

November 9, 2022

Dear McGregor Area Community Friends,

Thank you if you have been a 2022 donor this year!

We are writing today to ask those who haven't provided support yet this year to please consider donating to help the McGregor community. Our mission seeks to enrich the quality of life of the people in our community through community grants for the sustainability and stewardship of the environment and other community needs.

Since 2002 when the McGregor Lakes Area Foundation (MLAF) funded its first grant to form the Big Sandy Water Institute, the MLAF has provided more than \$104,000 in grants to the McGregor area.

In December, we will be approving our 2022 grant requests and make those disbursements accordingly. Each year's fundraising defines how much we can grant to area organizations. This year those grant requests exceed what we have raised so far.

MLAF held its annual fundraiser at The Craft House on Lake Minnewawa on August 28th. Event Sponsors were the Craft House, Floe International, Willey's Marine and Riverwood Health Care Center. Donors like you helped make this a fun and informative event. While we view the fundraiser a success as donations were up from last year, we are short of funding for increased community needs.

Applications received for 2022, and pending approval, include: the McGregor ISD #4's Big Sandy Water Institute, ANGELS, the Riverwood Reads Program at the McGregor Clinic, the McGregor Library, the McGregor Food Shelf and a new applicant, the Long Lake Conservation Center. The total of these grant requests is \$14,540, \$5,000 more than 2021.

If we can raise \$5,500 before the end of the year, we can cover all of the grant requests made for 2022 plus add to the MLAF Endowment Fund as some donors have requested. A family, who have been long-time donors to MLAF, has agreed to match up to \$2,000 in donations to help fully fund grant requests this year.

Please help support the MLAF grant program this year by taking advantage of this matching donation.

Those of you who are required to make Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your IRA can reduce your taxable income and save money on your taxes by contributing directly to the MLAF from your IRA. If you have any questions about IRA contributions to MLAF, we can provide an example. Of course, your tax advisor is the best informational source.

Donations can be made by mailing a check or through online contributions by going to our website at <u>www.mlafmn.org</u>

McGregor Lakes Area Foundation P.O. Box 415 McGregor, MN 55760.

We would love the opportunity to visit with you if you have any questions or have ideas you would like to share with us. We encourage you to contact us at any time. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Curtis Sparks, Committee Chair; Katie Nelson, Committee Vice-Chair; Gary Anderson, Treasurer