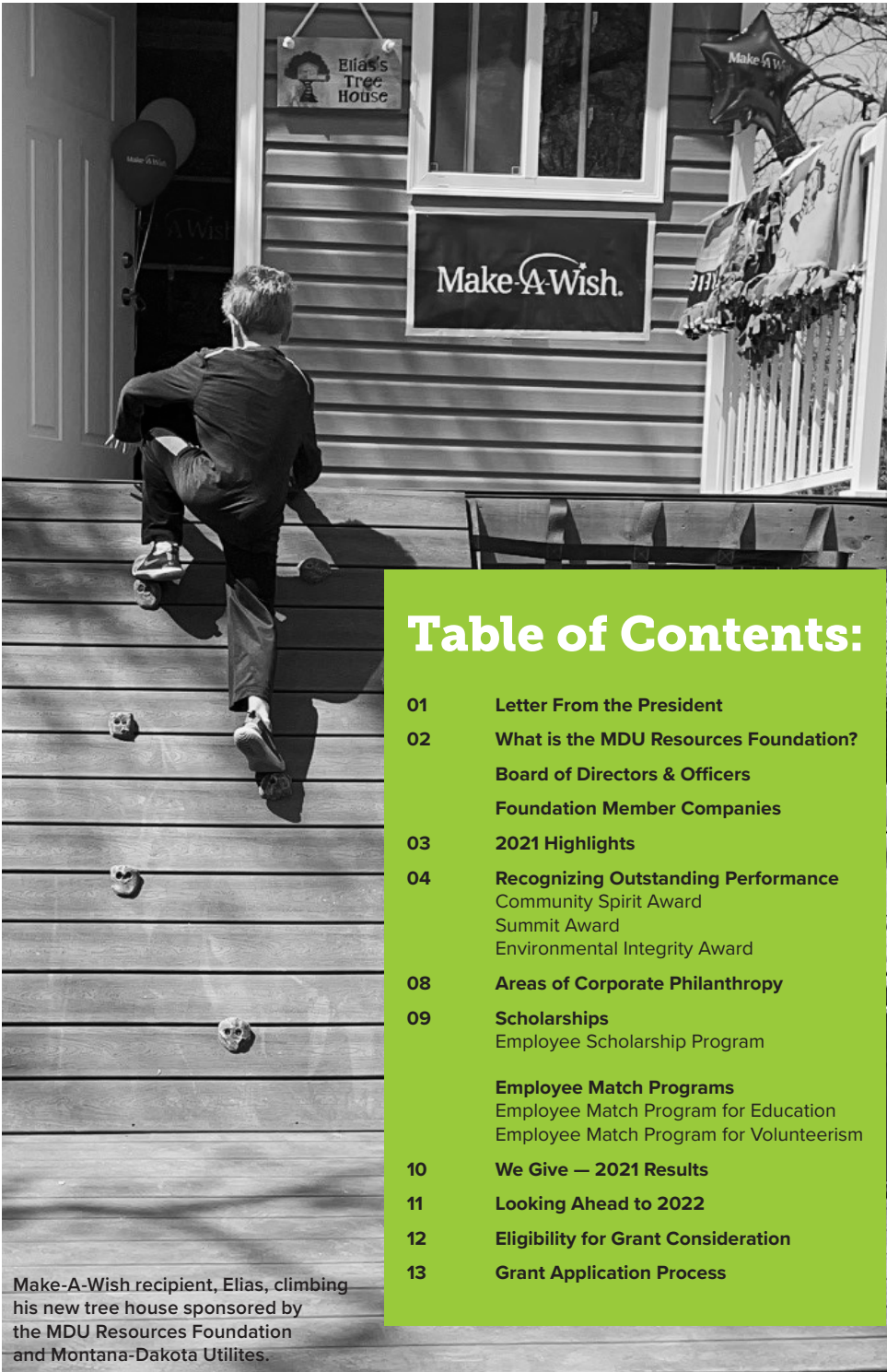




# **MDU Resources Foundation**

2021 Annual Report





Make-A-Wish recipient, Elias, climbing his new tree house sponsored by the MDU Resources Foundation and Montana-Dakota Utilities.

## Table of Contents:

01	<b>Letter From the President</b>
02	<b>What is the MDU Resources Foundation?</b> <b>Board of Directors &amp; Officers</b> <b>Foundation Member Companies</b>
03	<b>2021 Highlights</b>
04	<b>Recognizing Outstanding Performance</b> Community Spirit Award Summit Award Environmental Integrity Award
08	<b>Areas of Corporate Philanthropy</b>
09	<b>Scholarships</b> Employee Scholarship Program  <b>Employee Match Programs</b> Employee Match Program for Education Employee Match Program for Volunteerism
10	<b>We Give — 2021 Results</b>
11	<b>Looking Ahead to 2022</b>
12	<b>Eligibility for Grant Consideration</b>
13	<b>Grant Application Process</b>

# Letter From the President

**MDU Resources Group, Inc. and its member companies have long played a highly visible role as responsible corporate citizens in the communities where we have active business interests. We recognize the direct relationship between the economic, social and cultural vitality of those areas and our corporate growth and prosperity, and we welcome the opportunity to be good corporate citizens.**

We are proud of our community participation, and we will continue to expand that role as our companies continue to grow. One of the primary ways we fulfill our corporate citizenship and philanthropic responsibilities is through the MDU Resources Foundation. Our member companies' objectives for issuing Foundation grants are to be responsible and valued corporate citizens contributing to the well-being of people and communities in states where we have customers or active business interests, and to support organizations that complement our employees' charitable and volunteer activities.

Incorporated in 1983, the MDU Resources Foundation was in its 38th year of corporate philanthropy in 2021. We are proud of our record of supporting qualified organizations that enhance the quality of life in our communities. We believe our efforts have had, and will continue to have, a positive impact.

The MDU Resources Foundation is one of the many ways we demonstrate we are a responsible and valued corporate citizen.



**Cory G. Fong**  
President and Director,  
MDU Resources Foundation



**Rita R. O'Neill**  
Foundation Manager  
and Secretary,  
MDU Resources Foundation



# What is the MDU Resources Foundation?

Incorporated in 1983, the MDU Resources Foundation is funded annually by contributions from member companies. Company contributions to the Foundation are determined by the profitability of our companies and, in all instances, those contributions are made only from stockholder funds. We are proud of our record of supporting qualified organizations that enhance the quality of life we enjoy. Since our incorporation, we have contributed more than \$40 million to worthwhile charities and organizations. While our strategic goals are to be “a provider of choice, an investment of choice and an employer of choice,” it is our philanthropic goal to be “a neighbor of choice.”

## Board of Directors & Officers

**Cory G. Fong**  
*President & Director*

**Nancy K. Christenson**  
*Director*

**Patrick C. Darras**  
*Director*

**Trevor J. Hastings**  
*Director*

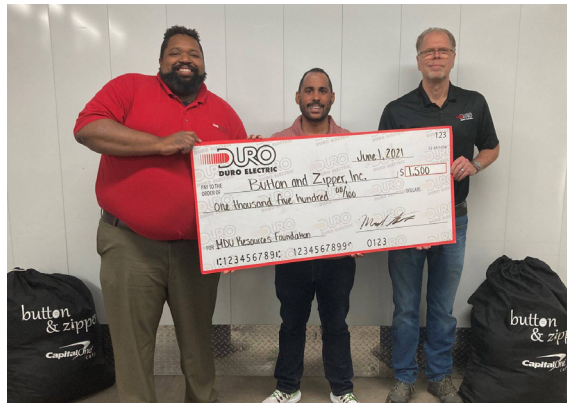
**Karl A. Liepitz**  
*Vice President & Director*

**Thomas D. Nosbusch**  
*Director*

**Rita R. O'Neill**  
*Secretary*

**Dustin J. Senger**  
*Treasurer*

**Jason L. Vollmer**  
*Director*



## Foundation Member Companies

**Cascade Natural Gas Corporation**

**Intermountain Gas Company**

**Knife River Corporation**

**MDU Construction Services Group, Inc.**

**Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.**

**WBI Energy, Inc.**

## 2021 Highlights

# 2021 Annual Contributions



**\$2.09 million**  
donated



**610 organizations**  
supported in 23 states



**6,999 volunteer  
hours**  
reported by employees



**\$89,250** donated as  
match for volunteer hours



**\$23,758** donated as a match to  
employees' personal contributions to  
educational institutions



## Recognizing Outstanding Performance

The MDU Resources Foundation funds programs to recognize outstanding personal involvement and service by active or retired employees in their respective communities. The recipients of these awards can direct \$1,000 contributions to qualified charities of their choice.

Employees of MDU Resources in Bismarck, ND  
volunteering at The Banquet.

## 2020 Community Spirit Award



Tonya First, director of Human Resources and Organizational Development at ESI, was presented the Community Spirit Award by ESI President Matt Hartshorn.

**Tonya First**, director of Human Resources and organization development at ESI, Inc., was the recipient of the MDU Construction Services Group Community Spirit Award. Tonya is actively involved in several community organizations, including Rosie's Girls, St. Joseph Orphanage as a board member, University of Cincinnati fundraising committee, Crossroads Church Kids Club, and a member of the Allied Construction Industries Safety Council. Tonya always finds time to help others in her community.



Melissa Davis, aggregate dispatcher with Knife River - Western Oregon.

**Melissa Davis**, aggregate dispatcher with Knife River – Western Oregon Division, received the Community Spirit Award for Knife River Corporation. Melissa started an organization called Support Our Heroes, which provides financial assistance, food and clothing to people in need. Melissa founded Support Our Heroes after the tragic death of her son. She also supports the local police department and K9 program.



Mollie Hunt, engineer III in Glendive, Montana.

**Mollie Hunt**, WBI Energy engineer III, received the company's Community Spirit Award. Mollie volunteers at the local art gallery in Glendive, of which Mollie is the co-chair. She leads tasks such as fundraising, local promotion, gallery improvement and exhibit creation. She spends many of her evening and weekend hours supporting The Gallery.



Tammy Langerud, public relations generalist.

**Tammy Langerud**, public relations generalist, was awarded MDU Resources Group's Community Spirit Award. Tammy serves as co-chair of the Leadership Bismarck-Mandan annual Media Day and is the communications chair on the steering committee for Women United. Other volunteer activities include the Banquet and serving as a board member of Leadership Bismarck-Mandan Alumni Association. At her workplace, Tammy regularly volunteers for tasks and projects that need a leader.

## 2020 Summit Award



Dean Martin, shop manager for International Line Builders (ILB) and Loy Clark Construction Group.

**Dean Martin**, shop manager for International Line Builders (ILB) and Loy Clark Construction, received the Summit Award for building handwashing stations that were instrumental in helping crews for sister company Loy Clark Construction return to work in the early stages of the pandemic. After the state of Washington implemented a worksite requirement for handwashing stations, Dean fabricated a portable handwashing station that can be mounted to the back of work vehicles that are 100% self-contained.



Ryan Enoch, ready mix operations manager with Knife River - Western Oregon.

**Ryan Enoch**, ready-mix operations manager with Knife River-Western Oregon, received the company's Summit Award for his commitment to his team. Ryan is always a phone call away if anyone needs anything, and he is always willing to help. Ryan would never ask his employees to do a task he wouldn't do himself.



Rae Zent, manager of Field Operations Support.

**Rae Zent**, manager of field operations support for Montana-Dakota Utilities, was awarded the Summit Award for working countless hours on the System Safety Integrity Program projects with very limited help. Rae is always looking for ways to improve the process to make it easier for others. Without Rae, these projects would be backlogged.



Andrea Blessum, senior public relations representative at MDU Resources.

**Andrea Blessum**, senior public relations representative, was awarded MDU Construction Services Group's Summit Award. Andrea performs tasks that are far beyond her job responsibilities. A sampling of projects are development and redesign of various logos, bid proposal/presentation support, newsletters, campaigns for safety and phishing awareness, website work and more.



## 2020 Environmental Integrity Award



Mike Haynes, vice president and general manager of Knife River - Casper.

**Mike Haynes**, vice president and general manager of Knife River-Casper, received Knife River's Environmental Integrity Award. In 2015, reclamation of the VR Mine was behind schedule. With new management, the VR Mine has undergone a total shift in mining and reclamation practices. The mining and reclamation process has been streamlined and reclamation costs are greatly reduced. Pronghorn antelope, mule deer and cattle are seen grazing in the newly reclaimed area, which is a tremendous benefit to the landowner.



Jacob Zettel, region electric superintendent, Jeff Jirges, supervisor of field operation II, and Kelly Redka, meter inspector of Montana-Dakota Utilities in Dickinson, North Dakota.

**Jacob Zettel**, region electric superintendent, **Jeff Jirges**, supervisor of field operation II, and **Kelly Redka**, meter inspector, were awarded the utility group's Environmental Integrity Award. All three employees work for Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. in the Dickinson, North Dakota, district. This group completed a polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) retirement list in the Dickinson district and extended the work throughout the Badlands Region. They retrofitted dozens of regulators and substation transformers that were able to be placed back into the system or stored as spares.

**Thank you and congratulations to MDU Resources' employees for being responsible and valued corporate citizens. Your contributions to our communities are outstanding!**

# Areas of Corporate Philanthropy

The MDU Resources Foundation will consider requests in the following categories:



## Health and Human Services

Recognizing the critical role of quality and accessible health care and human services, the MDU Resources Foundation supports national and local health and human services agencies, hospitals, youth agencies and senior citizen organizations.

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## Education

Given the importance of education in building strong individuals, families and communities, the MDU Resources Foundation supports private secondary and higher education institutions, education development foundations, economic education programs and scholarships.

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## Civic and Community Activities

Strengthening communities ... improving lives. These are the goals of the MDU Resources Foundation as it funds programs that create opportunities and meet the needs of communities across the country.

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## Culture and Arts

The MDU Resources Foundation has had a longstanding interest in culture and the arts and seeks to promote positive youth development through culture and the arts by funding art funds and councils, museums, theaters, libraries and cultural centers.

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## Environment

The MDU Resources Foundation funds organizations that promote the wise use of resources without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We strive to be good stewards in the communities we serve.

# Scholarships

Post-secondary education is a high priority for the Foundation, and we maintain two separate scholarship programs. One program is exclusively for the use of dependents and spouses of eligible employees.

The other program consists of scholarships established at numerous institutions of higher education. Information on these scholarships is available only at the financial aid office of the respective institutions. In all instances, our sole responsibility is funding the scholarships. No company personnel are involved in determining the recipients of these scholarships.

## Employee Scholarship Program

The MDU Resources Group Employee Scholarship Program is designed to encourage and recognize academic achievement of children, grandchildren and spouses of eligible employees of MDU Resources Group, Inc. and its member companies by awarding up to 30 \$2,000 college scholarships.

This scholarship program is administered by Scholarship America®, which is the nation's largest designer and manager of scholarship and tuition reimbursement programs for corporations, foundations, associations and individuals. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, age, gender, disability or national origin.

# Employee Match Programs

## Employee Match Program for Education

The MDU Resources Foundation and its member companies believe a strong educational system is vital to the communities where we live and conduct business. This program matches employees' and corporate directors' personal contributions to educational institutions (elementary, secondary, higher education) with a match equal to contributions between \$50 and \$750.

## Employee Match Program for Volunteerism

This program encourages employees to participate in volunteer activities by giving a grant to a non-profit organization at which an employee volunteers 25 hours or more in one year. Employee groups who volunteer at the same non-profit and accumulate 25 or more hours can also apply for a grant for that non-profit.

Qualifying organizations must be local 501(c)(3) organizations in which the employee is an active volunteer providing services in the areas of civic and community activities, culture and arts, education, environment, or health and human services.

# We Give — 2021 Results

## 2021 Actual

Program Area	# of Grants	Amount
Civic/Community	181	\$ 556,385
Culture/Art	41	\$ 168,325
Education	169	\$ 527,264
Environmental	29	\$ 150,550
Health/Human Services	190	\$ 689,050
	<b>610</b>	<b>\$2,091,574</b>



- Civic/Community (27%)
- Culture/Art (8%)
- Education (25%)
- Environmental (7%)
- Health/Human Services (33%)

### Employee Education Match Program

Number of education matches:	<b>38</b>
Employee contributions:	<b>\$12,554</b>
Company match:	<b>\$11,204</b>
Number of schools supported:	<b>30</b>
Contributions to date:	<b>\$955,801</b>

### Employee Volunteer Match Program

Number of volunteer matches:	<b>119</b>
Number of reported employee volunteer hours:	<b>6,999</b>
Company match:	<b>\$89,250</b>
Number of charities supported:	<b>91</b>
Contributions to date:	<b>\$425,250</b>

### Employee Scholarship Program

2021 Scholarship Awards:	<b>\$50,000</b>
Total number of students assisted to date:	<b>710</b>
Total awards distributed:	<b>\$1,041,800</b>



# Looking Ahead to 2022

## 2022 Budget

Program Area	# of Grants	Amount
Civic/Community	124	\$ 783,590
Culture/Art	24	\$ 70,750
Education	128	\$ 558,550
Environmental	11	\$ 94,000
Health/Human Services	128	\$ 636,700
Other		\$ 352,896
	415	\$ 2,496,486



- Civic/Community (31%)
- Culture/Art (3%)
- Education (22%)
- Environmental (4%)
- Health/Human Services (26%)
- Other (14%)

# Eligibility for Grant Consideration

**The MDU Resources Foundation (Foundation) will contribute only to institutions, organizations and programs recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as qualified recipients of Foundation contributions. Generally, contributions are restricted to organizations qualified as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Primary consideration is given to charitable institutions, organizations, and programs within the geographic areas where member companies conduct business.**

Generally, no consideration will be given to private individuals, athletic, labor, fraternal, political, lobbying, or to regional or national organizations without local affiliation. Requests seeking endowment funds will receive low priority, and, as a rule, the Foundation will not consider concurrent contributions to a single grant recipient.

While the Foundation has, on various occasions, made contributions to support staffing and ongoing operating expenses and purchasing hospital equipment, such requests will receive low priority. Organizations and hospitals are encouraged to submit requests that support new programming needs that are unmet by regular operating expenses.

The Foundation generally does not fund 100% of a project's total cost and encourages requestors to solicit financial assistance from other sources as well.

Economic development requests are not focal points of the Foundation. Requests for loans, venture capital, participation in loan pools, etc., will not be considered by the Foundation and should be directed to the appropriate operating company. All other requests that do not fit within the guidelines of the Foundation shall be the responsibility of the member companies.

Generally, requests for contributions of \$1,000 and above will be considered by the Foundation, while requests for contributions of a local nature and less than \$1,000 should be considered by the individual companies.

All grants are subject to annual review, and the Foundation reserves the right to defer, alter, suspend, or cancel a contribution at any time.

# Grant Application Process

To obtain grant application materials and view the current MDU Resources Foundation annual report, log onto [www.mdu.com](http://www.mdu.com) and click on the **About** tab and the **Community** link.

To be considered for a grant, all requests must be in writing and include the following information:

1. A completed grant request form, including the name and address of organization or charity.
2. Name, address, email address and telephone number of contact person.
3. A copy of an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) determination letter indicating tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC); or, evidence of eligibility under Section 170(c)(1) of the IRC. Organizations described in Section 170(c)(1) of the IRC are the United States, a possession of the United States, any state, the District of Columbia, or any political subdivision thereof. A political subdivision would include a county, a city, a school district, a park district, etc. Contributions are allowable if they are used exclusively for public purposes.
4. Purpose or use of requested grant.
5. Other requested information, including a list of officers and board of directors, budget for organization or project, and program or project brochures.

Completed grant applications should be submitted via email or regular mail to the local company office or emailed to [Rita.ONeill@mduresources.com](mailto:Rita.ONeill@mduresources.com) or mailed to MDU Resources Foundation, Attn. Rita O'Neill, PO Box 5650, Bismarck, ND 58506-5650. To be considered for funding, all grant requests must be submitted no later than **October 1** of the year prior to the year for which funding is being sought.

The Foundation operates on a calendar-year budget, and the Board of Directors meets in January of each year to approve the annual budget and to conduct other business. All applicants will be notified as to the status of their application following the Board of Directors Annual Meeting in January.

For further information, contact MDU Resources Foundation Manager Rita O'Neill at [Rita.ONeill@mduresources.com](mailto:Rita.ONeill@mduresources.com) or 701-530-1087.



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