

2021 Annual Report

WOMEN IN NORTHFIELD GIVING SUPPORT

Women in Northfield
WINGS
Giving Support



WINGS is a 100% volunteer-led grassroots network of women who pool together resources to improve the lives of women and youth in the Northfield area. Joining WINGS brings you into a community of local women who are making a difference!

WINGS, which began in 2000, has grown to be one of the largest local grantors, giving \$1,229,987 to local nonprofit organizations to date. In 2021, \$90,000 was awarded to eighteen organizations serving women and youth in the Northfield area.

GIVE TO WINGS

WINGS
P.O. Box 845
Northfield, MN 55057
Phone: (507) 301-6610
Email: president@wings-mn.org
www.wings-mn.org
www.facebook.com/nfldwings/

Please join this dynamic organization!
Simply send a check to:
P.O. Box 845, Northfield, MN 55057 or donate online at: www.wings-mn.org/donate

Voting membership begins at \$120

WINGS MISSION

WINGS educates and expands the number of women in philanthropy, builds and strengthens community through pooled investments, and improves the lives of women and youth in the Northfield area through focused giving.



Leave a legacy that empowers women and youth in Northfield. Join WINGS Forever by designating a legacy gift to WINGS. Click on the Legacy Giving tab on our website at www.wings-mn.org/legacy-giving.

STAY CONNECTED

Are you receiving emails from WINGS?

If not, please contact us at Communications@wings-mn.org

WINGS 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



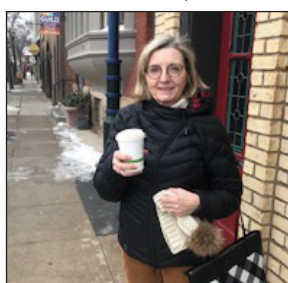
AT LARGE:
Candace Godfrey



OUTREACH:
Corinne Smith



VICE PRESIDENT:
Kim Decker



COMMUNICATIONS:
Diane Kuhlmann



PRESIDENT: Patsy Ophaug



AT LARGE: Rebecca Otten



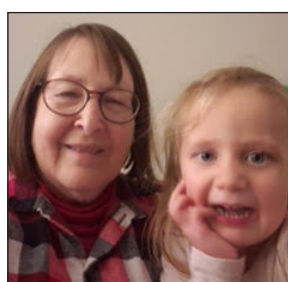
SECRETARY: Jan Ensrud



AT LARGE:
Gretchen Ehresmann



MEMBERSHIP:
Carrie Duba



TREASURER: Liz Ciner



GRANTS: Sarah Swan McDonald

NOT PICTURED:

AT LARGE:

Vicki Stevens

STUDENT MEMBERS:

Katyana Cardenas

Ella Anderson

EX-OFFICIO: **Leah Rich**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Leah Rich (Chair)

Bonnie Jean Flom, Katy Berglund

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As this year of my WINGS presidency comes to a close, I am in a sweet spot of reflecting back on all we have accomplished and looking ahead toward what is yet to come. I've seen abundance in growth of membership, grants awarded, creativity in approaching our usual events, and effort in beginning an encompassing strategic planning process. Dedicated committee members have worked diligently bringing their energy and ideas to the Board. Collaboration on four major events that have typically been separate, in-person celebrations or educational gatherings were held virtually with record attendance. The Annual Meeting, honoring of Blue WINGS members, Grants Celebration, and the fall event all exceeded my hopes and expectations this year, although they were implemented differently than in our first twenty-plus years.

Membership grew in varying ways: new women joined, previous members renewed their gifts, and more members than ever contributed at the Blue WINGS level. Further increases in donations included major gifts through legacy funds and matching gifts through members, spouses, and/or partners. The collective impact of your generosity made this year's \$90,000 in grants obtainable!

I was reminded of the 50th Anniversary of Title IX coming up (June 22, 2022) when WINGS received a legacy gift from two local women athletes' charitable fund. For me, as a little girl growing up in the '50's, access to varsity athletic programs didn't exist in the public schools or colleges. Title IX revolutionized and provided for participation by eliminating gender discrimination. WINGS mission of educating and supporting women and youth in our community gives us a voice as voting members. As members, we can make intentional choices about diversity, inclusion, and equity. We get to decide where, how, and to whom our grants are directed. Our actions can and do have a significant influence on the lives of women and youth in Northfield.

WINGS, I am proud to say, is heading into this next year as an enduring all-volunteer organization committed to the vision of our founding members. Moving forward, we will continue our strategic planning process beyond examining our mission, core values, shared goals, and the grants process. We hope to keep building on our strong foundation of reliable funding that supports local women and youth. Do you think it's feasible for WINGS to grant \$100,000 in 2022?

Embrace the positive and know how grateful I am for your presence among us!

Patsy Ophaug
WINGS President



Patsy Ophaug
WINGS President



WITH GRATITUDE

WINGS HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

— *Zoom, Zoom, Zoom* —

Due to COVID, board meetings continued to be held through virtual Zoom sessions.

- ◆ A record attendance was met for the 2021 Annual Meeting, held via Zoom.
- ◆ The Grants celebration was a Zoom event and the membership committee delivered Cakewalk cupcakes to members prior to the event. It offered a personal touch to greet WINGS members.
- ◆ The fall membership event featured Meleah Follen, Youth Engagement director of Health Community Initiative, highlighting information gathered in the Minnesota Student Survey, including portions associated with adverse childhood experiences. This Zoom event provided the opportunity to learn more about what our students are reporting about their individual experiences in Northfield.
- ◆ Matthew Santori from the St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation initiated a strategic planning process with board members.
- ◆ Donations to WINGS funds included a legacy gift of \$10,876.14 from the Pat Lamb and Ele Hanson charitable fund.



The Grants celebration was a Zoom event and the membership committee delivered Cakewalk cupcakes to members prior to the event. It offered a personal touch to greet WINGS members.

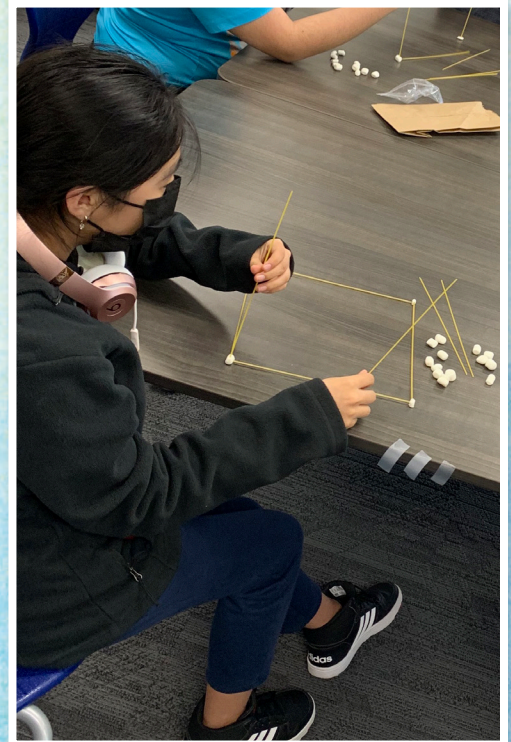
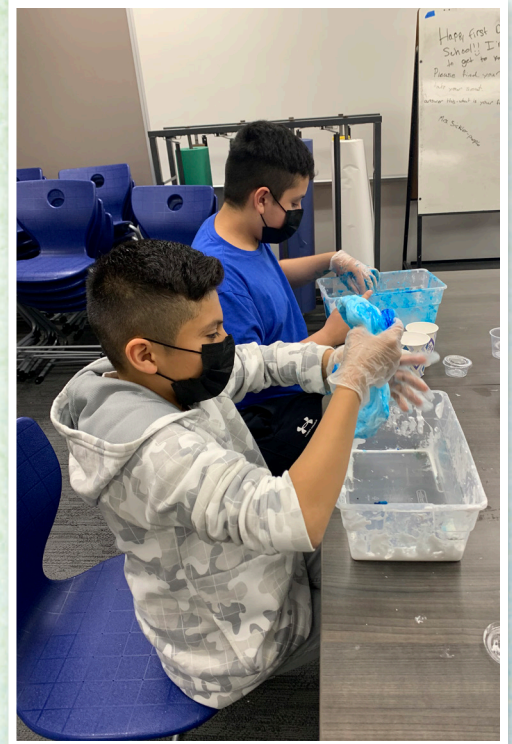
GREENVALE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL - MIDDLE SCHOOL INITIATIVE

The Middle School Initiative at Greenvale Park Community School is off to a great start this year! There are a variety of activities offered for middle school students on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Community School. Middle School Club is a space where students can play games, do hands-on activities, and hang out with friends. Homework Help is offered all night for students who are hoping to spend more time working on their assignments. The evenings end with gym, which is a very popular option. Students are able to enjoy a variety of activities while staying active.

Thanks to the WINGS Grant, additional staff who support the Middle School Initiative have been hired and supplies for activities that students are interested in have been purchased. Since the start of the school year, 121 students in grades 6-8 have accessed Community School programming - and this number is expected to grow as programming continues to expand.

LOOKING FORWARD:

There are some very exciting developments happening within the Middle School Initiative. In January an AmeriCorps Promise Fellow, whose primary focus will be on providing and expanding middle school programming, will be joining the team. This hire will also spend time with the TORCH program, with a focus on building relationships with students. A Youth Board will be started in February to give students the opportunity to engage as leaders and provide guidance for future programming. In the new year the hope is to see new students, provide new programming, and find new opportunities for growth.



Since the start of the school year, 121 students in grades 6-8 have accessed Community School programming - and this number is expected to grow as programming continues to expand.

WINGS Funds Fund Family
of Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation

Fund Family Summary

January 1, 2021 - November 30, 2021

Fund	Beginning Balance	Contributions	Investment Activity	Dis-bursements	Grants	Other Income (Expense)	Uncommitted Balance
WINGS Operating Fund							
	2,475	4,720	1	(206)	(250)	(2,479)	4,262
WINGS: Women's Endowment Fund							
	826,669	22,321	147,165	(10,566)	(29,925)	-	955,664
WINGS: Women's Annual Fund							
	68,457	46,694	15	(555)	(60,075)	-	54,537
Sub-Total:	897,602	73,735	147,181	(11,326)	(90,250)	(2,479)	1,014,463
	897,602	73,735	147,181	(11,326)	(90,250)	(2,479)	1,014,463

Operating Budget

	<u>2021 Budget</u>	<u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>2022 Proposed</u>
Administration	\$ 70	-----	\$ 70
Printing and Mailing	\$2,255	\$1,058	\$2,255
Communications	\$ 655	\$ 163	\$ 455
Meetings	\$1,050	\$1,169	\$1,250
TOTAL	\$4,030	\$2,390	\$4,030

WINGS Membership

the sky's the limit!

\$1 - \$119	\$120 - \$299	\$300 - \$599	\$600 - \$1,199	\$1,200 +
\$10 + month	\$25 + month	\$50 + month	\$100 + month	
				
Friend/Student	Bronze Wings	Silver Wings	Gold Wings	Blue Wings

WHY JOIN WINGS? YOU WILL ...

- Simply donate or choose your time commitment - join a committee, if you'd like
- Pool your money with others to have a greater impact
- Focus your giving locally
- Expand your network of contacts in the community
- Connect with a thriving, active group of women
- Help this dynamic organization grow

2021 WINGS GRANT RECIPIENTS



WINGS awarded \$90,000 in this year's grant cycle.

WINGS has granted \$1,229,887 to date.

2021 WINGS GRANT RECIPIENTS

- ◆ Healthy Community Initiative: Northfield YouthBank
- ◆ Northfield Middle School TORCH: Out-of-School-Time Connections
- ◆ Ruth's House of Hope: Emergency and Transitional Shelter Program
- ◆ TORCH: Somali Student Support
- ◆ Greenvale Park Community School: Middle School Initiative
- ◆ Sharing Our Roots: Mobile Coop Project
- ◆ Community Action Center: Housing Stability
- ◆ Health Finders Collaborative: School-Based Mental Health
- ◆ Infants Remembered in Silence: IRIS Bereavement Support Packets
- ◆ Northfield Union of Youth:
 - The Wallflower Project, a host home program
- ◆ Northfield Community College Collaborative:
 - Law Enforcement Pathway
- ◆ Project Friendship: Something to Celebrate
- ◆ Community Action Center: Operation Joy for Teens
- ◆ HOPE Center: Zoom Into the Future
- ◆ Community Action Center: Diaper Bank
- ◆ Community Action Center: Farm to Family Market
- ◆ Healthy Community Initiative: Reading Corps Pre-K Internal Coach
- ◆ Northfield Arts Guild: Bilingual Art Packs