

Annual Report
2019

PARTNERING *for progress*



FREMONT AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
facfoundation.org

TOGETHER *we achieve more!*



“A good half of the art of living is resilience.”

—Alain de Botton

Photo courtesy of Dean Jacobs

\$27.9 million
in **community**
assets

\$2.2 million
invested in grants and
scholarships in 2019

193 funds
supporting the
Fremont area

Dear Friends,

When we look back on our year of grantmaking and community leadership in 2019, the theme of resilience rises to the top—from personal resilience over adverse experiences, to organizational resilience and increased capacity, to community resilience through collaboration and hard work following a devastating disaster.

Throughout the year we worked with our community partners to address challenges like flood relief and recovery, and embraced opportunities for enhanced organizational impact.

One of the greatest strengths we have as a community foundation is our ability to connect resources to address critical community needs—whatever they may be at the time. And, with your help, we did just that throughout 2019.

This year’s Annual Report is dedicated to your generosity, your compassion and your commitment to strengthening our community. Whatever comes our way. Thank you for your partnership.



BOB HILLIS
President of the Board



MELISSA DIERS
Executive Director



WholeStone Farms employees were among many to offer volunteer help to flood-impacted homeowners.

NEIGHBOR *helping neighbor*

When the waters came, it was a grassroots, neighbor-helping-neighbor effort that provided relief to the affected and identified the path to recovery for everyone.

Even before the first home was flooded, area nonprofits were responding to families in imminent risk and seeking refuge.

In the next few days—as the area was deluged with widespread flooding and the Red Cross was unable to reach us—local nonprofit agencies would work together to help more than 2,000 people in Fremont and the surrounding area.

With Fremont effectively “an island” for several days, shelters and donation centers were opened to meet demand and were later closed.

The success of this collaborative effort was due in no small part to groundwork laid by the Fremont Family Coalition (FFC). Established in 2013, the FFC was designed to create community partnerships to support and strengthen area families.

It is comprised of dozens of individuals representing ministerial groups, non-profits and for-profits, Fremont Public Schools, Midland University, the Fremont Area Community Foundation, civic leaders and other community members that have come together to address an array of socioeconomic challenges facing Fremont families.

Resources, programs and relationships already established through the FFC were put to use and expanded in a streamlined response to the March 2019 flood event.

Community partners serving on the Greater Dodge County Long-Term Recovery Group (GDC-LTRG) keep meeting to this day to evaluate evolving needs, identify solutions to challenges, and connect funding resources where funding gaps appear. As national disaster relief organizations and volunteer groups come to town, their efforts are coordinated by this group.

The Allocations & Resources Committee, a group under the GDC-LTRG, is tasked with identifying and connecting resources to address area individuals’ “unmet needs”—those needs not met by federal and state funding sources.

The Allocations & Resources Committee, co-chaired by Melissa Diers, Executive Director of FAF and Christy Fiala, Executive Director of the Fremont Area United Way, recently secured a \$125,000 grant to help area families meet the cost of housing mitigation. The grant was provided through First National Bank’s *Rebuild the Heartland Fund* held at the Nebraska Community Foundation and will help offset homeowners’ 25% personal contribution for mitigation. The balance of the cost will likely be paid for by the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

Thanks to grant programs like the *Rebuild the Heartland Fund*, hundreds of donations small and large, and the tireless efforts of countless volunteers, the Greater Fremont Area continues its recovery.

To support these continuing efforts, please send a gift to the Fremont Area Flood Relief & Recovery Fund at FAF, 1005 E. 23rd St., #2, Fremont, NE 68025. To make a gift online, go to <https://www.facfoundation.org/floodreliefrecovery.html>.



Many donors, like Jamie Nordstrom and Todd Hornung of Union Bank & Trust of Wahoo, have supported the foundation’s Flood Relief & Recovery Fund.

FACF GRANTMAKING...*A year in review*

AMERICAN LEGION LEWIS CERV POST 122 • Handicap Restroom and Storage Remodel

A foundation grant of \$6,000 was provided to help remodel the Veterans Club Game Room restrooms so they're handicapped-accessible.

BOY SCOUTS MID-AMERICA COUNCIL • Camperships for Camp Cedars

The council wishes to expand the opportunity for more youth to attend summer camp at Camp Cedars. Funds will be used for scholarships ("camperships") to assist families in need, including an FACF grant of \$2,000.

THE BRIDGE • Sharing Survivors' Stories through Video

A \$15,000 grant will help support domestic abuse survivors and enhance prevention and outreach efforts throughout the Dodge County area.

CASA OF THE MIDLANDS • Casa of the Midlands Start Up

A grant of \$1,500 is helping fund start-up expenses so CASA can enhance its service to area abused and neglected children.

CLARMAR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • New Playground

A foundation grant of \$8,000 was provided to help Clarmar Elementary provide a suitable new playground structure for its students.

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS • New Sidewalk

The Fremont DAV was in need of a safer entrance to its facility at 137 N. "D" St. A \$5,476 grant was provided to help.

DODGE COUNTY FAIR FOUNDATION • KidZone Animal Annex

The KidZone is a popular stop for fair visitors during the Dodge County Fair. The building houses

interactive, educational displays to promote Agricultural Literacy. It also houses animals that visitors can see and pet. A grant of \$15,000 was provided to help expand the KidZone with a 24' x 30' Animal Annex to enhance this educational opportunity.

ESU #2 • Emergency Backpack Program

This project provides backpacks with needed supplies for children who have been removed from their homes, addressing a "gap" in funding identified by ESU2 Community Navigators.

DODGE COUNTY 911 COMMUNICATION CENTER • 911 Simulator

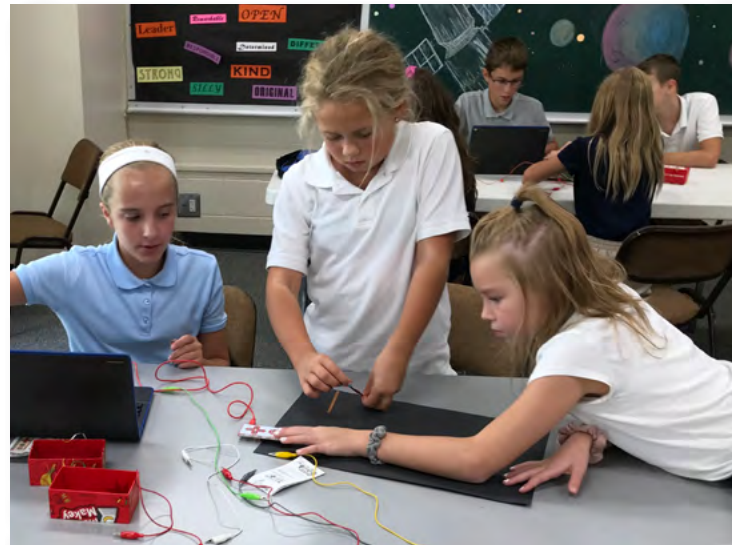
A grant of \$1,500 helped purchase a new 911 simulator to be used to teach children how to call and text 911.

FORT ATKINSON FDN • Fort Atkinson Visitors Center

Committed to preserving and restoring the historic site of Fort Atkinson, the foundation is working to modernize its exhibits with interactive features. An FACF grant of \$20,000 was awarded to refurbish the fort's keelboat exhibit.

FREMONT PUBLIC SCHOOL FOUNDATION • Carnegie Hall Crusade

The FHS Varsity Choir has been invited to be a part of the Choirs of America Nationals for Top Choirs event held in New York City. This three-day educational event will be taught by world-renowned clinicians and conductors, and include a world-premiere finale of a newly commissioned piece by American composer/conductor Z. Randall Stroope. An FACF grant of \$15,000 is helping make this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity possible for 60+ FHS students.



Trinity Lutheran School students experiment with STEM activities.

FREMONT AREA ART ASSOCIATION • Insulating the East Roof

A grant of \$10,000 helped address a roof leak and avoid long-term structural damage to Gallery 92.

FREMONT AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY • Repair Program

Old tools and an unreliable trailer were replaced through funds provided by an FACF \$8,900 grant, allowing Habitat to enhance its capacity to achieve its mission to build homes, communities and hope.

GREAT PLAINS UNITED METHODIST CAMPS • Camp Fontanelle Retreat Center

The Camp plans to update its facilities to provide modern meeting and lodging facilities for use by businesses, schools, youth-serving organizations and others. An FACF grant of \$50,000 will help achieve the \$2.7 Million project.

FREMONT PUBLIC, TRINITY AND BERGAN SCHOOLS • Emergency Communication System

Radio Upgrade – All Fremont school

districts applied jointly for a city-wide upgrade of their emergency radio communication systems. A challenge grant of \$25,000, matched by an FACF Donor-Advised Fund and other gifts, enabled the schools to secure new state-of-the-art technology. (See sidebar.)

FRIENDS OF FREMONT AREA PARKS W/ FREMONT KIWANIS CLUB • Kiwanis Splash Station Playground

Working together to enhance area parks and recreational opportunity for youth, these groups area raising money to build an inclusive playground near the Splash Station water park. A grant of \$25,000 was requested and approved.

HOOPER AREA COMMUNITY FDN • Project Dream Field

The community of Hooper hopes to upgrade the Hooper baseball field with new lighting, seating, scoreboard and dugouts/press box. A donor is matching donations. FACF provided a \$20,000 grant for this project.

IDEAL NEBRASKA • Project Dream Field

The purpose of the initiative is to enrich the lives of an estimated 670 focus neighborhood residents by partnering with them to identify local assets, collect resident aspirations/perceptions data, identify neighborhood and housing challenges, and utilize programs to mobilize neighborhood assets and alleviate challenges. An FACF grant of \$50,000 is supporting this effort.

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES OF NE • Foster Care Expansion

LFS aims to reduce the number of youth placed in out-of-home care outside of their community, and reduce the number of families becoming engaged with the child welfare system. This project was funded with a foundation grant of \$10,000.

MERRYMAKERS ASSN • Music, Laughter and Memories for Seniors

A grant of \$3,500 is providing live and interactive professional musical entertainment on a monthly basis for one year to residents of Fremont-area senior communities.

NEBRASKA SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL, INC. • Shakespeare on Tour

A grant of \$5,000 helped bring the touring production of Shakespeare's *Othello* to area schools in Dodge and Washington counties. The presentation includes an extended post-show discussion, facilitating candid conversation about the current racial and gender landscape of our society.

REBUILDING TOGETHER-PLATTE VALLEY EAST • Rebuilding Together

An FACF grant of \$15,000 provided general administrative funding not covered by other funding sources for vital RT programs needed in our area.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL • STEM Lab

A grant of \$10,000 will help the school remodel some of its space for additional STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math) education and outreach.

JOHN C. FREMONT DAYS • New Computer

A grant of \$450 helped the festival board purchase a new computer.

For a complete listing of our recent competitive grants, please visit facfoundation.org.

2019 GRANTEE Highlight

FREMONT PUBLIC, TRINITY AND BERGAN SCHOOLS •

Emergency Communication System Radio Upgrade

All youth attending Fremont schools were made safer by a \$25,000 challenge grant from FACF which helped purchase and install an ultra-high-frequency emergency communication radio system at Fremont Public, Archbishop Bergan Catholic and Trinity Lutheran Schools.

The state-of-the-art radio system has a direct link between handheld radios and the Fremont/Dodge County 911 Call Center.

"It's a community-wide emergency radio station," says Cliff Huss, FPS Director of Information Services.



FACF board member Cheryl Lamme (center) meets with members of the FPS team to see the new radio technology.

OUR PROGRAMS

making a difference

The Fremont Area Community Foundation addresses community needs and challenges not only with strategic grant-making, but also through carefully designed programs. These initiatives may target different audiences—nonprofit leaders, youth or donors committed to giving back and bettering their communities. But they all share the goal of lifting up the vital role philanthropy plays in a healthy community.

| Youth Philanthropy Contest

Although “philanthropy” is a big word, it simply means giving of your time, talents and treasure for the benefit of all. And youth throughout the Fremont area are learning firsthand its importance and impact by participating in the foundation’s annual Youth Philanthropy Contest.

Supported by FACF grants of up to \$1,000, more than 400 youth from throughout the Fremont area have spearheaded projects that have made a difference in their communities since the program began in 2014. The following projects were among seven completed during the 2018-19 academic year.

Best of the Rest Sheep and Goat Show - Hearts and Hooves 4-H Club

The Hearts and Hooves 4-H Club hosted a sheep and goat show to raise money to improve the Kids Zone at the Dodge County Fair in Scribner.

Alzheimer’s Activity Fidget Mats - St. Paul’s/Elim Lutheran Church Youth Groups

The youth groups from St. Paul’s and St. Elim’s Lutheran Churches made Alzheimer’s Activity/Fidget Mats for area individuals who have been diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer’s-related health conditions, and who are in need of physical activities and memory prompts to assist both them and their caregivers in providing meaningful opportunities to use their muscles, reflexes, and cognitive skills. (See photo at right.)

For a complete listing of our Youth Philanthropy Contest grantees, please visit facfoundation.org.



| JumpStart

Area nonprofits are learning how to become more effective and efficient in engaging supporters and raising dollars for their organization, thanks to JumpStart—a year-long program offered by the Fremont Area Community Foundation.

Selected organizations receive technical fundraising assistance including professional coaching, technology and right-sized development planning to help them build successful fundraising programs. Participation in the program is free for the nonprofits thanks to grant funding provided jointly by FACF and Network for Good.

Nonprofits selected for the program so far include: The Bridge; Calvin Crest Camp, Conference and Retreat Center; Fremont Area United Way; LifeHouse and Scribner Area Foundation.



| The Fremont Area Big Give

Stronger nonprofits are better able to achieve meaningful change within our communities. In the end, that’s the real measure of success for each year’s Fremont Area Big Give.

And the 63 area nonprofit organizations participating in the 2019 local day of giving provided opportunities for individuals and businesses to make a difference in their community.

The Big Give is an annual 24-hour online giving event organized by FACF to grow philanthropy in the Greater Dodge County area and lift up the vital work of the nonprofit sector.

The event, held this year on May 5th, aims to enhance public awareness of the impact local nonprofits make in addressing our area’s social challenges, bring nonprofits and donors together, expand online giving, connect people to the causes that matter to them most and, of course, make giving FUN.

More than \$300,893 was raised this year through a record 1,856 donations.

Join us again this year! And thank you for helping make good work better!



A record 1,856 donations were given during the 2019 Big Give!

PRIZE SPONSORS MADE THE BIG GIVE A SUCCESS!

PACESETTERS
First National Bank
First State Bank & Trust
Pinnacle Bank
RTG Medical

BIG GIVE PARTNERS
Arps Red-E-Mix
Casey’s
Don Peterson & Associates
Fia & Belle/Tailgate Motors
First Community Bank
Fremont Electric
Fremont Eye Associates
Gene Steffy Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge-Ram
Getzschman Heating
INSPRO Insurance
McDonalds (Leonard Management)
Nebraska Irrigated Seeds
Nye Health Services
Platte Valley Bank
Scribner Bank
Sid Dillon Motors
Sid and Patty Dillon
Taylor & Martin
Yost, Schafersman, Lamme, Hillis, Mitchell, Schulz & Hartmann, PC

SUPPORTERS
CiviCore
Swanson Insurance
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MEDIA SPONSORS
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**THE
FREMONT
AREA** **BIG
GIVE**

powered by the Fremont Area
Community Foundation

Legacy Society

Excellence. Accountability. Impact.

FACF created a Legacy Society to recognize and thank individuals and families who plan to leave a gift to the community through a bequest, trust, life insurance policy, retirement plan, or charitable annuity. Members of our Legacy Society care about the future of the Fremont area and realize that their gifts will strengthen the projects and programs of local nonprofit organizations and the people they serve. We thank the following members for their foresight and generosity.

Anonymous
 Kathryn Anderson*
 Milo and Cheri Anderson
 Dolores Bang
 Marvin* and Marie* Bartling
 Rachel Bayer*
 Mary Bigelow*
 J.J. and Jennifer Bixby
 Leona Blazek*
 Gary and Denise Bolton
 Pat and Judy Booth
 Lloyd and Betty Brooks
 Jack Bryant*
 Elaine Cady*
 Keith and Linda Chapman
 David and Cynthia Christensen
 Laura Clatanoff*
 Mary E. Cochrane*
 Mike and Cindy Coffman
 Charlie and Mary Lou Diers
 Kirk and Melissa Diers
 Sid and Hazel* Dillon
 Sid and Patty Dillon, Jr.
 Don* and Mary K. Dolejs
 Bill and Jane Dugan
 Rupert* and Ruth* Dunklau
 Ruth E. Dunklau*
 Jim* and Sherie Ebers
 Milton C.* and Lois* Ebers
 Elvera Eckdahl*
 Jack and Judy Ekeler
 Bill* and Elaine L. Emanuel
 Sandi Frauen
 Ruth Fredriksen*
 Anna Furst*
 Margaret Furst*
 David and Kristine Gale
 Bruce* and Sylvia D. Gocken
 Charles and Marilyn Gordon
 Mamie Grohn*
 Mike and Janice Guilliat
 Allan and Julia Hale
 Bertha E. Hansen*
 The Rev. Robert* and Janice Hansen
 Si Harbottle
 Gerry and Lynette Harnisch
 David G. Hartmann
 Greg and Mary Haskins
 Merle Hasson*
 Bud* and Marj* Hendriksen
 Richard L. and Paula K. Hendriksen
 Robert and Dian Hillis

Mildred Hindmarsh*
 Don and Jan Hinds
 Audrey Hoegermeyer*
 Jim* and Nancy Hoshor
 Marion Iversen*
 Jessica Janssen Wolford
 Helen F. Jasa*
 Joel and Jan Jelkin
 Elnora Jensen*
 Carl W.* and Betty K.* Johnson
 Paul and Liz Johnson
 William A. Johnson*
 Jack and Betty Kavanaugh
 John L. Kavanaugh, Jr.
 John* and Audré* Kerrigan
 Clarence* and Lois Kerschinske
 Mary Ellen Kissell*
 Richard* and Joyce Klebe
 Raymond* and Sedona* Knapp
 Rodney and Cyndy Koerber
 Ron and Karen Kortan
 Ron and Susie Kranz
 Abe* and Beverlee Krasne
 Duane and Helen Krause
 Keith and Ann* Lallman
 Nicholas J. and Cheryl A. Lamme
 Lynn and Cindi Lamprecht
 John and Shirley Larsen
 Wayne and Janet Larson
 Marcia Mickelsen LaVally*
 Christine and Les Leech
 Sherry R. Leriger
 Terry J. and Linda McClain
 Alton* and Nadine* Merrick
 David and Kimberly Mitchell
 William* and Helen* Monke
 Henry Monnich*
 Jim* and Maria Moore
 Elizabeth Y. Mulliken*
 June Mussack*
 Gaylord and Vali Mussman
 Steve and Julie Navarrette
 Nick Neff*
 Perry* and Eileen Nelson
 Evelyn Nichols*
 Leonard C. Nielsen
 Loren C. Nothwehr
 Dale and Fern* Olson
 Lee Paden
 Mervin and Gail Peck
 Art Peters*
 Russ and Jennifer Peterson

Richard and Janet Pineda
 Steve and Peg Pribnow
 Darrell and Myrna Puls
 Ruth Register
 Mike Reilly
 Bill and Kathy Rhea
 Jerry Rinne
 Darlene Ritter*
 Marilyn Rolf*
 Duane Ruppert
 Bill and Cathy Saeger
 Darlene G. Saeger
 John and Lori Sajevic
 Ronnie and Shelly Sandeen
 Elmer* and Elda* Sasse
 Lyle Saunders
 J.D. Schiermeyer
 Neil and Bonnie Schilke
 Gary* and Carol Schmidt
 Ray* and Mary Sendgraff
 Barbara L. Sherlock*
 Dave Simmons
 William Simms*
 John G. Spangler
 Lois I. Spurrier*
 Dorothy Stangel*
 Charles* and Doris M. Steffen
 Bernard H. Stumpe*
 Leo* and Joanne Thietje
 Tom and Sheryl Thomsen
 Rachel Timme
 Robert L. Tookey*
 Chad Troester
 Joe and Diana Twidwell
 Bill and Joan Vobejda
 Lester A. Walker*
 Tom and Carol Waring
 Leah Weber*
 Marv* and Jean* Welstead
 Steve and Patricia Wendt
 Ethel Whalen*
 Mary Ellen Wieland*
 Dan and Kathy Wiesen
 Dick* and Marty Wikert
 James and Carolyn Windeshausen
 Bob and Janice Wobken
 Tom and Deanna Wolf
 Phil and Michelle Wood
 Larry and Marianne* Yost

*Remembered forever



Excellence. Accountability. Impact.™

The Fremont Area Community Foundation is accredited with the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™ – the industry benchmark for excellence in philanthropic practice. Achieving the National Standards designation is not mandatory for community foundations. Our Board of Directors chose to seek this distinction to certify and affirm our commitment to excellence and accountability. Our accreditation provides assurance that we have sound policies and practices in place and meet the highest standards for local giving.

To receive accreditation with National Standards, foundation policies and procedures are submitted to a rigorous review of 41 National Standards in six key areas of community foundation operations, including donor services, investment management, grant-making and administration. This certification from the Council on Foundations says that we meet the most rigorous standards in philanthropy—a promise to our community that we'll continue to do this good work together, right here in the Fremont area.

Summary of Financial Information Consolidated Summary of Activities and Changes in Assets*

CHANGES IN ASSETS	June 30, 2019	June 30, 2018
Revenues, gains, and other support:		
Contributions	\$2,320,151	\$1,648,269
Interest, dividends, and other investment income	\$614,183	\$490,685
Administrative fees and other revenue	\$203,142	\$540,098
Net realized and unrealized gain/loss of investments	\$699,788	\$913,510
Grants returned	\$11,469	\$4,505
Life insurance net of cash value increase	-	-
Transfers from agency funds	\$5,900	\$2,955
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support	\$3,854,633	\$3,600,022
Liabilities:		
Accounts, grants and scholarships payable	\$11,158	\$85,313
Payroll taxes and benefits accrued	\$12,939	\$11,982
Funds held for agencies	\$1,709,417	\$1,641,043
Total Liabilities	\$1,733,514	\$1,738,338
Expenses:		
Grants and scholarships	\$1,811,822	\$1,777,370
Administrative expenses	\$293,633	\$269,282
Trustee fees	\$46,596	\$50,031
Support services and fees	\$480,363	\$615,651
Life Insurance net of cash value decrease	(\$13,517)	(\$22,997)
Total Expenditures	\$2,618,897	\$2,689,337
Change in Net Assets	\$1,235,736	\$910,685
Net Assets beginning of year	\$24,975,611	\$24,064,926
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$27,944,861	\$26,713,949

*All information contained in this summary for year end 6/30/19 has been audited.



FREMONT AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

1005 E. 23rd St., Suite 2 • Fremont, NE 68025

info@facfoundation.org • www.facfoundation.org • 402-721-4252



Benefit from giving through your IRA.

Did you know that if you are 70 ½ years or older, you can make a charitable gift directly from your IRA without paying income tax on the withdrawal? In fact, you can transfer up to \$100,000 from your Individual Retirement Account to charity annually—tax-free. The Charitable IRA Rollover allows you to give more to charity and pay less in taxes.

To learn more, talk to your accountant, or contact Melissa Diers at the Fremont Area Community Foundation at (402) 721-4252 or mdiers@facfoundation.org.

For more information about tax-wise giving, visit facfoundation.org.