**Introduction**

The 2020 publication of *Foundations in Wisconsin* is the 39th edition of the print directory and the 20th year of the online database. The directory is designed as a research tool for grantseekers interested in locating information on private, corporate, and community foundations registered in Wisconsin. Each entry in this new edition has been updated or reviewed to provide the most current information available. Most of the data was drawn from IRS 990-PF tax returns filed by the foundations. Additional information was obtained from surveys, foundation websites, and annual reports.

Wisconsin foundations showed continued growth in both the number of active foundations and, most especially, the total grants which are at an all-time high of $811 million. Additionally, 39 new foundations have been identified this year. (See page 269 for the complete list.) The following table illustrates the 10-year financial pattern as documented in *Foundations in Wisconsin*.

**Directory Active Total Total**

**Edition Foundations Grants Paid Assets**

2020 1252 $811,910,269 $10,522,653,425

2019 1234 $803,559,961 $10,909,637,031

2018 1239 $755,072,560 $10,502,179,880

2017 1225 $701,607,377 $9,635,262,424

2016 1241 $623,668,784 $9,638,306,941

2015 1256 $579,703,766 $9,532,780,829

2014 1276 $551,306,717 $8,147,400,419

2013 1264 $487,953,327 $7,068,417,918

2012 1301 $490,683,280 $7,022,030,971

2011 1324 $458,107,578 $6,260,367,106

The 10 counties listed below account for 82% of total giving by Wisconsin foundations. Milwaukee County again tops the list with 22% of the total foundations and 43% of the total grantmaking.

**Foundations Active Total Total**

**by County Foundations Grants Paid Assets**

Milwaukee 276 $347,095,152 $3,939,578,539

Waukesha 119 $88,031,391 $1,138,467,846

Dane 164 $72,159,660 $821,364,147

Outagamie 28 $37,156,042 $385,154,240

Brown 78 $33,418,671 $528,364,808

Winnebago 24 $19,102,369 $260,877,505

Marathon 29 $18,496,891 $301,475,699

Racine 25 $18,180,633 $116,852,837

Wood 15 $18,000,477 $283,802,755

Eau Claire 17 $14,232,698 $218,349,077

Total 775 $665,873,984 $7,994,287,453

The 50 largest granting foundations in the state (4% of the total number of foundations) account for $501,330,430 or 62% of the total grants reported in this edition. For the list of the top 50, please see page vii.

*Foundations in Wisconsin* is produced by the staff of the Funding Information Center, located in Marquette University’s John P. Raynor, S.J., Library. The Center’s mission is to serve the research needs of grantseekers from around the state. In the past year, we conducted 21 orientations, welcomed over 275 visitors, and responded to over 480 in-person, telephone, e-mail and IM inquiries. Among other resources, the Center’s collection includes both the print and online versions of this directory for public use. The online directory’s site provides information about using and subscribing to the database: www.wifoundations.org. For more information about the Center or to plan a visit, please turn to page viii or see our website at www.marquette.edu/library/fic.

Production of this edition of *Foundations in Wisconsin* during the Coronavirus pandemic posed certain challenges. We had a loss of student workers, there was no annual summer research trip to the Wisconsin Department of Justice, and we were unable to retrieve information from IRS returns in a timely manner. However, my team of Marquette students made steady progress compiling and entering 990 tax data prior to leaving campus in March and all remaining work was transferred to home. I am indebted to John Brick, Kelly Coughlin, Madeline Murphy, and most especially Catherine Simmerer, for their dedication to this project. Also, many thanks to Raynor Library IT Specialist, Tim Graff, who set up connections to allow me to continue entering information remotely. Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues in Research and Instructional Services for their continued support throughout the year.

Mary C. Frenn

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