

# 2023 Annual Report

*Celebrating 40 Years of Giving*

# 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 which complement our employees' charitable and volunteer activities.

Incorporated in 1983, the MDU Resources Foundation was in its 40th year of corporate philanthropy in 2023. 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.

As we celebrate MDU Resources' 100th anniversary in 2024, the MDU Resources Foundation continues to be one of the many ways we demonstrate we are a responsible and valued corporate citizen.



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



**Rita R. O'Neill**  
Foundation Manager & 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 \$44 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.”



### 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.

### Board of Directors & Officers

**Cory G. Fong**

President & Director

**Nancy K. Christenson\***

Director

**Patrick C. Darras**

Director

**Trevor J. Hastings\***

Director

**Rob L. Johnson\*\***

Director

**Karl A. Liepitz\***

Vice President  
& Director

**Brent L. Miller\*\***

Treasurer

**Thomas D. Nosbusch**

Director

**Rita R. O'Neill**

Secretary

**Paul R. Sanderson\*\***

Vice President  
& Director

**Dustin J. Senger\***

Treasurer

**Jason L. Vollmer**

Director

\* served through May 31, 2023

\*\* term effective September 14, 2023

## 2023 Highlights



**7,694**

volunteer hours reported by employees



**600**

organizations supported in 23 states



**\$99,000**

donated as match for volunteer hours



**\$7,531**

donated as match for educational institutions



**\$2.10 Million**

Total given to strengthen our communities.

## Celebrating 40 Years of Giving!



# 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 a grant of \$1,000 to a qualified charity of their choice.



## ROB JONGSMA RECIPIENT OF THE KNIFE RIVER COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

Rob is the vice president and general manager of Knife River Materials in Casper, WY. He is a big supporter of the local 4H club and IReach 2, which is a care facility for brain injured adults. Rob purchases animals from 4H kids and donates the meat to local non-profits

including IReach 2. His donations help to provide up to 500 meals.



## SHIRLEY MESSERLE RECIPIENT OF THE MDU CONSTRUCTION SERVICES COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

Shirley is the senior project manager with OEG Mid-Valley in Eugene, OR. She coordinates OEG's community service through an organization called Bags of Love. The mission of this organization is "Helping Children in Crisis One Bag of Love at a Time." Shirley

introduced Bags of Love to the OEG team to collect necessities and comfort items for children in crisis due to neglect, abuse, poverty or homelessness. Shirley also has a long history of coordinating Lane County Food Bank volunteer opportunities with the OEG team since before she began employment with OEG. She is a credit to OEG as she pays it forward, finding opportunities to serve her community and her co-workers.





**TERRY HOOD**  
RECIPIENT OF THE WBI ENERGY  
COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

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Terry is the warehouse person at WBI Energy's district office in Glendive, MT. Terry and his family take care of Glendive during the Christmas season. Thanks to their efforts, Glendive glows with the holiday spirit.

Terry spends seven months of the year building, maintaining and refurbishing all 80 of the Christmas decorations that adorn the downtown light poles during the holiday season. With help from his family, they also decorate the Gazebo Park and BNSF Park with ground mount holiday light displays. Terry makes sure other holidays get their share of attention, too, by changing all the light bulbs in the park lanterns to the respective color of each holiday like St. Patrick's Day, Halloween and the Fourth of July.



**LAURA LUEDER**  
RECIPIENT OF THE MDU RESOURCES  
COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD

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Laura is the manager of communications and public relations for MDU Resources and is based in Bismarck, ND. She currently serves on the boards of Prevent Child Abuse North Dakota and the North Dakota Newspaper Association Foundation and is heavily involved with the Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons organization.

Laura has been active as a Girl Scout and volunteer for over 20 years and is a Lifetime Girl Scout member. Her involvement with the Girl Scouts started when her mom signed her up in first grade. Her mom was her Girl Scout troop leader. Laura volunteered as her daughter's Girl Scout troop leader. While she was a troop leader, she also was a Service Unit volunteer, serving in officer positions. Laura has been a camp director and continues to serve on the camp planning committee and as a camp volunteer. She serves on the Board of Directors for Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons and volunteers for many Girl Scouts events.

Her passion for STEM opportunities, combined with her love for the Girl Scouts organization, has fostered a STEM partnership between MDU Resources Group and Girl Scouts - Dakota Horizons.



## PAUL STAFFORD

### RECIPIENT OF THE KNIFE RIVER SUMMIT AWARD

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Paul is a lube tech with Knife River – Western Oregon division. Paul is “always willing to help anyone else in need, no matter what the situation,” his nominator said. Now as a trainer, Paul continues to carry forth that positive attitude and assistance with the employees working under him. Paul’s nominator noted, “Knife River is lucky to have him as a loyal and dedicated employee. He, and many like him, make this a great place to be.”



## MIKE DAVIS

### RECIPIENT OF THE MDU CONSTRUCTION SERVICES SUMMIT AWARD

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Mike is a union electrician with Bombard Electric. His expertise, knowledge and character contribute to making Bombard Electric a great place to work.

Mike is open minded and accepting, willing to support and mentor anyone who is motivated and wants to work hard. Mike takes seriously his role in advocating for women on the job and encouraging their career growth. Bombard works with some very large general contractors cross the country, thanks in part to Mike’s expertise in the field and his working relationships.



## PATTY FILLION

### RECIPIENT OF THE WBI ENERGY SUMMIT AWARD

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Patty is WBI Energy’s human resources administrative assistant. With responsibilities for the front desk area, Patty greets all visitors and co-workers that pass her desk with a hearty hello and has befriended everyone from the Pepsi man to the UPS lady.

Patty is quick to recognize achievements of others, gives great constructive feedback (in all directions), pitches in and helps whenever she is asked

or sees a need and freely shows gratitude to all that are deserving. She advocates for those in need and serves as an informal mentor to many that cross her path, both personally and professionally, sharing insightful words of wisdom and advice. Patty also shares her generosity with our community, donating pajamas for children in need, candy and eggs for church-sponsored Easter egg hunts, shoes and socks for the homeless, and shoebox gifts for international relief. You'll often find her attending events and performances hosted by area schools and organizations.



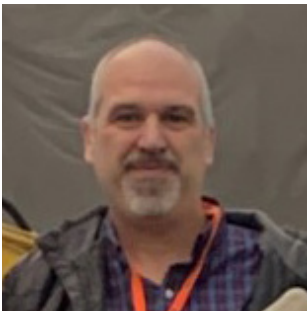
**AMY PROKOP**  
RECIPIENT OF THE MDU RESOURCES  
SUMMIT AWARD

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Amy is a legal analyst for MDU Resources. Her nominator cites Amy's humbleness in her acts of kindness and the ways she goes above and beyond to make MDU Resources a great place to work.

Amy inspires a positive workplace in her department and with everyone she works with throughout the corporation. She has a professional "can do" attitude, an impeccable work ethic and a steady willingness to help others. Her coworkers see her not only as a leader, but also as a mentor with her extensive knowledge of the company.

Amy has volunteered with the local United Way for its Day of Caring and summer lunch programs and has been the company liaison with the non-profit to coordinate employee volunteer activities like the backpack program.



**SCOTT HAMMOND**  
RECIPIENT OF THE KNIFE RIVER  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

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Scott is the regional asset manager with Knife River – Western Oregon division. Scott is recognized for transitioning nearly the entire region's diesel operations to renewable fuel. This transition involved more than a year of careful planning, formation of new and exclusive

supply partnerships, extensive research, and innovative solutions to logistical challenges. Scott's awareness of a need for improvement developed when ballot measures in the Portland metro area targeted the banning of diesel sales. Scott proactively researched the availability of renewable diesel and determined a transition to the renewable resource was achievable.





## WINNIE CLEMENSON, RICKY SCHATZ & ALYN SPECTOR

### RECIPIENTS OF THE UTILITY GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

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Winnie Clemenson, manager, Construction Services; Ricky Schatz, engineer III; and Alyn Spector, manager, External Affairs were presented with the Utility Group's Environmental Sustainability Award.



Winnie and Ricky found a way to provide a high-pressure source of natural gas for new high-pressure pipeline installations. They worked with a third party that uses compression equipment to capture natural gas that would traditionally be purged into the atmosphere and injects it into the pipeline.



Alyn was recognized for his efforts in championing the natural gas business' role in decarbonizing and reducing GHG emissions to support the company's needs to meet decarbonization goals. Alyn has participated in public stakeholder and community engagement, regularly serving as the face of the company, to foster thoughtful discussion on decarbonization and energy.

# 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<sup>®</sup>, 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 Program

## **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 or more hours 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 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 – 2023 Results

## 2023 Actual

Program Area	# of Grants	Amount
Civic/Community	224	\$ 953,410
Culture/Art	35	\$ 87,870
Education	160	\$ 452,791
Environmental	43	\$ 101,750
Health/Human Services	148	\$ 500,469
	<b>610</b>	<b>\$ 2,096,290</b>



- Civic/Community (45%)
- Culture/Art (4%)
- Education (22%)
- Environmental (5%)
- Health/Human Services (24%)

### Employee Education Match Program

Employee Contributions:	<b>\$21,281</b>
Company Match:	<b>\$7,531</b>
Number of Schools Supported:	<b>20</b>
Contributions to Date:	<b>\$1,019,349</b>

### Employee Volunteer Match Program

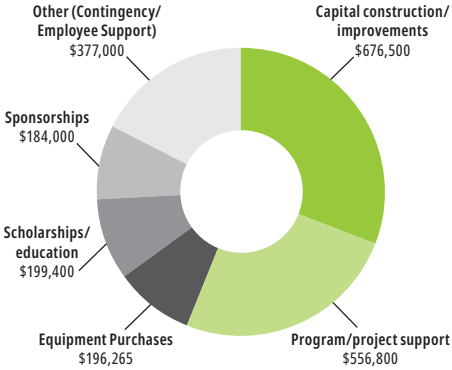
Number of Employee Volunteer Hours:	<b>7,694</b>
Company Match:	<b>\$99,000</b>
Number of Charities Supported:	<b>133</b>
Contributions to Date:	<b>\$622,250</b>

### Employee Scholarship Program

2023 Scholarship Awards:	<b>\$44,000</b>
Total Number of Students Assisted to Date:	<b>757</b>
Total Awards Distributed:	<b>\$1,135,800</b>

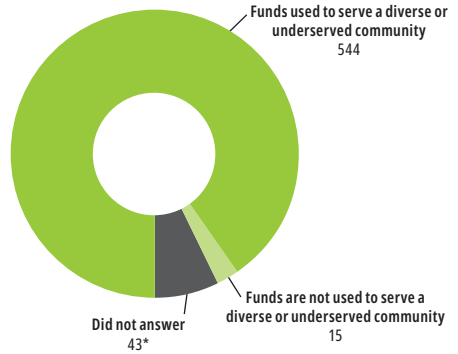
### How are Foundation funds used?

In 2023, Foundation funds were used for:



### Serving Diverse and Underserved Stakeholders and Communities

In 2023 we began asking grant recipients to self identify whether funds were used to serve diverse and/or underserved stakeholders and/or communities. The results showed:



\*Includes applicants who used a prior form that did not include the self-identifying question about whether the funds used served a diverse or underserved community.

## Looking Ahead to 2024

### 2024 Budget

Program Area	# of Grants	Amount
Civic/Community	146	\$ 788,087
Culture/Art	29	\$ 184,700
Education	122	\$ 372,800
Environmental	15	\$ 54,750
Health/Human Services	101	\$ 360,800
Other		\$ 213,236
	<b>413</b>	<b>\$ 1,974,373</b>



- Civic/Community (40%)
- Culture/Art (9%)
- Education (19%)
- Environmental (3%)
- Health/Human Services (18%)
- Other (11%)



## 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 on to [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.
6. Verification of whether the funds will be used to serve diverse and/or underserved stakeholders and/or communities.

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, North Dakota 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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