



Cares

FOUNDATION

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To ease hunger and homelessness, and cultivate the arts for all.

OUR STORY

Established in 2016, Fox Cares Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening organizations that make our communities stronger. The Foundation focuses on three areas we believe are critical to build and maintain a physically and emotionally healthy community: easing homelessness, easing hunger, and cultivating the arts for all.

Since its creation, the Fox Cares Foundation has provided over \$500,000 in grants raised through fundraising initiatives and events supported by individuals and organizations throughout the Fox Valley and beyond.



Our success in 2024 was fueled by new ideas, new events, and a renewed commitment to strengthening the organizations that make our communities stronger. To all who support the Foundation with donations and volunteer hours, thank you!

Bruce Kotarek | Board Chair & Founding Member, Fox Cares Foundation



This was an amazing year for the Foundation highlighted by new fundraising events and increased revenue from existing ones. We were able to provide \$15,000 more in grant dollars in 2024 compared to 2023 which continues to elevate the Foundation's impact in our communities. Thank you to everyone that helped us achieve this!

Cathy Harvath | Executive Director and Founding Member, Fox Cares Foundation



"Connection and Thank You!" bringing together non-profits to be shown appreciation for all they do in our communities to ease hunger, homelessness and cultivate the arts hosted by Fox Cares Foundation and Fox Communities Credit Union.

OUR IMPACT GRANT STORIES



GoldenHouse™
Help and Healing for Domestic Abuse

THE GOLDEN HOUSE

The Golden House story began in 1979 with the Brown County Task Force for Battered Women, an all-volunteer 24-hour helpline dedicated to helping domestic abuse victims quickly find safe places to stay. The name was eventually changed to Golden House to reflect the organization's positivity and pay tribute to the Lutsey family: unwavering supporters of the program and the owners of Gold Bond Ice Cream. The agency has grown into a comprehensive domestic violence program offering free and confidential services focused on safety, support, housing, and prevention education. Each year, Golden House responds to almost 12,000 helpline calls, shelters over 400 individuals, and provides over 5,000 services to over 2,500 clients.

In 2024, Fox Cares Foundation provided a \$5,000 grant that was used to support a critical element of the shelter's dining service: the Culturally Specific Foods Program. Developed to support the deep cultural traditions of the communities they serve, this unique program keeps people from having to choose between their heritage and their well-being. "It's not something people ask for," notes Development Director, Dina Borremans, "but it has a huge impact, providing comfort that helps them feel better about staying in a place that's safe for themselves and their children."



OSHKOSH AREA COMMUNITY PANTRY (OACP)

In 1989, community leaders started the Ecumenical Food Pantry to help Oshkosh area residents ease hunger insecurity. As needs grew, community members worked to transform the program into a new non-profit organization named Oshkosh Area Community Pantry (OACP). Currently, the OACP operates with a staff of five and a growing roster of volunteers to distribute over two million pounds of food to over 30,000 households -- over 71,000 guests annually. Additionally, OACP works with local partners, including Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin and The Emergency Food Assistance Program, while providing a "School Pantry Program" to Oshkosh Area School District, providing healthy snacks (fruit, fruit bars, granola bars) to approximately 4,000 students per week.

In 2024, the Fox Cares Foundation provided a grant of \$5,000 to support OACP's Kids Corner, a unique initiative that allows children ages 2-17 to "shop" in their own grocery area. Guided by OACP staff, children learn about nutrition and foster a sense of confidence in their ability to make healthy choices. Additionally, Kids Corner shoppers can take home books and activities that nurture their knowledge of healthy foods. Kids Corner serves an average of 200 children per month.



TROUT MUSEUM OF ART

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The Trout Museum of Art (TMA) is a community-focused organization committed to inspiring and connecting people through creative experiences and the visual arts. TMA hosts exhibitions from local, national, and international artists and provides educational resources designed to help adults, teens, and kids explore and engage their creativity through art. TMA also facilitates community engagement through neighborhood events like Art at the Park, Finders Keepers, Artist in Residence, and partnership programs that create opportunities for people to process personal and emotional challenges through artistic engagement.

In 2024, Fox Cares Foundation provided a grant of \$3,500 to support SPARK! - a free program for adults living with memory loss and their care partners. SPARK! gives participants a shared visual art experience that engages creativity, heightens mood, and fosters feelings of connection with the world around them. The projects also benefit caregivers by enhancing their connection with their loved ones and providing a source of community support. The program serves approximately 60 participants per month, with Fox Cares' funding covering the costs of the educators, project materials, and refreshments. "This funding," Frankie Gilboa, TMA Development and Stewardship Manager notes, "enables us to give people tools to make their memory loss experience less scary and more manageable."

OUR REACH

\$160,097

GRANTS

31

NON-PROFITS SERVED



TMA TROUT MUSEUM OF ART - SPARK!

Organizations Supported in 2024

Appleton Community Music

Apricity

Art Connective Inc.

BEAMING, Inc.

*Bergstrom-Mahler Museum
of Glass*

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley

Cedar Center Arts

*Christine Ann Domestic Abuse
Services*

Clintonville Goodfellows

COTS, Inc.

Creative Downtown Appleton

Day By Day Shelter

*Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin
– Fox Valley*

*Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra
Association*

Freedom House Ministries

Friendship Place

*Harbor House Domestic Abuse
Programs*

Kids From Wisconsin Ltd.

Lakeside Packaging Plus

NeighborWorks Green Bay

Newcap, Inc.

Oshkosh Area Community Pantry

*Safe Families for Children –
Northeast Wisconsin Chapter*

Salvation Army of Greater Green Bay

Salvation Army of Waupaca County

*Shepherd of The Lakes
Lutheran Church*

Solutions Recovery, Inc

The Building for Kids

Trout Museum of Art

Vida Inc.

World Relief Fox Valley

OUR EVENT PARTNERSHIPS



BIKE TO THE BEAT-WINTER EDITION

A new event in 2024, this unique event was a fun CYCLEBAR spin workout great for riders of all ability levels, gifts, and an afterparty with food, drinks, and live music. The new winter edition raised **\$5,686**.



BIKE TO THE BEAT

Established in 2016, this family-friendly event brings riders of all ages and skill levels for a day of pedaling, music, food and fun. All proceeds from registration fees go to our Foundation. Bike To The Beat raised **\$94,611**.



SILENT AUCTION

An element of the credit unions holiday party, this organization-wide event allows team members to support Fox Cares Foundation by bidding on items donated by community establishments. The silent auction raised **\$26,198**.



SHOOT FOR FOX SAKE

New in 2024, this fundraising event is an afternoon of sporting clay and networking. Shoot for Fox Sake raised **\$7,342**.



SWING FORE FOX SAKE

Established in 2022, this annual golf outing welcomes individual and company players along with sponsors throughout the Fox Valley. The golf outing raised **\$18,780**.



FOX COMMUNITIES CREDIT UNION \$25,000 MATCHING PROGRAM

Created to increase awareness of the Foundation, this program encourages giving by matching team members' and credit union members' donations. The matching program raised **\$33,394**.



GIVING TUESDAY

In conjunction with the National Day of Giving, this fundraising effort supports the Foundation's "Community Cares for Christmas" program through Fox Communities Credit Union member donations and a Fox Communities Credit Union match. We were able to raise **\$3,255**.

\$189,266
RAISED THROUGH
EVENTS

Easing Homelessness . . .

because no person should have to go without a place to call home.

Easing Hunger . . .

because no community thrives when some go hungry.

Cultivating the Arts for All . . .

because expression through the arts brings beauty to the community at large.

OUR FOX CARES EXECUTIVE TEAM

Cathy Harvath | Executive Director

*Founding Member
Fox Cares Foundation*

Bruce Kotarek | Board Chair

*Founding Member
Fox Communities Credit Union (retired)*

James Kilsdonk | Board Treasurer

Abby Bank

John Wanie | Board Vice Chair

Woodward Community Media (retired)

Amanda Brown | Board Secretary

*Founding Member
Fox Communities Credit Union*

OUR FOX CARES BOARD MEMBERS

Lynn Hopfensperger

*Founding Member
Fox Communities Credit Union (retired)*

Lynn Peters

Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region (retired)

Daniel Shepherd

Blue Door Consulting, LLC

Susan Nagel

Fox Communities Credit Union (retired)

Jordan Parkin

East Wisconsin Savings Bank

Ryne Lodl

Encompass Security

Rich Scott

Kerber Rose and Associates (retired)

Kevin Wood

NRI (Nomura Research Institute)

Cameron Wengrzyn

Feeding America of Eastern Wisconsin

Trenten Woelfel

Access, Inc.



FOX CARES FOUNDATION

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Cares
FOUNDATION

*To donate or submit a grant request to the
Fox Cares Foundation please visit
www.foxcares.org*