

Walhalla Area Community Foundation
c/o North Dakota Community Foundation
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WACF | WALHALLA AREA
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2025 Annual Update

*A Status Update for Donors and Supporters of
Walhalla’s Permanent Endowment Fund.*

Dear Friends,

An article last year 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 Walhalla - while we appreciate any support we can get from outside sources, we are busy building our own charitable resource in the Walhalla Area Community Foundation.

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!

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us. Enjoy the rest of the summer!

WACF Advisory Committee

Susan Karel Melissa Gapp
Michael Cook Allysia Shakofsky
Leona Schneider

\$2,900 Awarded in 2024

The WACF was created to be a resource to support local community initiatives which provide a higher quality of life in the Walhalla area. Last year, the WACF Advisory Committee awarded \$2,900 in three different grants to the following organizations:

- **Gorge Arts & Heritage Council:** \$1,500 for a DVD Blu Ray player and speaker repairs at the Walla Theatre
- **Rendezvous Region Foundation:** \$800 for a Talking Trail sign at St. Boniface Church in Walhalla, a part of the Rendezvous Region Talking Trail
- **Pembina County Imagination Library:** \$600



Grants from the WACF are awarded once a year. Any organization with a 501(c)(3) status or government agency may apply. **Applications are available online at www.NDCF.net/ Walhalla and are due by October 1.** There is \$7,920 available in the 2025 grant round.

Walhalla Area Community Found.

- Established in 2009
- Total Market Value of Fund (as of 12/31/24): **\$219,748**
- Total Gifts to the Fund in 2024: **\$2,920**
- Total Grants in 2024: **3 grants totaling \$2,900**
- Total Grants Awarded since 2012: **23 grants totaling \$84,857**

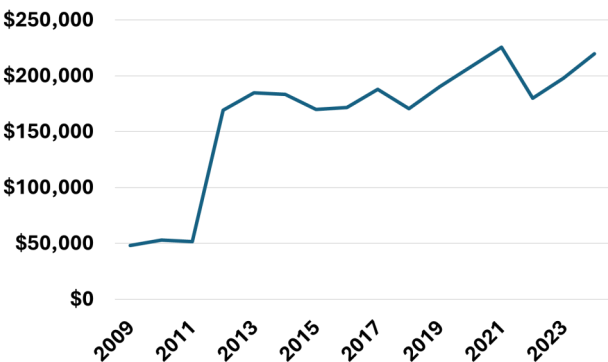


Fund Growth Over the Years

The Walhalla Area Community Foundation ended 2024 with a market value of over \$219,000!

How did we get to this amount? First, the Walhalla Care Foundation established the fund the North Dakota Community Foundation back in 2009 with a \$33,250 gift. We received matching gifts from NDCF totaling \$13,250 and a significant gift from Lyle & Margie Johnson in 2012. Then, other families and businesses have donated to this fund over the years, either through fundraisers or by sending in a check.

The chart below shows the **December 31 market value of our fund every year** since it started through 2024.



There are many ways to help grow our fund:

- **Set up a Recurring Gift online** that fits your monthly budget. Go to www.NDCF.net/Walhalla to get started.
- **Establish a Charitable Gift Annuity** through NDCF to benefit the Walhalla Area Community Foundation.
- **Make a gift in memory of a loved one.**
- **Leave a gift in your will** - suggested language is below:

*"I give, devise, 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 of the estate, specific dollar amount, or remainder of estate) to the **Walhalla Area Community Foundation**, a permanent component of the North Dakota Community Foundation."*

* Be sure to visit with your attorney

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 Walhalla Area Community Foundation 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 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.



"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

- Theodore Roosevelt

Questions or want more information?



Walhalla Area Community Foundation
Attn: Michael Cook
PO Box 318, Walhalla, ND 58282



701-549-3176 | Walhalla@NDCF.net
www.NDCF.net/Walhalla



The Walhalla Area Community Foundation (WACF) is a component fund of the North Dakota Community Foundation (NDCF). Established in 1976, NDCF provides charitable giving services such as donor gift planning and bequest planning and money management services including an annual audit. For more information about NDCF or the WACF, contact Amy Stromsodt, NDCF Development Director at 701-741-3193.