahone Fund
- OMC Legacy Fund • Women’s Fund

Scholarship Funds
Fund proceeds are awarded as scholarships to students:
- Bradford High School Class of 1961 Scholarships
- Howard J. Brown Scholarships
- Irene Buri-Nelson Scholarship at St. James Church
- The Foundation’s Cropsey Scholarships
- Clay Davison Legacy Scholarship • Fellenman Family Fund
- Herman and Virginia Gundlach Scholarships
- Henry & Link Scholarship • Mary Louise Link Scholarship
- A. Allan and Isabel M. Jankus Scholarships
- Madrigano-Fribus Scholarship • Manny Milka Fund
- Pizzo Family Memorial Scholarships
- Tremper High School Class of 1971 Scholarships

Donor Advised Funds
Grants from these funds are distributed to area organizations based on donor recommendations:
- Balmes Family Fund • Guttmersen Donor Advised Fund
- John Herbert Barth Fund
- Marion Gratz Fund • Wiers Family Fund
- Ken Heide Fund • Robert Loss Fund
- BMO Harris (formerly M & I) Corporate Fund
- Gene F. Soens Fund • TST Fund for Cultural Projects

Organizational Endowment Funds
- Verne and Doris Ganzler Funds
- Brookside Care Center Endowment
- Green Ridge Cemetery • Habitat for Humanity Kenosha
- Hospice Alliance Foundation
- Kemper Center, Inc. Fund • Kemper Center Foundation
- Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services, Inc.
- Kenosha County Youth as Resources
- Kenosha Public Museums
- Kenosha School of Technology Enhanced Curriculum (KTEC) Fund • Kenosha Symphony Endowment Fund
- Kenosha Visiting Nurse Association, Inc.
- Library Square School • Open Wings Learning Center
- Shalom Center Endowment Fund
- Women and Children’s Horizons

In 2020, the Foundation distributed $736,558 in grants and sponsorships to not-for-profit organizations that serve Kenosha County, and in scholarships to Kenosha County students.

2020 Distributions by Sector

Community Support & Development 29%
Health & Social Services 17%
Scholarships 13%
Education & Youth Programs 35%
Arts & Culture 6%

Where We Give

Community Support & Development
Coalition for Dismantling Racism
Congregations United to Serve Humanity
Green Ridge Cemetery
Hawthorn Hollow (Hyslop Foundation)
Kemper Center
United Way of Kenosha County (COVID-19 Response Fund)

Health & Social Services
Kenosha County Food Bank
Kenosha Visiting Nurse Association
Kenosha Achievement Center
Shalom Center
The Sharing Center
Women and Children’s Horizons

Education & Youth Programs
Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha
ELCA Urban Outreach Center
Girl Scouts of SE Wisconsin
Kenosha Literacy Council
Kenosha YMCA
Open Wings Learning Community

Arts & Culture
Anchor Press, Paper and Print
Fleeing Artists Theatre
Kenosha Creative Space
Kenosha Public Library
Kenosha Symphony Orchestra
Lakeside Players
Lemon Street Gallery & ArtSpace

For more information about the Foundation, including how to establish a charitable fund or how to apply for a grant or a scholarship, visit www.kenoshafoundation.org.

In 2020, the Kenosha Community Foundation lost three of our greatest leaders, friends and supporters: Robert (Bob) Schneider, Jack Harris and Ralph Tenuta.

Robert Schneider 1941-2020
After a career in banking, Bob served on the Kenosha County Board, was the chairman of the Southport Lakeshore Development Corporation and was the Foundation’s Executive Director from 2008 to his retirement in 2020.

As the Kenosha News reported it...“with the Foundation, Bob found his calling.” The Foundation presented Bob with the opportunity to use all of his financial, legal and personality skills. He brought a buffet of skills to the table. During his tenure, Bob helped grow our assets by 350% and widened the variety of programs and projects that we support.

We miss Bob’s kindness, ingenuity, community-spirit, love of music, and smile.

Jack Harris 1927-2020
Jack Harris was one of our area’s greatest boosters and friends. In addition, to decades of service to Carthage College, Jack was a board member of five philanthropic foundations, including ours. After retiring in 1993, he help lead the reorganization of the Foundation and then was elected as a board member - a position he held for 25 years. Jack’s philanthropic genius, sage wisdom, unending kindness, and wicked sense of humor formed and guided the Foundation.

Ralph Tenuta 1932-2020
Ralph Tenuta was one of our area’s great humanitarians. With the success of his iconic family business (Tenuta’s Deli & Liquors), Ralph donated his voice and resources in support of countless area charities and educational institutions. Did you know that Ralph was once a member of the Foundation’s Board of Directors? He served on our Board at a critical time - in the mid-1990s to re-establish the Foundation after years of dormancy. The Foundation is so proud to be one of the charities that Ralph supported.