**Introduction**

The 2016 release of *Foundations in Wisconsin* marks the 35th edition of the print directory and the 16th edition of the online version. 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.

This edition paints a very positive picture of financial growth for Wisconsin foundations. Both grant and asset totals have risen to all-time highs. Of particular note, total grants broke the $600 million barrier, increasing by 8% to $623 million. Additionally, 58 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**

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

2010 1314 $473,144,467 $5,623,975,366

2009 1286 $507,979,753 $6,871,185,363

2008 1275 $475,341,193 $7,271,381,937

2007 1251 $478,950,513 $6,241,323,582

The 10 counties listed below account for 82% of total giving by Wisconsin foundations. Milwaukee County once again tops the list with 23% of the total foundations and 41% of the total grantmaking.

**Foundations Active Total Total**

**by County Foundations Grants Paid Assets**

Milwaukee 285 $258,448,958 $3,725,891,667

Waukesha 117 $79,815,911 $1,341,574,365

Dane 144 $48,011,138 $721,274,250

Outagamie 30 $38,510,515 $412,282,527

Brown 74 $23,041,103 $349,359,659

Winnebago 22 $16,705,501 $240,956,182

Marathon 29 $13,109,046 $238,601,940

Racine 28 $12,949,333 $120,248,462

Ozaukee 52 $12,660,469 $140,085,587

Rock 28 $11,123,629 $188,646,023

**Total** 809 $514,375,603 $7,478,920,662

The 50 largest granting foundations in the state (4% of the total number of foundations) account for $378,180,780or 61% 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 welcomed 365 visitors and responded to 417 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.

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Mary C. Frenn

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