

2024 Annual Report



WINGS is a 100% volunteer-led grassroots network of women who pool their resources to improve the lives of women and youth in the Northfield area. Since its founding in 2000, WINGS has contributed more than \$1,530,000 to local nonprofits—making it one of the largest local grantors to local nonprofit organizations.

Joining WINGS brings you into a community of local women who are making a difference. In 2024, WINGS awarded \$100,500 to sixteen organizations serving women and youth in greater Northfield.

Women in Northfield
WINGS 
Giving Support

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.

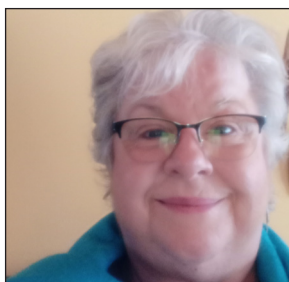


Leave a legacy that empowers women and youth in Northfield. Join WINGS Forever by designating a legacy gift to WINGS. Click on the Legacy Giving tab on our website at www.wings-mn.org/legacy-giving.

STAY CONNECTED

Are you receiving emails from WINGS?
If not, please contact us at
Communications@wings-mn.org

WINGS 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



PRESIDENT:
Vicki Dilley



VICE PRESIDENT & NOMINATIONS:
Kathy Olson



SECRETARY:
Jan Ensrud



TREASURER:
Liz Ciner



COMMUNICATIONS:
Diane Kuhlmann



OUTREACH:
Leah Rich



MEMBERSHIP:
Kim Decker



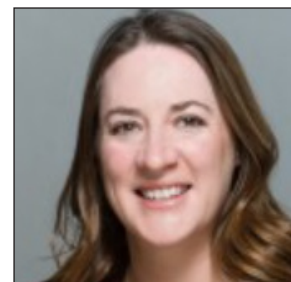
GRANTS:
Emily Blumhoefer



AT LARGE:
Gretchen Ehresmann



AT LARGE:
Angelica Koch



AT LARGE:
Laura Turek

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I often describe Northfield as a 'magical' place to live with great schools, friendly neighbors, fun events in the parks, pretty pots of blooming flowers hanging from the lamp posts downtown and those lovely events like Winter Walk with the twinkling lights and fire pits to warm our hands in the streets.

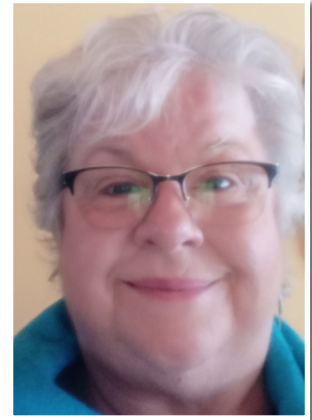
Because of the large number of grant requests that WINGS receives, I know this is not true for everyone in our sweet town. There is a growing number of requests each year which demonstrates there are numerous women and children who don't sit in my place of privilege. They struggle to see that their children are fed, or have diapers, or have health insurance, or have enriching educational programs. Some of the women in our community do not live in homes that are safe for them or their children. They don't have family they can turn to for help.

With a growing number of needs and a growing dollar amount to meet those needs, WINGS is more essential each year. It is imperative we continue to grow to meet these needs.

What we have grown together in the last 25 years is truly remarkable. Where we continue to need to go into the future is still calling us to unite as women who care and share our resources so that everyone can shine in this magical place we call Home.

As a fan of Wellstone, who sums it up best for us.... We all do Better when we all do Better.

Let's lean into 2025 with invitations to more women to join our movement, to raise our dollars when we can and to remain faithful to the vision of WINGS. Happy Anniversary everyone!



Vicki Dilley
WINGS President



WITH GRATITUDE

WINGS HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

- ◆ Dr. Susan Singer, President of St. Olaf College, spoke at the annual meeting.
- ◆ Youth representatives from NHS and Arcadia brought creativity and engagement to the WINGS Board.
- ◆ Grants totaling \$100,200 were awarded to 16 non-profits at our Grants Celebration. At the event, grantees were available to showcase their organizations to members and all enjoyed speakers from Youthbuild and music from the Northfield Youth Choir.
- ◆ Volunteers promoted WINGS at the Riverwalk Market Fair.
- ◆ In the spirit of collaboration, WINGS members volunteered at Northfield Shares a Dinner.
- ◆ Members were invited to make a donation on behalf of a young person in their lives to engage and inspire the next generation of philanthropists.



WINGS 2024 Diaper Report

The cost of diapers is a large but often overlooked expense for low-income mothers. According to the National Diaper Bank Network, one in three U.S. families cannot afford enough diapers to keep their baby clean, dry, and healthy. The Community Action Center (CAC) and WINGS have been addressing this need for years.

CAC first recognized the need for local diaper support at its food shelf, where mothers and their families frequently asked if CAC knew where to find free or low-cost diapers. Families were having to choose between purchasing enough diapers and keeping up with their rent and utility bills.

CAC did not have internal funds to meet this need, but in 2020 WINGS stepped in to fill the gap, providing a grant to stock diapers in CAC food shelves.

In the past four years, CAC and WINGS diaper distribution program has grown by leaps and bounds. For example, in 2023 CAC doubled the size of its program. It went from 80 families a month in 2022 to 150, and from a total of 23,000 diapers to 54,000. In 2024, the program kept growing. About 134 families each month took home a grand total of 82,000 diapers.

The growth of the diaper program over the past five years far exceeded CAC's internal capacity.

In response, CAC decided to take a dramatic step. CAC applied for, and received, designation as an official "diaper bank" from the National Diaper Bank Network (NDBN). It received a similar designation from the MN Diaper Bank. Significantly, CAC is the first such diaper bank in Greater Minnesota. With these designations, CAC can now buy diapers in bulk from NDBN and receive free diapers from the state of MN.

CAC's new institutional partnerships might make WINGS contributions seem less important. Nothing could be further from the truth. In order to unlock free and low-cost diapers, CAC needs to meet certain thresholds, which CAC could not do without WINGS assistance. The result is that \$1 of WINGS funding becomes \$3 or even \$4 worth of diapers.

CAC staff are incredibly grateful for the steadfast support of WINGS. CAC's motto is "neighbors helping neighbors," and with WINGS assistance, CAC is able to meet an important local need.



WINGS FINANCIALS

Family Fund Summary

2023 Fund Contributions			
Endowment Fund	Annual Fund	Operating Fund	TOTAL
\$44,431	\$75,121	\$3,710	\$123,262
2024 Fund Contributions			
Endowment Fund	Annual Fund	Operating Fund	TOTAL
\$40,708	\$62,421	\$3,815	\$106,944

Endowment

End-of-year Endowment Performance Comparison

Ending Balance (December 31, 2023) \$966,6843

Ending Balance (December 31, 2024) \$1,058,142 +\$62,235



2024 WINGS EXPENSES

2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

	2024 Budget	2024 Expenses	2025 Proposed Budget
Administration	\$650.00	\$762.00	\$750.00
Printing & Mailing	\$2,400.00	\$2,760.96	\$3,000.00
Communication	\$250.00	\$251.16	\$250.00
Meetings	\$2,000.00	\$1,150.38	\$2,000.00
Total (minus grants)	\$5,350.00	\$4,924.50	\$6,000.00
Grants		\$100,100.00	\$125,000.00



WINGS is an affiliate of the
Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation

2024 WINGS GRANT RECIPIENTS



WINGS awarded \$100,500
in this year's grant cycle.

WINGS has granted
\$1,530,087 to date.

2024 WINGS GRANT RECIPIENTS

- ◆ Dakota Prairie Basic Ed. – Adult Basic Ed. Classroom Cupboard
- ◆ Three Rivers Community Action – Family Childcare Model
- ◆ Ruth's House – Dedicated Case Manager
- ◆ Northfield Public Schools Area Learning Center – Backpack Food Program
- ◆ Healthy Community Initiative – TORCH College Visits
- ◆ Sharing Our Roots – Food Security & Economic Stability
- ◆ Northfield Union of Youth – Mental Health Outreach
- ◆ Healthy Community Initiative – YouthBank
- ◆ Northfield Public Schools – Community Schools Fellow
- ◆ NCCC/HCI – Higher Education in Recovery
- ◆ Community Action Center – Housing Stability
- ◆ Community Action Center – Diaper and Hygiene Bank
- ◆ HOPE Center – Kitchen Essentials
- ◆ HealthFinders – Healthy Minds Collective
- ◆ Healthy Community Initiative – Navigating Early Childhood
- ◆ Community Action Center – Youth Sports Scholarships

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