



**SHAPING OUR
COMMUNITY.
FOR GOOD.**





Giving to Support Our Community

Since 1974, the Mankato Area Foundation has been dedicated to building a community of individuals that believe in the strength of giving. We continue today to shape Greater Mankato through connecting acts of giving with our community's needs. As a permanent, trusted resource, donors look to the Mankato Area Foundation to help them make their charitable giving more effective. The Mankato Area Foundation is impacting the individuals in our community now and for generations to come by providing the expertise to help donors nurture their philanthropic dreams and shape their legacy.

SHAPING FOR GOOD

Without even knowing it, many of us practice philanthropy every day by volunteering, donating clothing or giving a dollar to a bell ringer. Centuries ago, the word philanthropy came from the Greek word philanthropia, meaning “love for mankind,” or “loving people.” By joining the dedicated group of donors at the Mankato Area Foundation, your love for people in Greater Mankato will shape and strengthen our community for future generations.

The Mankato Area Foundation believes that people working together can make a difference for individuals and for our community as a whole. Gifts received by the Mankato Area Foundation are invested for growth to make an impact long after the gift is made through grant making, scholarships and funding of critical needs. The Mankato Area Foundation operates in perpetuity with gifts continuing to grow and provide benefits to our community forever.

The Mankato Area Foundation provides a medium for people to make a difference by offering annual, lifetime and planned giving opportunities. After 40 years, the Mankato Area Foundation continues to help individuals and organizations achieve their charitable goals by offering a variety of giving strategies and funds. As donors, you have the opportunity to shape your donation by choosing from flexible funding vehicles such as designated, unrestricted or donor advised funds.

The Mankato Area Foundation currently manages funds that can provide donors with the benefits similar to a private foundation allowing them to bring their passions and charitable dreams to life without the administrative burdens or expense.



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COMMUNITY FOR GOOD

The Mankato Area Foundation connects philanthropic interests with community needs. We serve as a leader and resource to enrich the quality of life in Greater Mankato through our well-defined and effective grant making. We also serve as a resource for area nonprofit groups to help them address their primary issues.

Semi-annually, the Foundation makes grants from its Community Fund in response to applications received from the community. As part of the framework for our community granting, Mankato Area Foundation funds projects and programs that foster livability in the Mankato area. To achieve the goal of enriching the livability and vibrancy of our area nonprofits, we provide philanthropic grants in four key focus areas.

ARTS & CULTURE

Projects that enrich or strengthen infrastructure and opportunities for arts and culture offerings in Mankato area communities.

RECREATION

Recreational activities or visible and useful enhancements to area parks that will benefit people in the Mankato area.

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Programs, projects or initiatives that educate area citizens of any age in ways that help shape the Mankato area.

AESTHETICS

Landscaping, restoration, remodeling, or other improvements to a community site that will enhance the Mankato area.

In addition, the Mankato Area Foundation distributes grants from designated and donor advised funds established by donors who either wish to advise the Foundation on grants from their funds or who wish their funds to be distributed to a specific organization or purpose. In this way, donors can ensure that their personal areas of interest are supported.

Meet the Residents



Cardinal

The Cardinal is one of five crested songbirds in Minnesota and can be found in hardwood forests, small rural and urban woodlots, orchards and along backyards. They thrive where there is thick, shrubby growth to nest and roost in.



Scarlet Tanager

Male Scarlet Tanagers are among the most beautiful birds in a forest in summer, with blood-red bodies set off by yellow wings and tail. They're also hard to find as they stay high in the forest canopy singing rich, burry songs.



Red-tailed Hawk

Commonly spotted throughout Minnesota in both rural and suburban areas, the Red-tailed Hawk is a large bird that feeds mainly on rodents. It flies fast and can spot prey from hundreds of feet in the air.



Wood Thrush

A heavy-bodied, large-eyed bird, the Wood Thrush is easily recognized by its white throat and breast marked with black oak spots. Wood thrushes with "stamps" on insects, spiders and leaves.



Woodpecker

As each species has its own cavity, they are often found in the same place.

GENEROSITY

FOR GOOD

Our Fund Types

Philanthropists are real people—each with his or her own personal interests and passions. Charitable giving is a rewarding experience, but the process can sometimes be confusing. At the Mankato Area Foundation, we understand that and work closely with you to achieve your vision by offering charitable giving options that make the most sense for you.

To accommodate the various interests and needs of donors, the Mankato Area Foundation offers different types of funds.

UNRESTRICTED FUND

Through an unrestricted fund, you help meet Greater Mankato's current and future needs by making a gift that pools with the hundreds of other donor contributions to support the Foundation's discretionary program. Grant making decisions are based on the Board of Directors' recommendations.

DESIGNATED FUND

Through a designated fund, you can provide ongoing financial support for one or more projects or purposes. We invest and distribute the income in the form of grants to organizations and programs that match your interests.

DONOR ADVISED FUND

Through a donor advised fund, you can have a voice in your philanthropy and receive benefits similar to a personal or family foundation without the administrative responsibilities. You recommend organizations and programs you want to support, or we can assist with this process. The Foundation handles all of the grant administration. You can contribute to the fund when it is most convenient for you and, subject to IRS rules, receive a tax deduction for your contribution. What's more, you can appoint others, such as your children or grandchildren, to serve as advisors and share in your family's tradition of giving and growing a legacy.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

These funds allow donors to create a legacy of giving to individuals with educational goals. Mankato Area Foundation works with donors to develop criteria and monitor the selection process.



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FLEXIBILITY

FOR YOU

Ways to Give

The Mankato Area Foundation knows the issues facing our community and we're committed to shaping it for good. As a local partner for over 40 years, we're here to help you create a giving program that works for you, your assets, your wishes and your goals. We take the work out of giving by handling the administration, offering expert advice and management of the investment products.

When you join our community of committed donors, you are making a larger impact with your philanthropy. At the Foundation, we make it easy for you to support important charitable causes and organizations that you care about. There are many easy ways to give such as:

MANKATO AREA COMMUNITY FUND

First, you can contribute directly to our unrestricted Community Fund. This fund addresses specific issues facing Greater Mankato through its semi-annual, grant making process. This unrestricted fund provides the greatest flexibility to shape our community for good—now and for the future.

DESIGNATED FUND

Second, you can create a designated fund to provide ongoing support to organizations or purposes specified by you or educational opportunities through scholarships.

PLANNED GIVING

Third, the Foundation offers a wide range of planned giving/deferred gift options such as bequests, charitable remainder trusts, charitable gift annuities and charitable lead trusts. We will work with your financial advisors to garner you the best tax advantages and financial security while carrying on your legacy of giving.

The next question is what to give. There are many ways to give to the Foundation. You can contribute a variety of assets such as:

- Cash gifts
- Stocks and securities
- Mutual funds
- IRAs
- Life insurance
- Real estate
- Assets of other trusts or of a private foundation

The Mankato Area Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. All contributions are fully deductible to the extent allowed by applicable federal and state laws.



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