



NORTH DAKOTA
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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Contact: Steve Lipp, President & CEO
701-222-8349, Steve@NDCF.net

North Dakota Community Foundation Announces Three New Community Endowment Funds

Bismarck, North Dakota . . . The North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF) added three new community endowment funds to its signature program in 2025: the Billings County Community Foundation Endowment Fund, the Oliver County Community Endowment Foundation, and the Grant County Community Foundation Endowment. NDCF now manages a total of 72 community endowment funds across the state.

Endowment funds are permanent by nature and their assets are invested. A portion of the investment earnings are awarded as grants every year. Managed appropriately, they provide grant dollars in perpetuity for a community, school, or nonprofit organization.

“These endowment funds will provide a stable charitable resource for worthwhile programs and projects in these communities forever,” said Steve Lipp, President & CEO of NDCF. “They can support important pillars of a town – the school system, parks, healthcare system, senior services, and the arts, all of which improve the quality of life for area residents.”

Each community endowment fund is guided by an advisory committee of 5-9 local residents. These volunteers help grow the fund and also recommend grant awards every year.

“Our local advisory committees are crucial to the success of their funds,” noted John Heinen, NDCF Development Director in western North Dakota. “They know the needs of their area better than anyone.”

Oliver County and Grant County have existing advisory committees in place to help direct philanthropic dollars from the North Plains Connector Fund. Billings County is currently establishing their advisory committee.

There are several North Dakota communities that also have non-endowment funds at NDCF associated with their community foundation. Monies raised for non-endowed funds can be granted immediately, further supporting important programs in their area or providing funding for capital projects.

Last year, NDCF’s community funds awarded more than \$3 million in grants to projects and programs in their area.

NDCF manages more than 1,000 charitable funds benefiting North Dakota communities, nonprofit organizations, and students. Its mission is to improve the quality of life for North Dakota’s citizens through charitable giving and promoting philanthropy. It has awarded more than \$130 million in grants

and charitable disbursements since its inception in 1976 and has offices in Bismarck, Dickinson, Larimore, and Wahpeton.

For more information about the North Dakota Community Foundation, call 701-222-8349 or go online to www.NDCF.net.

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Caption for map: The North Dakota Community Foundation manages 72 community endowment funds across the state.

Captions for photos:

The New Rockford Community Foundation awarded a grant in 2025 for a tandem bicycle for Lutheran Home of the Good Shepherd. ““Never in a million years did I think I'd get to go for a bike ride again!" said a 98-year-old resident.

The Powers Lake Community Foundation awarded a grant to Powers Lake High School to update their welding equipment. “The new equipment and support of our Ag Ed and FFA programs by the community are greatly appreciated by our students and staff," said Superintendent Sue Kranz.