



GOLDEN
VALLEY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Community Impact Report

*Building a legacy through philanthropy,
community initiatives and funding support
to address the changing needs and
interests of Golden Valley
neighbors and friends.*

From our Board of Directors

Our Golden Valley Community Foundation is reflecting back on the impact our donors make in this wonderful community. Since 2011, our donors have given more than **\$420,000** back to the community through grants, programs and other donations. The *GVCF Impact Report* highlights just a fraction of that impact. Your support has enabled this work and it's what has brought us this far.

GVCF wants to do more, and we can with your help. Our goal at the Golden Valley Community Foundation is to continue to enhance our community, ensuring each generation leaves it a little better. We want to build a lasting legacy.

For our tenth anniversary, we set an ambitious goal:
Raise \$200,000 annually to invest in our community.

Imagine all the good we can accomplish together!

The beauty of a community foundation is that YOU – our friends and neighbors – determine how the foundation's money is invested. You choose the legacy you want to build.

Our fundraising goal may seem like a big number, but if each person in Golden Valley gave even \$10, we would exceed the goal. We're counting on all of you to help us reach this goal and **build a lasting legacy.**

So, how much will you give to invest in Golden Valley? What is your local legacy? Visit **GVCFoundation.org** to find a donation that works for you.

We can't wait to hear from you!

Dean Penk (Chair)

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Linda Loomis (Treasurer)

Stacy Rider

John Richardson (Secretary)

Aaron Streeter

Amy Becklund-Wagner

Stephanie Culver

Ready to join our Board?

Sean Endersbe

Contact board@GVCFoundation.org





Local Impact

(as of October 2019)



**GV Pride
Festival
5000+**



**Arts & Music
Festival
5000+**



**Volunteer
Fair
200+**



**Sustainability
Day
500+**

10,000+ community members
engaged



Supporting our community is so important to us. When our upcoming retirement investments allowed us to support even more non profits, we set up our Donor Advised Fund with GVCF. Keeping the money in Golden Valley is significant to us and the activities and organizations GVCF supports are vital to our community.

Steve and Rita Pesavento

Our grants support:



community



education



sustainability



health



arts



I know the positive impact GVCF has made in Golden Valley with community grants and programming over the years. I'm very happy to write a check to help support your work for our community. Keep up the good work!

Peggy Leppik

Highlights in GVCF History



GVCF established to serve as a conduit for philanthropic giving that receives, manages and distributes funds to benefit the Golden Valley community.



Market in the Valley receives a Small Sparks grant for live music at the farmers market.



GVCF funds the **Arts & Music Festival**.

GVCF's first fiscal agent agreement enacted.



Sweet Potato Comfort Pie receives its first Small Sparks grant, helping it become a local and national catalyst for caring and building community. GVCF continues to serve as a key partner for Sweet Potato Comfort Pie.

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016



Global Golden Valley, GVCF's first Small Sparks Grant, was born at **International Day** at Market in the Valley. It has included Welcome Days at City Hall for foreign exchange students, educational programs and an official naturalization program.



Golden Valley Music and Movies in the Park receives a Small Sparks Grant. Community response was so positive, the City of Golden Valley made it a permanent program.



Golden Valley PRIDE Festival hosts its first annual event and draws over 3000 people its first year with GVCF funding and **fiscal sponsor support**. GVCF continues to support this festival as its **fiscal sponsor**.



Golden Valley Arts becomes an official **program of GVCF**, to serve and respond to the needs of local artists, arts organizations and residents through diverse channels, each with a significant impact on the quality of life in Golden Valley.

Room&Board

HOME FURNISHINGS

Sustainability Day during the fall **Market in the Valley** grows out of a generous grant from Room & Board to GVCF, bringing together 10 local vendors to highlight sustainability in Golden Valley.

COVID19 Grants established by the Golden Valley Community Foundation to support community organizations responding to COVID-19 related needs in Golden Valley and neighboring communities.

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022



Schaper Park, Minnesota's first outdoor fitness challenge course, supported by generous donors, nonprofits, and GVCF **financial services**.



GVCF celebrates 10th anniversary



GVCF hosts first Golden Valley **Volunteer Fair**, connecting volunteers to opportunities in the community.

Community Impact through Small

SEA School Science Fair



Science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) are critical skills that children of today need in ways that previous generations did not. Careers in STEM are projected to grow by 13% by the year 2020.

The School of Engineering and Arts (SEA) in Golden Valley understands that building STEM skills in today's children is critical. That's why the SEA requested a \$1,000 Small Sparks grant to support a Mad Science program. The grant enabled SEA to create three Mad Science stations at their spring carnival in May 2019.

At each booth, children were able to conduct a variety of science experiments – totaling 550 science experiments throughout the course of the event. The support of GVCF provided a fun way for students to engage in science in new ways outside of the classroom.

A look back on Small Sparks Grants' impact:

- **2012 – Ice Cream Social.** GVCF's financial support enhanced Music in the Park with ice cream, encouraging attendees of all ages.
- **2013 – Music at Market in the Valley.** Small Sparks brought live music to the Market in the Valley, becoming a Sunday staple for the community.
- **2014 – Artful Aging.** Small Sparks enabled Covenant Village to bring visual arts, creative movement, storytelling and theater to the senior community.
- **2015 – Sweet Potato Comfort Pie.** Small Sparks helped Rose McGee create a catalyst for caring and building community.
- **2016 – Golden Valley Pride Festival.** Small Sparks served as a springboard for the Golden Valley Pride Festival to become an annual community tradition.
- **2017 – Twin Town Troubadours.** Small Sparks brought live, interactive music for children and adults of all ages to Brookview Golden Valley.
- **2018 – Sweet Potato Comfort Pie Planning.** Small Sparks helped program leaders elevate the MLK Jr. Day event in celebration of Dr. King's 90th birthday.
- **2019 – Master Servant film.** Small Sparks enabled a Golden Valley film director to bring her historically-inspired vision to the big screen.

Sparks Grants

Meadowbrook Calming Corner

Last fall, the first grade teachers at Meadowbrook Elementary School in Golden Valley, along with the guidance counselor and school social worker, teamed up to focus on helping first graders learn critical self-regulation skills. In their jobs, they see children every day who have a hard time regulating their emotions for a wide variety of reasons; students may feel tired, hungry, overly-excited after playing outside, or any number of other emotions. And though the root causes may be different, one thing is consistent: kids who have a hard time self-regulating have a hard time learning. And the Meadowbrook first grade teachers wanted to help their students be even more successful in school.



In addition to using a trusted curriculum (The Zones of Regulation) to help students learn about their emotions, the teachers wanted other tools. Madeline Conrad, the school's social worker, had worked with kindergarten teachers at another Hopkins school to create Calming Corners in their classrooms. And, she saw first-hand the benefits of a designated calming space and some well-placed tools in helping kids get into the right zone to be ready to learn.

So the first grade teachers reached out to the Golden Valley Community Foundation (GVCF) for a Small Sparks grant to help build out and stock up their Calming Corners. With just \$1,000 from GVCF, and an additional grant from the Meadowbrook Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), they were able to do just that. Now each first grade classroom has its own Calming Corner, stocked with things like weighted blankets, stretchy bands, noise cancelling headphones, beads, theraputty and more.



When children notice they are having a hard time getting into the right zone, they can go to the Calming Corner and choose a tool that will help them self-regulate. Madeline says the students love the space. "It gives them a sense that they can have more control over their emotions and that they can do things to change how they are feeling." The kids tell her things like, "It helps me when I feel frustrated to take a couple minutes break" or "I don't know how we did it without it!" And teachers have told Madeline that kids come back and are ready to go, no matter how distracted they were.

The best part is it's not just helping the first graders; it's helping the entire school. The team was able to purchase enough supplies to create a Calming Room, where students in all grades can go when they need to help regulate their emotions. As the largest elementary school in the district, this opens up these tools and resources to almost 900 students. This is truly the case of a small idea "sparking" a big improvement in our community.



**GOLDEN
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Located inside Brookview Golden Valley
316 Brookview Parkway South - Suite 144
Golden Valley, MN 55426



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reach our \$200,000 goal!

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