

Finley Community Endowment Fund  
c/o North Dakota Community Foundation  
PO Box 387  
Bismarck, ND 58502-0387

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #82  
BISMARCK ND  
ZIP CODE 58504

To: Local Postal Customer  
ECRWSS . . . . EDDM

March 2025



# 2024 Annual Report

*A Status Update for Donors and Supporters of Finley's Permanent Endowment Fund.*



*Dear Friends,*

A recent article in The Chronicle of Philanthropy noted that rural areas in America receive much less charitable funding from national foundations than they

should based on population. This doesn't come as a big surprise to many of us who live in "flyover country." The Midwest and especially its rural areas are often overlooked.

While this statistic may be discouraging to some, it is actually *inspiring* to me and others on our committee. We don't wait for help or handouts from national organizations to build projects or support programs here in Finley - while we appreciate any support we can get, we are busy building our own charitable resource in the Finley Community Endowment Fund.

This foundation will generate charitable dollars for grant awards in our area forever, regardless of what other funding may come our way.

**Please consider how you can help our fund grow to be a significant resource for our area. Gifts of all sizes are appreciated!**

As always, please feel free to contact me or any one of our committee members if you have questions about our work: Chad Aberle, Karla Neset, Danielle Bremer, or Marita Erman.

*- Brian Tuite, Chair*

## \$11,150 Awarded in 2024

The Finley Community Endowment Fund awarded two grants in October of 2024 to the following organizations and projects:

- **Finley Wildlife Club:** \$8,150 for their Bi-Annual Auction
- **City of Finley - Finley Days:** \$3,000 for advertising for the 2025 Finley Days Celebration

Grants are awarded once a year. Any nonprofit organization or government entity providing services to the Finley area can apply. More information and the online application are available at [www.NDCF/Finley](http://www.NDCF/Finley). Applications are due in early October.



*The 2024 Finley Days Celebration included a sand volleyball tournament and minnow races. A 2023 grant from the Finley Community Endowment Fund helped the committee send out bulk mailers to everyone in the community and surrounding area.*

*"The best part about Finley Days is that everything is free to the public," wrote Holly Stromsodt in their grant application. "We do not charge for ANY of the events on Saturday or Sunday, including the street dance."*

### Finley Community Endowment Fund

- Established in 2002
- Total Assets (as of 12/31/2024): **\$360,802**
- Total Gifts to the Finley fund in 2024: **\$18,953**
- Total Grants awarded in 2024: **2 grants totaling \$11,150**
- Total Grants awarded since inception: **81 grants totaling \$145,103**

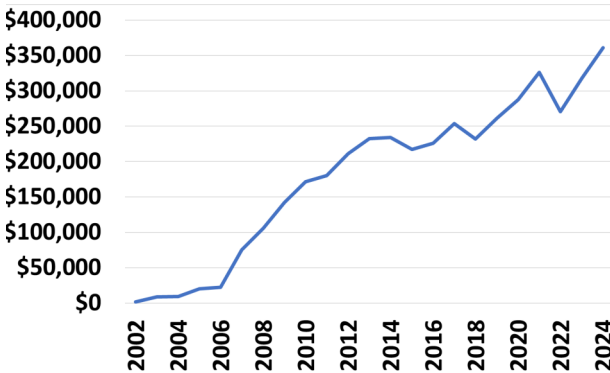
## Fund Growth Over the Years

The Finley Community Endowment Fund ended 2024 with a market value of over \$360,000! This is a permanent fund so that money will provide grant dollars for our area forever.

How did we get to this amount? First, a group of local residents had the forethought to create this fund at the North Dakota Community Foundation back in 2002. Then, many individuals and businesses have donated to this fund over the years, either through fundraisers or by sending in a check. In fact, more than 125 different families or businesses have given to this fund!

We received significant contributions from the North Dakota Community Foundation's matching grant program (\$45,285), the Griggs Steele Empowerment Zone (\$40,000), Citizens State Bank (\$27,321), and the Finley Improvement Association (\$24,170). Several individuals and families have also made thousands of dollars in donations to our fund over the years.

The chart below shows the **market value of our fund as of December 31 every year** since it started. What tremendous growth!



Thank you to the many donors who believe in the future of Finley and support our permanent fund! You have made a significant difference in our community.

### Questions or want more information?



Finley Community Endowment Fund  
Attn: Brian Tuite, Chair  
PO Box 255, Finley, ND 58230



701-789-7591 | [Finley@NDCF.net](mailto:Finley@NDCF.net)

[www.NDCF.net/Finley](http://www.NDCF.net/Finley)

## Donating Ag Commodities Makes Good Sense (& Cents)

Many North Dakotans do their charitable giving in a very tax-wise way - they gift a portion of their harvest.

*"Gifting agricultural commodities is a really smart way to give back,"* noted Amy Stromsodt of the North Dakota Community



Foundation, who works with area producers on their gifts. *"Farmers can deduct the cost of production, but the portion of the harvest that is donated does not have to be claimed as income to the self-employed farmer. This can result in thousands of dollars in tax savings as opposed to a straight gift of cash."*

The Finley Community Endowment Fund can accept many different types of agricultural commodities as gifts, including livestock.

If you are interested in learning more about this giving option, contact Amy Stromsodt at [Amy@NDCF.net](mailto:Amy@NDCF.net) or 701-741-3193 for a free, confidential conversation. She can provide illustrations of your potential tax savings and discuss various ways to structure your gift to meet your charitable-giving desires as well as optimize your tax savings. Learn more at [www.NDCF.net/AgGifts](http://www.NDCF.net/AgGifts).



## Leave Your Legacy in Finley!

If you would like to leave some or all of your estate to the Finley Community Endowment Fund, the bequest language is as follows:

*"I give and bequeath to the North Dakota Community Foundation (Tax ID 45-0336015), a qualified charitable organization under IRS 501 (c)(3), located in Bismarck, North Dakota, \_\_\_\_\_ (a percentage, specific dollar amount, or remainder) to the **Finley Community Endowment Fund**, a component fund of the North Dakota Community Foundation."*

*\*Be sure to consult an attorney*



The Finley Community Endowment Fund is a component fund of the North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF). Established in 1976, NDCF provides charitable giving and fiduciary services including donor gift planning, bequest planning, communications support, and an annual audit. For more information about NDCF or the Finley fund, contact Amy Stromsodt, NDCF Development Director at 701-741-3193.