



FOR RELEASE ON January 11, 2021 AT 8 am Contact: Lisa M. Mueller

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McGregor Lakes Area Foundation Grants Record Amount of Funds to Community Organizations

Six Grant Recipients to Receive a Total of \$9,205 in 2021

[McGregor, Minnesota, January 11, 2021] — The McGregor Lakes Area Foundation (MLAF) is granting \$9,205 to the following community organizations in 2021: McGregor ANGELS (Area Neighbors Giving Elderly Live-In Services), McGregor School District (3 grants), McGregor Food Shelf, and Riverwood Foundation McGregor Clinic. The grant to McGregor ANGELS helps offer assistance to seniors age 60 and over who are at risk of losing independence to live safely in their homes. The school district grants will support the Big Sandy Water Institute and two preschool programs. The McGregor Food Shelf grant will help provide nutritional support for up to 300 individuals a month. Funds to the Riverwood McGregor Clinic will purchase books for the Riverwood Reads Program, which gives a book to children aged birth-8 years at their well-child checkup visits.

Checks to these community organizations will be presented by Lisa Mueller, MLAF advisory committee member, in January.

This year's McGregor Lakes Area Foundation funding brings the total support for McGregor area community organizations to over \$95,000 since the first grants in 2000.

The foundation's mission is to support the greater McGregor lakes area through ongoing education and annual grants to non-profit organizations that focus on ecological, educational, environmental, and social areas. Grants are provided to organizations that demonstrate a clear commitment to the sustainability and long-term viability of the lakes community.

The foundation was formed in 1992 as the Big Sandy Lake Foundation. In 2016, the foundation's name was changed to the McGregor Lakes Area Foundation to reflect the foundation's mission of supporting community-wide organizations. MLAF funds are invested and managed by the Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation.

The foundation historically held an annual event/fundraiser each August to promote the work of the organization and connect community members interested in learning more about MLAF's mission and goals. This year's event was cancelled due to COVID-19, but the MLAF advisory committee successfully used multiple direct mail campaigns, partner newsletters, and personal contact with donors to reach their financial goals. Community members and businesses were very generous donors during this pandemic year enabling the foundation to reach its goals for the year. An additional success in 2020 was the use of an online grant application portal via the Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation web site. In 2021 the McGregor Lakes Area Foundation will launch its own web site to further spread the word about its history and contributions to the McGregor lakes area.

The McGregor Lakes Area Foundation endowment fund annually grows so that grant funds can be given into perpetuity. In partnership with individuals, families, businesses, and charitable organizations MLAF makes investments to ensure that area lakes, land, and way of life will be enjoyed for generations to come. Please contact the MLAF if you'd like to learn more, or if you have questions about a charitable tax deductible gift. You can also make your gift via the Grand Rapids Community Foundation (<https://www.gracf.org>) by clicking on the "Donate Now" button and then click on "Donate to a Fund" to search for "McGregor Lakes Area Foundation".

If you're interested in joining the advisory committee please contact any of the individuals listed below.

2021 Advisory Committee Members

Curt Sparks, Chairperson, 612-616-6438

Katie Nelson, Vice Chairperson, 218-349-7250

Gary Anderson, Treasurer, 612-961-6774

Lisa Mueller, 612-810-3341

Ann Zappia, 612-716-1747

McGregor Lakes Area Foundation operates under the umbrella of the the Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation and accepts tax deductible donations from individuals, families, businesses, and charitable organizations.

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