Our Mission Statement

"To improve the quality of life in the Rusk County community through permanent endowments and grant giving."

The Foundation strives to carry out its mission by:
1. Encouraging lifetime and estate gifts for endowment
2. Providing professional management of funds for growth and maximum benefits for donors
3. Making grants to not-for-profit organizations that serve Rusk County
4. Working collaboratively and creatively to enhance the quality of life in the county

Current Funds Under Management

Dukerschein Scholarship for Flambeau School Fund
Gordon and Beverly Dukerschein
Donor Advised Fund
Larry & Shirley Dukerschein
Rusk County Community Foundation Fund
Flambeau Forever Foundation
Founders Society Fund
John Geisler Scholarship Fund for Bruce Schools
NORDA Inc. Non-Traditional Scholarship Fund
Partners of Rusk County Memorial Fund
Jack and Jackie Pederson Fund
Rusk County Advancing Innovation/Economic Development Fund
Rusk County Community Library Endowment Fund
School District of Ladysmith
Shane Jenness Special Needs Fund
Smith-Allen Donor Advised Fund
Dennis R. Van Wey Legacy Fund
Women With Courage Fund

Rusk County Community Foundation

Bringing Together People Who Care With Causes That Matter

www.ruskfoundation.org
P.O. Box 54, Ladysmith, WI 54848 | 715.532.0772
info@ruskfoundation.org

Interest & Giving Form

Please complete the following and return to the address below.

All contributions are tax-deductible. Upon receipt of funds the foundation will provide a receipt with the pertinent tax id information.

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A GIFT!
Enclosed is my check in the amount of $ ____________

Please apply my gift to the:

☐ Administrative/Operating Fund
☐ Women With Courage Endowment Fund
☐ Shane Jenness Special Needs Fund
☐ Flambeau Scholarship Fund
☐ Flambeau Valley Arts Association Fund
☐ Ladysmith First Church of Christ Endowment Fund
☐ Ladysmith Schools Educational Enrichment Fund
☐ NORDA Inc. Non-Traditional Student Scholarship Fund
☐ Partners of Rusk County Memorial Endowment Fund
☐ Library Endowment Fund
☐ Flambeau Forever Foundation
☐ Joseph R. Geisler Scholarship Fund for Bruce Schools
☐ Lorkowski Scholarship Fund

Name _________________________________
Address ___________________________________________
City ___________________ State ______ Zip _______
Phone ___________________________
Email _________________________________

I’d like more information about the services provided by the Rusk County Community Foundation.

☐ I would like someone from the foundation to contact me
☐ I would like information on how to establish a permanent endowment fund
☐ I would like information on the different ways to give to the community through the foundation

Please mail to:
Rusk County Community Foundation
P.O. Box 54, Ladysmith, WI 54848
715.532.0772 | info@ruskfoundation.org | www.ruskfoundation.org
What is the Rusk County Community Foundation?

We are a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that has been established to provide professionally managed services by which individuals, families, and businesses can contribute through lifetime and estate gifts for the betterment of their Rusk County communities.

Donors have the flexibility to direct their gifts toward special projects or areas of interest. They may also direct their gifts to where community needs are greatest, as identified from time to time by the Board of Directors.

We are here to support the charitable, religious, and other nonprofit organizations in the county. Our mission is to be complementary to, not competitive with, their efforts.

Visit our website for a list of directors and board members: www.ruskfoundation.org

Management: The Foundation is overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors, which operates the organization under established By-Laws. The Board is responsible for the establishment of committees that undertake fundraising, investments, grants, marketing etc. The Foundations By-Laws, Annual Reports, and Financial Reports are available to the public.

How Can I Direct My Gift?

THE FOUNDATION OFFERS A VARIETY OF OPTIONS TO DIRECT YOUR GIFT

**Unrestricted gifts** are welcomed and may be used for any of the foundation’s charitable purposes—at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**Endowment gifts** become permanent charitable assets. Earnings may be used for restricted or unrestricted purposes. Gifts may be made to the foundation endowment fund or—with certain requirements—to your own named fund. Options for the latter include the following:

- **Designated Fund**: Your fund’s earnings can benefit your chosen charitable organization(s) or community.
- **Donor Advised Fund**: You can advise the Board of Directors on how you would like the annual earnings of your fund distributed.
- **Field of Interest Fund**: You may determine one or more areas of interest you wish the earnings of your fund to support.
- **Seedling Fund**: You may create a named fund now, then bring it to the endowed level over time with either lifetime or estate gifts. When the endowed level is reached, the fund converts to a permanent endowment.

**Agency Fund**: Nonprofit organizations can create their own endowment that will produce annual grants to serve the purposes of that organization.

**Operating Fund**: You may support Foundation operations by gifts to the fund.

**Pass-through Fund**: Non-endowed funds may be created to receive gifts to be used for a specific purpose, usually short term.

For more information about leaving a donation to your charity, contact your legal/financial advisor.

The Founder’s Society

Take a look around Rusk County. You see the marks of many great people and organizations from our past that cared about this community. Our area’s stability, prosperity, and quality of life have long been enhanced by the gifts of many generous people who have given back to our community in many ways.

Our Founder’s Society is the vehicle for securing operating funds for the Foundation’s early years until it is self-supporting.

**One Time Gifts**
- Platinum Founders: $10,000 gift and above
- Gold Founders: $5,000 gift and above
- Silver Founders: $2,500 gift and above

**Three Year Pledges**
- Producing Founder: $1,000/year and above
- Contributing Founder: $500/year and above
- Supporting Founder: $100 and above

**Members of the Founder’s Society to date:**
- **Producing Founders**
  - Kevin Smith and Rebecca Allen Gordon and Bev Dukerschein
- **Contributing Founders**
  - Andy Albarado
  - Sara Baker
  - Dinah Hahn
  - Gloria Magahy
  - Lori Stushek
  - Eleanor Anderson
  - Diane Doke
  - Richard LaBelle
  - Lori Stushek

The Legacy Circle

The Legacy Circle recognizes a special group of donors who have made a provision in their estate plans to benefit their favorite charitable cause(s) through the Rusk County Community Foundation. It’s a simple way to make a lasting gift to benefit the Rusk County region. A list of our current members may be found on our website: www.ruskfoundation.org

Heart of Gold

The Foundation sponsors the Heart of Gold award given annually in April at the Greater Ladysmith Area Chamber of Commerce’s Community Awards Banquet. The award recognizes those special Rusk County residents who live everyday with a Heart of Gold. They go above and beyond to help, care, and assist their families, neighbors, friends, and strangers.