The Season of Giving

Inspirational stories showcasing the work of nonprofits in our community

Sunday, November 12
Each day working for the community foundation, I am in awe of the amazing work being done by the nonprofits in our community. In this year’s nonprofit magazine, you’ll read powerful stories of charities making a difference in the lives of people living right here in the Fargo-Moorhead area. Each story gives us an opportunity to reflect. To think about what we can do to make an even greater difference this holiday season and throughout the coming year. These stories focus on relevant issues people in our community are facing today. They highlight a variety of challenges and obstacles and how we, as a community, as neighbors, can come together to be part of the solution.

We’d like to recognize and thank The Forum for helping us produce this insert for the sixth year in a row; a partnership that helps bring awareness to the work of the nonprofit sector. Thank you to the organizations who submitted stories and ads for this special end-of-year magazine. And to the nonprofit organizations who inspire us as the community foundation to nourish the philanthropic spirit for a more thriving region.

The FM Area Foundation is honored to be the community foundation serving the Cass Clay region. Our work is made possible because of you.

Now is the time to discover what matters most to you and to give generously to those important causes.

Thank you, and happy holidays!

Tim Beaton
Executive Director
FM Area Foundation
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Let’s talk soon.

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FM Area Foundation - The Season of Giving
Jamie was 11-years-old when, out of the blue, her mother packed up her, her brothers and all their belongings into the family car. They made their way from Washington to North Dakota to be with her mother’s family. It wouldn’t be until years later that she would discover her father found out they were gone only by walking into an empty house.

The adjustment from Washington to North Dakota would prove to be difficult. Jamie and her younger brother were not accepted by their extended family due to their biracial background. Her mother neglected her, and she was regularly beaten by her older brothers. What she lacked in affection from her family, she found in an abusive boyfriend, and she was pregnant by the age of sixteen.

Jamie came to Stepping Stones Resource Center (SSRC) at the beginning of the winter with her young son. She is outgoing and rarely seen without a smile on her face. She is welcoming and kind to all the center participants, reaching out to new youth as they come through our doors. However, in private, she opens up about her struggles.

“My boyfriend put his hands on me and was verbally abusive in front of our son, so I left,” she said. “There is nothing more
Birthright is a free, inter-denominational support service, founded in 1968 to offer a personal and caring response to women facing unplanned pregnancies. Birthright continues to evolve to meet the needs of families - mothers - married or single, as well as dads and even grandparents, in helping babies have a healthy start in life.

With each passing year, the need for volunteers at Birthright has grown. Volunteers with Birthright provide help in a positive and tangible way:

- Family centered support for infant needs including diapers, formula, clothing and other items up to 24 months
- Referrals and help in finding appropriate resources for prenatal care, financial help and other needs
- Friendship, acceptance and understanding in a confidential atmosphere

Birthright is important to me than him.” She left North Dakota to stay with her older sister’s family in Alabama. Her older sister had been her mental support and “lifeline.” However, when Jamie was there, her brother-in-law made sexual advances towards her. Jamie and her sister moved out of the house with their children, but ultimately her sister moved back. Jamie knew she needed to go back to North Dakota.

Though Jamie admits having a child makes things more difficult, she is motivated to provide and make a better life for him. While she is working on housing options with staff at SSRC, she is couch hopping like many of the transition age youth we serve. She is working at a clothing store in the mall and working on her GED. Her paycheck barely covers the cost of daycare.

“My goals are to get us a place to live and to finish school. Then I can get a better job,” she said.

Jamie also recognizes she needs therapy to deal with her traumatic past and, for the first time in her life, is reaching out to the therapists at Fraser’s Valley Hope Counseling. “I’m glad we found this place. I have faith things are going to get better for us.”

To learn more about Fraser and the services they provide, visit fraserltd.org.

Birthright of Fargo-Moorhead
For more information, to donate or become a volunteer:
218-477-1977 | www.birthrightfm.org
birthrightfm@702com.net
It is another Tuesday morning as I sit down at my desk and continue through the day’s tasks. The clock moves past the eleventh hour and I begin to hear those voices. The voices of hope and healing. My mind lights up and a smile crosses my face from ear to ear. I hear joy, the sweet sound of joy. The song “Hallelujah” resonates through the hallways of HeartSprings Community Healing Center. Many voices, uplifting, connecting, projecting. This is something special I think. The piano keys accompany, played with grace and power. Choir Director Michelle Gelinski has us all lost in the beauty of the moment. In unison the many voices become one, one purpose, one heart.

Through the years, the Tremble Clef Choir has touched many lives of those living with Parkinson’s Disease and Traumatic Brain Injuries. Not only has it affected those involved, but also their families, and the Fargo-Moorhead community. Those living with Parkinson’s may develop weakening of the vocal chords, which can affect speech and the ability to swallow. The choir has become an effective method for improving these areas. By practicing techniques such as breath control, and vocal projection, hesitant voices are strengthened. Improvements are also noticeable socially and emotionally. With weekly practices, many concerts, and of course community meals after each performance, the choir has created a community in which to come together, share, perform and heal.

The Tremble Clef Choir began meeting in the fall of 2010 at HeartSprings in Fargo with Michelle Gelinski as Volunteer Director. The choir began as five members and since has blossomed to 25 members, with a mix of family and friends of the choir. Michelle directed the choir as a volunteer for over five years before receiving compensation for her efforts. This speaks volumes about her character and generosity.

The choir’s first public performance took place at the Plains Art Museum in 2014. This has become an annual event that takes place the first Wednesday in December. In
Preserving history. Inspiring a new generation.

The primary mission of the Fargo Air Museum is to inspire new generations of aviators. We are a nonprofit organization that serves to promote interest in aviation through education, preservation and restoration.

Our education program is filled with exciting opportunities designed to rev the engines of future pilots, aircraft mechanics, air traffic controllers and more. Our aviation camps and school partnerships offer a variety of hands-on learning for school age flight enthusiasts. To make your tax-deductible donation please go to fargoairmuseum.org.

Fargo Air Museum
More than a museum.

1609 19th Avenue North, Fargo, ND
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fargoairmuseum.org
Continued from Page 6

2015 the choir began receiving invitations to numerous locations to perform. The Tremble Clef Choir often travels to local assisted living facilities and retirement homes. These performances have brought tremendous joy to residents, family, and friends. With support from the FM community and under the direction of Michelle, the Tremble Clef Choir has continued to grow.

The impact the choir has had on the lives of those involved and effected is truly profound. This can be seen in the relationships formed, the enthusiasm created, and the outpouring of support. Last April, one of the members of the choir, Michael Simonson passed away. This is an excerpt from his sister Jeanie in a letter to the Tremble Clef Family:

“I want all of you to know how much he loved each and every one of you, and how much joy his singing with you brought him. I also want to thank you all for the wonderful tribute you shared at his funeral. Your voices raised in song brought much comfort to us all.”

Yes, you are a joy and a blessing! Come join our Tremble Clefs choir!

In unison the many voices become one, one purpose, one heart.
The Legacy Children's Foundation embraces discouraged Fargo teens with cutting-edge resources after school to develop educated, thriving leaders of tomorrow.

Peter

A 2017 graduate of NDSU, Peter is studying to take the LSAT to attend law school and accomplish his dream to become an attorney. As a high school senior and student in LCF, Peter began shaping the course of Legacy with his outspoken values of honesty, integrity and respect. As the current President of LCF, he is providing youthful wisdom and fearless leadership to scale the organization from eleven students attending two schools in 2011 to what is now more than sixty students attending all Fargo public and private middle and high schools. Peter's alluring smile and "Nothing is impossible" mindset has sharpened LCF into an authentic, cutting-edge organization where all students feel safe and important and are moving confidently to the graduation stage.

Maria

As a tall-striking senior, Maria began attacking her novice reading skills during the summer of sixth grade through resources available to her from LCF. She has progressed from relearning the sounds of the alphabet to a mastery of grade-level reading skills. She is currently enrolled in Advanced Placement English with a 3.7 GPA. Impressive! Her relentless attitude to be a highly educated leader and role model for young children is transforming her life and all who are blessed to know Maria!

Quame'

Born in Georgia and transplanted with his adoptive family to North Dakota, Quame' came to LCF as a quiet, unsure, struggling student. Personalized after-school instruction with Academic Coaches from LCF reshaped his mindset and placed him on a track of academic excellence. As an exquisite champion for education and Legacy Board Member, he has set a high bar for excellence as a charismatic, educated leader. Quame' is a junior in high school considering a future in service to our great nation!

Puja

Puja is a Legacy Board Member and a sturdy, bright mite of a young lady who is striving to greatness as an aspiring attorney! As you look closely, you will discover her captivating spirit! Born in Nepal and brought to America in fourth grade, this high school sophomore is a living example of courage and determination. She has embraced Legacy resources to invest hundreds of hours after school and during the summer at speech therapy, reading, and math lessons to understand the skills that once made academic success in America impossible for her. Puja's eyes twinkle of hope, dedication and resiliency to embrace every moment with positive energy and a resounding, "I can help you with that!" mindset.
When a superhero works with HERO - SHAZAM... good things happen!

Hannah is a 20-year-old girl with a history of undefined suspected neurometabolic disorder. Her complications include psychomotor delay, dystonia, spastic quadriparetic cerebral palsy, intractable epilepsy and cyclic vomiting. This is what Hannah has; not who she is. She is a superhero. Her powers include a beautiful smile, spirit and soul. She has the ability to teach and inspire others. She faces each day with superhuman strength and grace. She loves unconditionally and does not judge. Her greatest treasures in life are her family and friends. That is what superheroes are made of.

For Hannah and her fellow superheroes, (all those living with special healthcare needs and/or chronic illness) not having the proper medical supplies and equipment is like Batman without his Batmobile.

We live in Fargo, N.D., and are part of a very special community of other superheroes and sidekicks (parents and caregivers). I learned about HERO while having a conversation with another mom (sidekick) of a child with special healthcare needs. Hannah had run out of incontinence products and could not receive her supplies...
for another two weeks. For those a part of our special community, you’ll understand that insurance companies have allowable amounts of medical supplies each month. Needless to say, the allowable amount does not always cover the need. What do you do when you run out of medical supplies? Many local stores do not have these supplies. This is where HERO came in to save the day. Luckily for us, HERO had the incontinence products Hannah needed at a fraction of the cost compared to a medical supplier.

Unlike the superheroes in the movies, Hannah needs more than just a cape, funny outfit, or shield. For example, when traveling with Hannah we may not have the bathing facilities she needs. We never leave home without “bath in a bag” or a shampoo cap… absolute life savers. Good oral care is essential for good health. Part of Hannah’s oral care is the use of toothettes also found at HERO. Bath chairs are rarely covered by insurance and bathing is medically necessary. HERO has bath chairs for purchase at a fraction of the normal cost. Bath chairs are not just for bathing. We purchased a used bath chair from HERO that we use as a beach chair for Hannah at the lake.

HERO also gives us the opportunity to recycle Hannah’s used equipment and unused healthcare supplies. We all possess the superpower of giving. You can donate your used equipment or unused healthcare supplies, or you can donate your time through volunteerism. Last and certainly not least, you can donate money which is needed to continue to provide this amazing service to our community and surrounding area.

In reality, I don’t want to have to go to HERO. I would rather be shopping for fun things or even non-healthcare related things. But my superhero needs me to go to HERO to get her the supplies and equipment she needs to live the best possible superhero life. Thank you, HERO, for being there for us!

HERO serves individuals in our community, across the region, and around the world. Our staff and volunteers are passionate about improving accessibility to affordable medical equipment and supplies through environmentally responsible programs and partnerships. Thanks to support from local individuals and partners, HERO is helping more people than ever by increasing their quality of life and giving them the freedom, mobility, and dignity they deserve.

If you or someone you love can benefit from our services or you would like to learn more about HERO, please visit us online at HEROFargo.org, contact us at 701-212-1921, or visit our retail center located at 5012 53rd St S, Ste C in Fargo.
It’s a warm Sunday afternoon, and a corner cafe in Fargo is bustling with activity. Smells of freshly cooked food linger in the air; baked kale and delicata squash drizzled with olive oil, biscuits and gravy made with local flour, warm chocolate chip oatmeal cookies.

Inside, the group is diverse. There are families, single parents, students, grandparents, and men and women all of different cultures and socio-economic standings. But here at the cafe, the differences are forgotten over homemade meals and shared conversation.

A chalkboard propped outside the door reads, “Welcome to Heart-n-Soul Community Cafe” in pink chalk. It’s a pay-what-you-can cafe, the very first in North Dakota, and it has been serving locally-sourced meals to the community once a month since June 2016.

“We bring people together over food,” says Leola Daul, the founder of Heart-n-Soul. “It’s really about taking care of each other.”

Leola first began to dream up Heart-n-Soul community cafe when she learned about a similar cafe in Utah. This cafe was based on a mission to serve nutritious meals to anyone who came in regardless of their ability to pay. As she looked into the idea, Leola found that
these “community cafes” were popping up across the country; Colorado, Kentucky, North Carolina. They were all united by a common passion to share meals and end hunger in their communities.

As a Fargo native, Leola knew this was an idea that could thrive in this community.

“Fargo’s a very giving community,” she said. “After living here most of my life I could see that...it [a community cafe] is something that would work.”

This culture of giving, paired with a growing emphasis on supporting local farmers, seemed to be the perfect time to start a community cafe. So, Leola began to propose the idea with her friends -- particularly with her friend of over 30 years, Deb Kluck. Deb was immediately on board.

“We all have the same basic need. To share a meal with someone... it always makes you feel good,” she said.

In 2015, Leola joined Co-Starters, a local program for entrepreneurs designed to propel ideas into reality. Not long after, she met Tracy Walvatne, the owner of Josie’s, who offered up her cafe space as a pop-up location. Then, in June of 2016, Leola, Deb, past co-worker Corey Ernst, and a group of NDSU dietitians hosted the first ever Heart-n-Soul Community Cafe.

Today, Heart-n-Soul Cafe is hosted every fourth Sunday of the month. The lunches are served out of Josie’s Corner Cafe & Bake Shop at 524 Broadway, and are always put together by a chef using as many locally-sourced ingredients as possible. Each guest is greeted and welcomed, and at the end of the meal they simply pay what they can. Some guests pay for their own meal or pay-it-forward for others, and other individuals simply nod and say thank you. What they do does not matter, Leola says.

“It only matters that they are there,” she said.

In the past year, the group has served over 16 meals, including additional meals that they serve to those completing community service at Gladys Ray shelter, and occasional meals at local events like the Red River Farmer’s Market. The stories that have come from the meals continue to reaffirm their founding mission: to care for each other with nutritious meals, and serve everyone with dignity and respect.

One such woman found the Heart-n-Soul cafe after spending days at the hospital by the bed of her ailing child. After eating every day at the hospital cafeteria, she was growing tired of the food and...
Continued from Page 13

running out of money. When she stumbled into Heart-n-Soul Cafe and found she could have a homemade, homegrown meal, she was elated.

Another guest wrote on their ticket, “Thank you so much for this meal. Usually I come in and have something to give but I have nothing to give today. Thank you so much and God Bless you.”

These are the moments that fuel the mission of Heart-n-Soul, and the tireless work of the volunteers month after month.

“Sometimes we’re playing a little piece in a big picture,” Leola said. “But it might give somebody hope.”

Looking towards the future, both Leola and Deb have big dreams for Heart-n-Soul Cafe. They hope to eventually offer meals more than once a month, such as every week or every day. One day, they envision having their own kitchen space.

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It might give somebody hope.
Heart-n-Soul Café will have its last meal for 2017 at Cass Public Health, 1240 25th St S Fargo, on November 15, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. It will continue January 2018. Join us the fourth Sunday of the month.

If you’re interested in learning more about Heart-n-Soul Cafe, you can check them out at their website heartnsoulcafe.com.
Hero. Survivor. These two words have become so ubiquitous in everyday speech, like awesome, amazing, or absolutely, that they have nearly lost their true meaning. But once in awhile, something comes along to remind us of the true intent of these words.

This year, Lake Agassiz Habitat for Humanity is dubbing their 57th home build, "Hero Build". This build is meant to honor our community heroes who have chosen to come to the aid of those in need, whether that is our emergency personnel or the many wonderful donors and volunteers who have helped us build homes over the last 26 years.

The Hero Build will take place at 308 9th Avenue North in Fargo, a site that represents great tragedy for our community. This site is where two men, Fargo Police Officer Jason Moszer and Marcus Schumacher, lost their lives in February 2016. It is the collective hope that out of the rubble of this tragedy will come a new future for a family that has lived through a tragedy of their own.

Danielle John and her family are the future homeowners of the Hero Build house. Danielle is not only a mother and a survivor; she is also considered a hero to many members in our community. She works at Youthworks as a human trafficking survivor advocate working with youth who are victims of human trafficking and guiding them through the next steps in life as survivors, just as she had to do. You may have seen her story as a part of the WDAY Trafficked series.

With the blessing and support of the Schumacher and Moszer families, the Fargo PD, and the surrounding neighborhood, it is our hope that the Hero Build will help us bring our community a little closer together. Special thanks go out to Michelle Schumacher, who...
Red River Human Services is dedicated to affirming human worth, rights, and dignity by providing services to people with disabilities which enhance the quality of their lives, and enable them to live, work and develop relationships within their communities.

Supporting People...
Creating Community

Red River Human Services is dedicated to affirming human worth, rights, and dignity by providing services to people with disabilities which enhance the quality of their lives, and enable them to live, work and develop relationships within their communities.

wanted something good to come of her former home and suggested a Habitat build.

The construction on the Hero Build started in late September, with the final volunteers on site in late November. You can follow this story on social media, using #HeroBuild17.

Like all Habitat homeowners, Danielle will be required to complete a homeowner education course and 250 hours of sweat equity before she can move in. She will then purchase the home from us at a nonprofit mortgage with her payments going toward the construction of future homes.

At Habitat for Humanity, we believe everyone deserves a decent place to live. Worldwide, one in four people live in housing situations that harm their health, safety, prosperity or opportunities. Locally, there are thousands of families living in unsafe, unhealthy or unaffordable homes. By helping families build their own simple, decent and affordable home, we empower them to truly thrive for generations to come.

To learn more, visit www.lakeagassizhabitat.org.
Helping Students Cope
with Mental Illness

She wrote in her journal “I AM A FREAK.” The words traced over and over “Trying to be perfect. I’m spiraling. Losing my mind. No one sees. I’m pathetic. I am a monster. I’m scared.”

Ellie appeared to be the all American girl, warm and outgoing, she excelled in academics and sports. She was active in a variety of school groups and her church. She was loved at school and home.

No one knew that anxiety and depression were tearing her apart. In the depths of depression, Ellie believed that she was a monster. She began to hurt herself - believing she deserved to have the hidden scars that come from cutting and self-harm. She began abusing cold medicine to sleep. She imagined her funeral.

Ellie wasn’t a freak. She was struggling with untreated medical conditions - anxiety and depression. She is one of thousands of area students facing a mental health condition. According to the North Dakota Youth Risk Behavior Survey one in four area high school students indicate they may be struggling with depression. One in 10 have attempted suicide. Seventy-five percent of mental illnesses begin before the age of 23.

These are not “bad kids.” Like diabetes, asthma or cancer, no one is immune to mental illnesses. Untreated mental
illnesses are the cause of so many of the troubles we see every day in our newsfeeds, from a general unhappiness, addiction, poverty, physical disease, homelessness, to death by suicide.

But there is hope and healing. Mental illnesses are highly treatable.

Every single day the programs of Imagine Thriving help local students get the care they need to be well – this is possible only because of the generous donors in our community. Ellie was one of the local students Imagine Thriving helped. With care and education Ellie found healing and hope. Today, Ellie is a junior in college. She knows how to care for her mental health and when to ask for help. She knows that she has a medical condition and is not a freak.

Ellie says with a genuine and peaceful smile, “Instead of imagining my funeral, I imagine thriving.”

With the financial support of our community, Imagine Thriving partnered with local school districts to start and fund Student Wellness Facilitator programming – these school staff members help connect students with mental health concerns to the appropriate medical care at the earliest signs of distress.

The Access to Care Fund helps families with a financial need to cover expenses related to mental health care – co-pays, medication or transportation to and from appointments with mental health care providers.

The Imagine Thriving Student Board was formed in 2014 by a group of compassionate and dedicated students from local high schools united to erase the stigma of mental illnesses and to empower themselves, their peers and our community by creating understanding and awareness of not only the symptoms of distress, but how to be well - to overcome and thrive through these struggles. The Student Board has grown to include middle school and college students. Imagine Thriving School Clubs are starting in the area, raising awareness and understanding, one school at a time.

Your contribution to Imagine Thriving is an investment into the children in our community – in their futures and ours. Your gift will change the trajectory of lives – save lives. Kids create the lives they imagine. Please help them imagine thriving. Visit ImagineThriving.org.

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[The Village Family Service Center](http://www.TheVillageFamily.org)
The question of whether immigrants and refugees add value to the places they live in has been a hot topic of debate nationally and locally. The issue has turned into a lightning rod for politicians, policy makers and advocates. Yet the voices of immigrants are often missing.

Getting to know immigrants beyond what is reported in the news can be difficult. There aren’t always opportunities to connect and get to know people from other countries. And North Dakota nice can sometimes be a barrier. Many people feel uncomfortable asking questions of people they don’t know without a clear invitation to do so.

Joan Dolence has lived next to Ling O’Connor, her next-door neighbor from Taiwan, for ten years. “Over the years, we’ve exchanged many pleasantries about the weather, the yard, our pets, and other subjects,” Dolence says. “I knew that our neighbor had moved to Fargo from abroad, and that she and her husband had lived in the United Arab Emirates. But I had never had a true conversation with her.”

That changed when Dolence channeled her curiosity about people from other countries into a project called The World in Fargo-Moorhead. The WIFM project shows the immense diversity of foreign-born residents now living in the Red River Valley one photographic story at a time.

**Getting To Know Your Neighbors**

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portrait and one story at a time. Modeled on Humans of NY, the project reveals the unique aspects of each immigrant’s life and experiences.

During their interview, Ling O’Connor opened up about her life in Taiwan and Fargo. “The first time I went to the grocery store in Fargo, my heart beat so fast. I was worried that my English was not good enough for people to understand me. Going to the hospital was also a challenge. I asked the doctor if I could record our conversation so I could listen at home so that I could be certain that I understood everything correctly.”

The World in Fargo-Moorhead offers immigrants the opportunity to speak about themselves without journalistic or political filters.

“Some people unfortunately judge a book by its cover,” says Mahmoud Toumeh of Syria. “For people that don’t know me well they probably assume that I’m a refugee, that I’m a dependent on the government, that I’m probably too conservative for their liking or that I’m too serious. But in real life my identity is mixed. I have some American identity in me. I have some Arab identity in me, some Muslim identity in me and since the majority of my friends here are of the Christian faith they have also played a role on who I am and what I think of the world and what defines me as a person.”

The World in Fargo-Moorhead is a collaborative, voluntary effort among photo enthusiasts, writers and interested community members. Anyone interested in getting involved in taking photos, gathering stories or sharing their story can send an email to Ibtissem Belmihoub, the WIFM Project Coordinator, at ibtissem.belmihoub@ndsu.edu. Find the project on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, @theworldinfm.
Fun. Sophisticated. Savvy. Accountable. Beneficial. Effective. These are some of the words donors use to describe their giving through a donor advised fund (DAF) at the FM Area Foundation.

When you set up a DAF, you relinquish the assets you contribute, get an immediate tax break, and have the advisory privilege of recommending grants out of your fund to your favorite charitable causes at your leisure.

A donor advised fund is a great way to consolidate your giving. Here are some ideas:

- **Give year-round.** Charities need donations year-round, but the majority of donations come in at year-end. You can use your DAF to make your year-end contribution for tax purposes, but then space out your grant awards throughout the next year to the charities of your choice.

- **Involve your family.** If you have children or other family members you can involve them with your DAF’s grant-making. If you have adult children, you can name them as successor advisors on your DAF to continue giving as a family after you’re gone. A DAF at the FM Area Foundation can become a family affair involving multiple family members and generations.

- **Create a fund in honor of a loved one.** Some of our donors establish a memorial DAF in honor of his or her late spouse or parent(s). Grants can be awarded to causes the honored individual valued during his or her lifetime.

- **Accept gifts from family and friends.** If the minimum gift size is an issue, family or friends can make gifts to the

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**Donor Advised Fun(d) for the Holidays!**

*Story Submitted By: FM Area Foundation*

**Fun**

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*by FM Area Foundation*

**Effective**

A donor advised fund is a great way to consolidate your giving. Here are some ideas:

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- **Create a fund in honor of a loved one.** Some of our donors establish a memorial DAF in honor of his or her late spouse or parent(s). Grants can be awarded to causes the honored individual valued during his or her lifetime.

- **Accept gifts from family and friends.** If the minimum gift size is an issue, family or friends can make gifts to the

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**Growing forever families in our community.**

ChristianAdoptionServices.org | 701.237.4473 | @AdoptionFargo
Any fund at the FM Area Foundation may accept gifts of any size at any time from family members, the business community or the general public.

- **Avoid capital gains tax on appreciated assets by donating them to your DAF.** The avoidance of capital gains taxes by donating securities in lieu of cash can be one of the most significant tax saving strategies available. A DAF facilitates the donation of appreciated securities by allowing you to make a single donation of appreciated assets (although it doesn’t have to be just one) and then spread the proceeds to numerous charities.

- **Maximize your tax deduction.** When you set up a DAF at the FM Area Foundation, you will receive a federal and state tax deduction for your gift up to the percentages and amounts allowed by law. In addition, if you are a North Dakota taxpayer, your gift may qualify you to receive a 40% income tax credit under the North Dakota Charitable Income Tax Credit program.

- **Let us do the legwork for you.** Working with the staff at the FM Area Foundation gives you access to our extensive knowledge of the local nonprofit community and the broad charitable needs of our region. We will help you identify organizations that are qualified to receive grants from your DAF, document the status of all nonprofits prior to making a grant, and keep you informed about the organizations you support and the effect your giving is having on our community.

- **Collaborate with other donors.** You can pool your resources together with other DAF donors to make a bigger impact. One idea is to form a “giving circle” of like-minded friends or colleagues who pool their assets to establish a DAF for a geographic area or a focus area and then meet to recommend the grants from the fund. This combined funding could kick start a new project or noticeably influence a specific cause, which in turn may bring the group broader recognition in the community.

Enjoy your giving. Involve your family in your philanthropy. Have fun creating your charitable plan for supporting our community. And this holiday season, let the FM Area Foundation help you make a long-lasting difference in your life, and in our community, with a donor advised fund.

To learn more, visit areafoundation.org or email Greg Diehl, Development Officer, at gregareafoundation.org.
CREATE A LEGACY
in your family’s name.

Invest your gifts. Preserve the principal. Put earnings back into your community forever.

Creating a donor advised fund during your lifetime allows you to support the charities you’re passionate about year after year. It’s also a great way to carry on your family name, and often results in a family tradition of giving that lives on for many generations.

You can start your fund with simple or complex gifts.
701.234.0756 | areafoundation.org