

## ❖ INTRODUCTION ❖

The 2008 release of *Foundations in Wisconsin* marks the 27<sup>th</sup> edition of the print directory and the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the online version ([www.wifoundations.org](http://www.wifoundations.org)). 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. However, additional information was obtained from surveys, foundation Web sites, annual reports, and newsletters.

Wisconsin foundations have shown continued growth in key areas. The number of active grantmaking foundations has risen to an all-time high of 1,275, with 70 new foundations identified since last year's publication. While the total grants remained stable at \$475 million, the total assets increased by 16.5% to \$7.2 billion. The following table illustrates the 10-year financial pattern as documented in *Foundations in Wisconsin*.

Directory Edition	Active Foundations	Total Grants Paid	Total Assets
2008	1275	\$475,341,193	\$7,271,381,937
2007	1251	\$478,950,513	\$6,241,323,582
2006	1227	\$452,791,755	\$5,549,409,967
2005	1213	\$395,089,700	\$5,254,012,485
2004	1184	\$387,572,449	\$4,772,292,891
2003	1160	\$386,684,708	\$4,700,316,614
2002	1151	\$389,009,152	\$5,018,788,836
2001	1100	\$361,133,037	\$5,005,239,842
2000	1065	\$298,408,284	\$4,533,619,026
1999	1048	\$270,535,600	\$3,902,154,919

The 10 counties listed below account for 87% of total giving by Wisconsin foundations. Milwaukee County once again tops the list with 27% of the total number of foundations and 50% of the total grantmaking.

Foundations by County	Active Foundations	Total Grants Paid	Total Assets
Milwaukee	350	\$240,182,286	\$3,254,282,673
Dane	126	\$46,970,001	\$588,838,096
Waukesha	115	\$46,071,099	\$900,942,453
Outagamie	32	\$17,839,469	\$255,820,347
Brown	78	\$15,243,574	\$236,292,998
Racine	25	\$11,700,812	\$76,134,083
Rock	31	\$11,124,766	\$176,470,175
Marathon	39	\$8,505,330	\$197,745,030
Wood	15	\$8,467,097	\$139,075,465
Ozaukee	43	\$8,396,552	\$103,936,516
<b>Total</b>	<b>854</b>	<b>\$414,500,986</b>	<b>\$5,929,537,836</b>

The 50 largest granting foundations in the state (4% of the total number of foundations) account for \$302,005,625 in total giving or 64% of the total grants reported in this edition. For the list of the top 50, please see page vi.

*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. We welcomed over 470 visitors and responded to over 550 telephone and e-mail inquiries. Among other resources, the Center's collection includes both the print and online versions of this directory for public use. For more information about the Center or to plan a visit, please turn to page vii or see our Web site at [www.marquette.edu/library/fic](http://www.marquette.edu/library/fic).

This directory could not have been produced without the considerable efforts of editorial assistants Melanie Baier, Jeremy Blackwood, Joseph Flipper, Sarah Martin, and Katie Morrison who all worked diligently to locate, compile, enter, and proofread the 990-PF tax data. Special thanks go to Linda Fry of the Wisconsin Department of Justice for providing access to new tax information. We are also grateful to the many foundation managers who responded to our surveys. I am also indebted to former assistant Vance Thomas and the staff of the Raynor Library Information Technology Department for their help with needed software upgrades and system maintenance. Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues in Research and Instructional Services for their constant encouragement throughout the year.

Mary C. Frenn  
September 2008