



FOREVER CONNECTING





DEAR FRIENDS,

The YMCA is more than a place. We're a purpose. At the YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties, our promise is to leverage our movement's considerable power to enrich the common good and make life better for individuals, families and our community. **As a leading nonprofit dedicated to strengthening community bonds, we are forever connecting people to their potential, purpose, and each other, offering spaces where everyone can play, learn, grow, thrive, and give back.**

Reflecting on 2023, we are proud of the commitment, progress, and impact made possible through our mission of enhancing the spirit, mind, and body of all individuals through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. This report serves as a testament to the tangible outcomes of our efforts.

As you navigate through these pages, recognize that each statistic represents a person, each program a story. It's not about greatness; it's about shared progress. Your involvement is key in connecting these stories into a resilient and thriving community – a testament to what we can achieve together.

As you read through this report, understanding that it only captures a snapshot of success, please know that your contribution is vital to the work we do. Thank you for playing a crucial role in all the Y does to meet the needs of the community. The future at the Y is bright, now more than ever.



Jeff Botnen
Board President



Stephen Smith
President



We continue to connect with our community's most pressing needs through a steadfast focus on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

FOREVER CONNECTING

The YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties is intertwined with our community. Every day, we offer ongoing support and opportunities. Our focus on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility is at the heart of what we do. We bring people together, from kids to seniors, through programs and spaces that teach, heal, and encourage.

Our goal is simple: to help everyone, regardless of age, income, or background, live a healthy and fulfilling life. We stick to our core values of caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and health, as the principles guiding our actions and uniting our community.

We're always listening to our community's needs and adapting to meet them. We find new ways to support our youth, be a helping hand for busy parents, and inspire health goals. It's a privilege to serve our community and be a part of its journey, connecting individuals and families every step of the way. The YMCA is more than a place; it's a bridge, **forever connecting and enriching lives.**



OPPORTUNITIES IN 2023

Over the past year, we continued to offer quality care and services to a wide variety of people in our community. Some of our programs and services included child care, swimming lessons, summer camp, community meals for seniors, fitness classes, our youth summer meal program, health and safety classes, and more! We are dedicated to meeting needs in our community and provide a safe space for everyone to belong.



Drowning remains the nation's second-leading cause of accidental death for children ages 1-14. In 2023, we **provided swim lessons and water safety instruction for more than 2,915 kids.**



26 cancer survivors participated in LIVESTRONG at the YMCA. This chronic disease prevention and management program combines health coaching, physical activity, lifestyle change and community-building to create lasting outcomes.



All of our Early Learning Centers participate in **ND Best in Class Grant** AND **Early Learning Corps** which is designed with tutors trained to support the development of preschool children's early language and literacy skills.



2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Jeff Botnen, Board President | Ty Hegland, Secretary |
| James Hand, First Vice President | Angie Baumann, Treasurer |
| Dr. Julie Blehm, Past President | Beth Astrup |
| Than Baardson | Kirk Carow |
| DJ Colter | Lisa Drake |
| Mike Erickson | Aaron Hill |
| Bill Nelson | Jeff Thomas |
| Kimberly Vannett | |

ENDOWMENT BOARD

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dan Armbrust | Tara Baltés | Dr. Julie Blehm |
| Jeff Botnen | William Fercho, Board President | Paul Finstad |
| Jon Hanson, Treasurer | Thomas Jefferson | Ruby Kolpack |
| Jan Promersberger | Kevin Riley | Stephen Smith, Secretary |
| Chad Stark | Mike Thomas | Dr. Richard Warner |

ADVISORY BOARD

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Dan Armbrust | Robert Bakkum | David Bertel |
| Rick Buesh | Tom Dawson | Arnie Ellingson |
| Don Haugen | Brian Hayer | Dennis Holmgren |
| Ralph Jose | Gordon Kartenson | Evonne Lund |
| Dorwin Marquardt | Lee Massey | Lynette Pederson |
| Dave Rogness | Brad Schlossman | Gregg Sorenson |
| Richard Walstad, Chair | | |

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jeff Botnen | Kirk Carow | Michael Erickson |
| James Hand | Jeremiah Johnson | Brian Milne |
| Kathy Nordness | Blake Strehlow | |

CAMP COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Than Baardson | Peggy Bullinger | John Gunkelman | Scot Johnson |
| Sarah Knutson | Paul Madson | Sarah Schacht | Kim Vannett |

CHILD CARE COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Becky Bakke | Dr. Julie Blehm | Rep. Gretchen Dobervich | Corey Ernst |
| Ruby Kolpack | Mariah Madsen | | |

FINANCE COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Beth Astrup | Angie Baumann | Brian Becker | David Flowers |
| Dan Jacobson | Rock Messerschmidt | Matt Nagel | John Peterson |
| Gale Skjoiten | | | |

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Cindy Breyer | Kirk Carow | DJ Colter | Linette Dahl |
| Aaron Hill | Julie Rostberg | Erin Wagner | Dr. Richard Warner |

MEMBERSHIP, MARKETING & PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Lisa Drake | Trenton Gerads | Dale Hetland | Lee Massey |
| Alison Monke | Bill Schalow | Jeff Thomas | Mark Winkelman |

PAUL HOWRY GOLF COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Dave Berg | Scott Berg | Matt Bushard | Kevin Hill |
| Yvette Lewis | Greg McCullough | Rammie Olson | Jordan Rostad |
| Angie Ryan | Thad Swanson | | |

YMCA: CORNERSTONE AND SECOND HOME

Every weekday morning, like clockwork, Susanne* steps through the familiar entrance of the YMCA, a place that has become her second home. With a warm smile, she greets the staff at the front desk, exchanging pleasantries and catching up on the latest news. It's always a good start to her day.

Making her way into the fitness center, Susanne spots her longtime friend, Dave*, already pumping iron. They launch into their usual routine of friendly banter and encouragement. Pushing each other to new fitness goals and trading jokes to lighten the mood.

After their workout, Susanne and Dave join up with a lively group of regulars who've gathered for their post-exercise ritual: coffee and conversation. The YMCA isn't just a place to sweat; it's a social hub where friendships flourish, and bonds strengthen.

Sipping their cups of coffee, Susanne and Dave catch up with fellow YMCA members, swapping stories about their families, work, and hobbies. The staff members, too, stop by to chat, sharing updates on upcoming events and programs, including the Mini Food Pantry and Giving Box that Susanne actively supports.

"In every interaction, be it with my friends or the staff or the kids here for the day, you feel the sense of belonging and community that permeates the Y" shared Susanne. For her and many others, the YMCA is a sanctuary where bonds are forged, memories made, and laughter echoes through the halls.

As the morning turns into afternoon, Susanne bids farewell, knowing she'll return tomorrow for another day of fitness, friendship, and family at her beloved YMCA. In every step, she feels connected to the mission of the YMCA — a mission that understands the transformative power of connections. The bonds formed at the YMCA not only enhance physical well-being but also improve the overall quality of life for individuals like Susanne, reinforcing the idea that meaningful connections are the cornerstone of a thriving and supportive community.

*Names changed



480,465 times

YMCA members came into our locations a total of 480,465 times in 2023 to get strong, improve their health, lower stress and improve energy by being a part of a supportive Y community!



More than 400 individuals benefit from a scholarship each month to be a Y member where they can participate fully in **all of the physical and holistic health benefits of the YMCA**

TRIBUTES

In Memory of Atticus, Lena and Isla Bruenjes
– Lori Scheel

In Honor of Bill & Mary Schlossman
– Susan Piribek

In Memory of Bob Bolter
– Lloyd Gunderson

In Memory of Don Gunhus
– Nancy Leier

In honor of The Giving Tree
– Seinquis Leinen

In honor of Kelsey Colwell & Warren Mack's wedding
– Bev & Kim Colwell

In Memory of Marshall Korman
– Beth Hamer

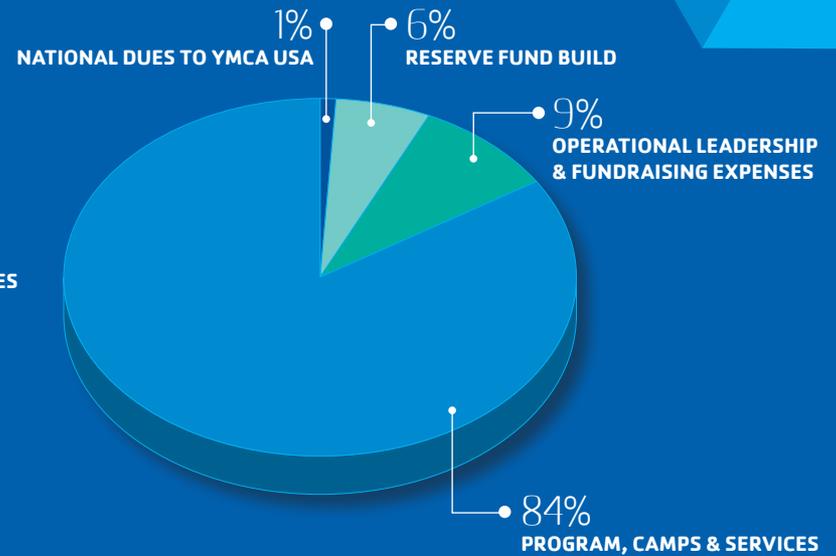
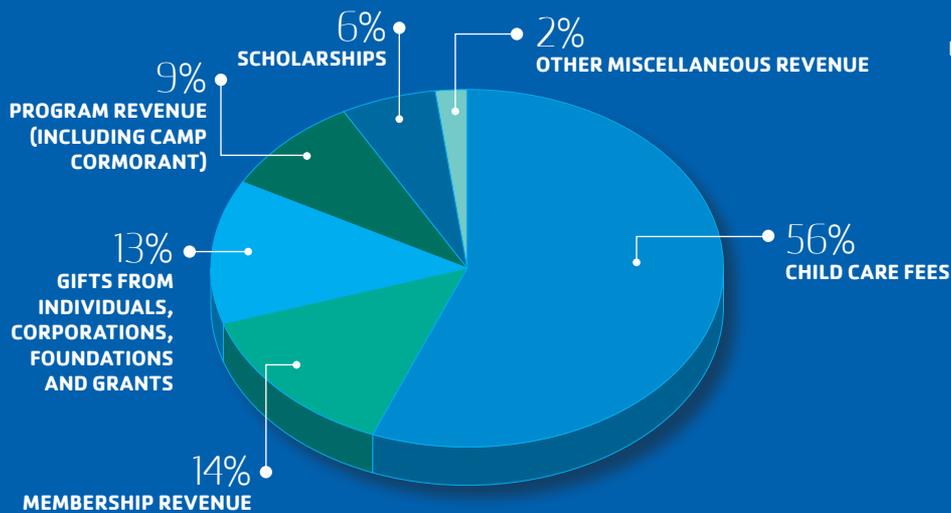
In Memory of Paul Howry
– LeRoy Jackson

In Memory of Phyllis Melvey
– Ann McConn

In Memory of Richard Sisler
– Carol Sisler

A special note of gratitude to those who have given in honor or memory of others. Your thoughtful gifts contributed to the sustainability of our programs and created a profound impact on the sense of community well-being we strive to foster. Thank you for your meaningful and dedicated support, helping us build a stronger, healthier community through these significant gestures of remembrance and honor.

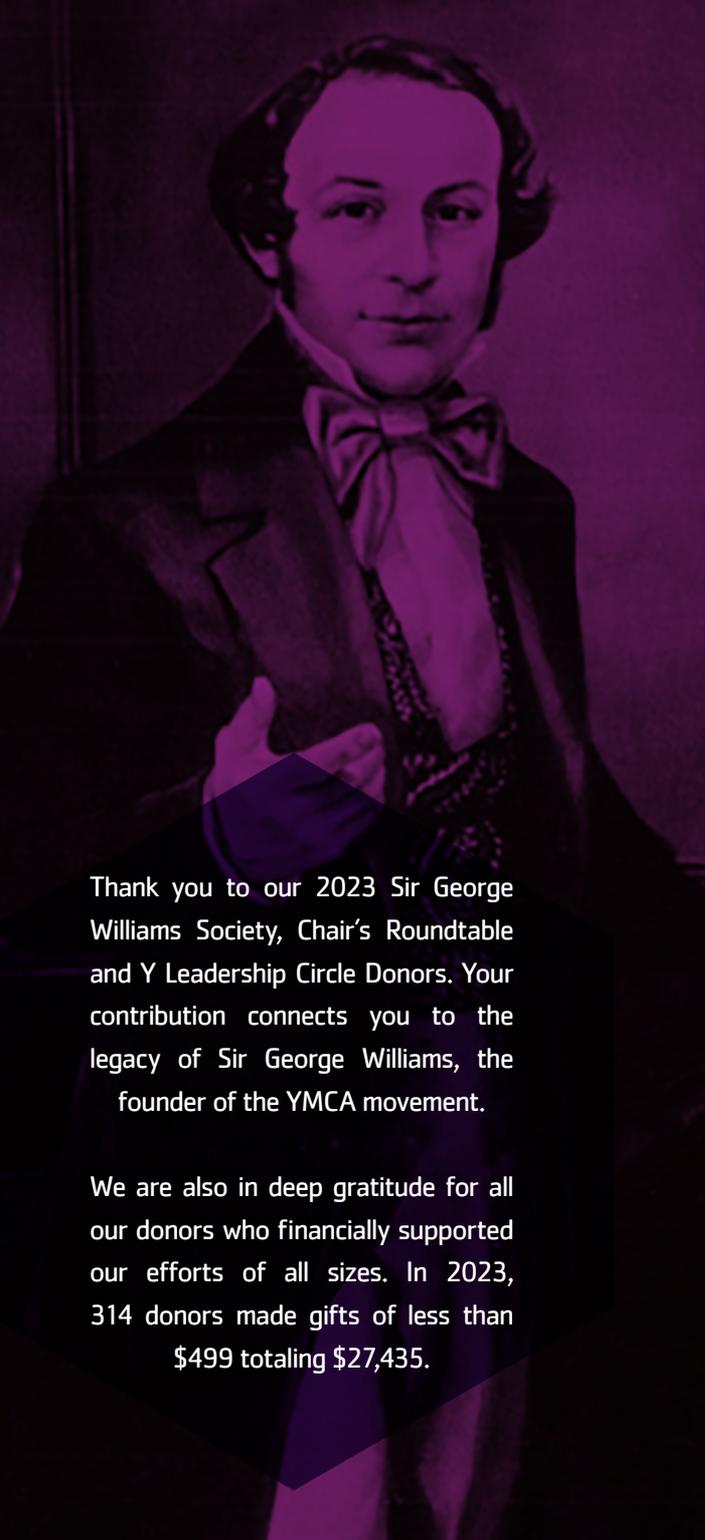
2023 FINANCIALS – INCOME SOURCES & EXPENDITURES



LEADERSHIP TEAM

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Stephen Smith | President |
| Karen Mathison | Vice President of Financial Development |
| Katie McCormick | Vice President of Marketing and Communication |
| Ely Mercil | Vice President of Buildings and Grounds |
| Britt Selbo | Vice President of Administration |
| Lorrie Thoemke | Vice President of Learning Centers |
| Katie Anderson | Food Program Director |
| Rachel Bergquist | Talent Acquisition Specialist |
| Kelly Billings | Camp Director |
| Lindsey Boles | Learning Center Regional Director |
| Ashleigh Brown | Annual Campaign and Development Director |
| Chans Brown | Fitness Director |
| Taylor Filipek | School Age Learning Center Site Director |
| Casey Greving | Human Resources Generalist |
| Stephanie Grow | Learning Center Regional Director |
| Corinna Hanson | Learning Center Site Director |
| Brandon Henn | Learning Center Site Director |
| Ann Holmes | Schlossman Regional Director |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Bellami Jensen | Learning Center Site Director |
| Sommer Julsrud | School Age Learning Center Site Director |
| Nicole Linman | Schlossman Site Director |
| Cierra Meisch | School Age Learning Center Site Director |
| Collins Mutegi | Technology Director |
| Misty Nelson | Financial Controller |
| Brittany Olson | Learning Center Training and Support Director |
| Alexis Ordaz | Learning Center Site Director |
| Aliyah Ott | Youth and Family Program Director |
| Andrew Reinert | Assistant Technology Director |
| Jennifer Reiser | West Fargo Regional Director |
| Heather Sauer | Aquatics Director |
| Kari Uzzle | Learning Center Operations Director |
| Cortney Whaley | Human Resources Generalist |
| Katelyn Whittenburg | Group Fitness Director |
| Alyssa Wixo | Membership Director |
| Sarah Wolf | School Age Learning Center Site Director |
| Tania Zerr | Learning Center Executive Director |



Thank you to our 2023 Sir George Williams Society, Chair's Roundtable and Y Leadership Circle Donors. Your contribution connects you to the legacy of Sir George Williams, the founder of the YMCA movement.

We are also in deep gratitude for all our donors who financially supported our efforts of all sizes. In 2023, 314 donors made gifts of less than \$499 totaling \$27,435.

INSPIRING A SPIRIT OF GIVING

The Sir George Williams Society

\$10,000 and above

Olaf Anderson & Son Construction
Cass County Electric Cooperative
Foundation
Corwin Automotive
Drew Corwin
Tanner Corwin
Tim Corwin
Dan Wilson
Marvin Composites+
Sanford Health
United Way of Cass-Clay
West Central Initiative Foundation
YMCA Cass & Clay Counties
Endowment Fund
YMCA of the USA

Chairs' Roundtable

\$5,000 and above

Bank of the West
Dr. Julie Blehm
Dakota Medical Foundation
FM Area Foundation
Jamie & Chloe King+
B.J. & Sarah Knutson
Ann McConn+

\$2,500 and above

Dan & Shelly Armbrust
Barry & Julien Batcheller+
BCBSND Community Foundation
Jeff & Kathy Botnen
Construction Engineers
Tom & Georgia Dawson
Paul & Debbie Finstad
Forum Communications Company
Kiwanis Club of Fargo
North Dakota Community Foundation

Nokomis Endowment Fund
RD Offutt Company
William & Mary Schlossman
Jeff Thomas & Susan Solheim
Dr. Richard & Mary Warner
West Fargo VFW/Arthur W. Jones
Post No. 7564

\$1,000 and above

Dave Akkerman
Alerus Financial
Brian & Cindy Becker
Bell Bank
Big Cormorant Lake Association
Steffen Christensen
Curtis Christopherseon
Cornerstone Bank
Stephanie Dean
Terry & Carmen Delaney
Jeffery Duerr+
Walter & Verna Gehrts Fund
Paul Greiving
John & Judy Gunkelman
Jack & Linda Hendrickson
Michael Howell
Jerry & Nancy Huffman
Aaron & Ali Jones
KBBA, LLC
John & Elizabeth Lyngstad
Harold & Dorothy Madson Foundation
R. Tracy & Diane Myers
Robert Nelson+
Offutt Family Foundation
Ronald & Lynette Pederson
Phelps & Rocha Fund
Robert Gibbs & Sons
Dean Scheeler
Brad & Carol Schlossman
Stephen & Lucia Schroeder
Britt Selbo
Carol Sisler+

Sam & Laneil Skaff
Patricia Skognes Fund
Stephen & Marianne Smith
Softplay Solutions, USA LLC
Chad & Jennifer Stark+
Swanholm Giving Fund+
Target+
The Barry Foundation
The Nines
Jerry & Lorrie Thoemke
Verne & Rebecca Ulven
Michael & Kimberly Vannett
Andy & Erin Westby
1 donor who wishes to be anonymous

The Y Leadership Circle

\$500 and above

Robert Ames
Angie Baumann
Greg Bjerke
Rick Buresh
Joseph Dawson
Patrick DeLaPointe
Carolyn Espel
Gethsemane Cathedral
FM Walleyes
FM Muskies
Harley Haug
High Point Networks, LLC.
Dale Larson
Jack Marcil
Marsh & McLennan Agency
Mid America Steel
Ron Miller
Laura Morris
Peterson Mechanical, Inc.
Kenneth Retzer
Tom Rohleder
SCHEELS
Shellie Widmer
West Acres Development, LLP

Donors with a + are new to our Chair's Roundtable in 2023.



FOREVER TEACHING

In 2023, we drove 155,000 miles getting children to field trips, to camp, the park, and other places of fun and learning!





The Heritage Club is a special group of YMCA donors, listed below, who are making a lasting investment in our community through their financial commitment to the YMCA Endowment Fund or by including the YMCA of Cass & Clay Counties in their planning. They want to ensure that our Y is here to serve future generations

HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS Last updated February 2024

Dr. Paul & Connie Abrahamson
Robert J.* & Doris E.* Alin
Elizabeth Almie*
Roger* & Betty Anda
Marlene H. Anderson*
Bob* & Phyllis Anderson
William & Tamala Anderson
Todd & Carol Anhorn
Dan & Shelly Armbrust
Mary Ann Armbrust
George* & Janet Arnold
Peggy Atherton
Charles* & Helen Bailly
David & Janet Bailly
Dr. Richard & Margaret Bailly
Robert & Georgia Bakkum
Michael W. Barner*
Mark Bartle
Jay & Naomi Bartley

John & Janet Bartley
Stewart* & Mary Jane* Bass
Barb Belcher
Dale* & Diane* Beling
George* & Rachel* Benson
Arvid & Mary Ann Berg
Mr.* & Mrs. Paul Berglund
Rachel & Brady Bergquist
Mark & Barbara Bibelheimer
Terry* & Donna Bladholm
Dr. Julie Blehm
Tim & Kathy Bourdon
Kelley & Pat Boyum
Neal Bradburn
Bill* & Dina Brady
Lanny* & Lois Brantner
Duane & Sara Brasch
John & Joanne Bridgeford
Robert* & Cassie Brostrom

Julien M. Burkness*
Craig & Deb Campbell
Jeremy & Billie Carlson
Charles* & Roberta Carney
Dr. Steffen P. Christensen
Mr.* & Mrs.* S.P. Christensen, Sr.
David Cole
Prentiss* & Joyce* Cole
Steve* & Shelly Connelly
William & Joyce Cowman
Eugene R.* & Lila E.* Dahl
Ken & Margaret Dahl
James Dawson*
Robert* & Edith* Dawson
Stephen & Vicki Dawson
Thomas C. & Georgia R. Dawson
Kirk* & Stephanie Dean
Warren* & Irene* Diederich
John* & Kathryn Dixon III
Marlene Eash*
Michael* & Lois* Dobervich
Jack* & Wanda Duis

Brian Ehлке
Arnold L. Ellingson
Keith A. Ellingson
Robert Engen
Adeline J. Erickson*
Armond* & Nancy* Erickson
John Ermer*
Mr.* & Mrs. Pierce Fairchild
J.D. Farnum*
Mercille Fellbaum*
Dr. Cal & Doris* Fercho
William Fercho
Charles* & Carol Feste
Paul & Debbie Finstad
Philip & Donna Fitzgerald
Darlene Schmidt Fortune
Mr.* & Mrs.* Edwin Foss
Mark B. Foss*
Mr.* & Mrs.* M.O. (Mac) Foss Jr.
Russell & Susan Freeman
Lawrence Fritz*
Pete & Pat Fullerton
Lorraine & Bruce W. Furness

Loehle Gast
Trenton & Sarah Gerads
Gregory D. & Dianne Gibb
Mr.* & Mrs. Donald Gibb
Mr.* & Mrs. Robert Gibb Sr.
Henry Gilbertson*
David & Jane* Gordon
Paul Granum
Paul & Harriet* Greving
Jeff & Cindy Grewe
Charlie & Helen Grommesh
Jane Grove
Warren* & Sheila Gullickson
J. Paul* & Inez Gunkelman
R.F. (Tod)* & Dolores* Gunkelman
R. Frank & Patricia Gunkelman
John & Judy Gunkelman Jr.
Dale* & Grace* Haakenstad
Tom Hall
Bruce & Gloria Halland
Harold & Pat Halvorson
Cher & Terry Hambrecht
Don Hamilton*
Ted* & Dee* Hanson
Donald & Glenda Haugen
Brian Hayer
Harold L.* & June Hayer
Charles* & Helen* Hedelund
Mel Heim*
David J. Heimdahl*
Grant* & Phyllis Herreid
Donald C. Holand*
Estate of John E. Holing
Dennis & Val* Holmgren
James & Carol Horvath
Dr. L. Michael & Michela Howell
Dr. William & Carolyn Hunter
Bernice W. Ihlenfeld*
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Jacobson
Thomas Jefferson
Douglas Johnson
Wayne & Erna Johnson
Ralph & Darlene J. Jose

Gordon* & Bea* Kartenson
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Kleist
Al & Sandy Knoll
B.J. & Sarah Knutson
Jeff & Ruby Kolpack
Arnold Kuhn & Susan Rust Kuhn
Dr.* & Mrs. Donald Lamb Sr.
R. Douglas & Sally Larsen
Dale R. & Marilyn D. Larson
Earl* & Jean* Lee
Jean & Oscar* Lindgren
C. Warner* & Betty* Litten
Dr. Apolinario Luistro*
George & Evonne Lund
Mr.* & Mrs. James G. Lund
Raymond* & Charlotte* Maas
Mr.* & Mrs. Dale MacKenzie
Philip C.* & Norma* Mann
Jack G. Marcil
William C. & Jane Marcil
David & Mary Maring
Dorwin & Carol Marquardt
Lee & Linda Massey
Karen R. Mathison
Butch & Ann McConn
Dr. & Mrs. James McCulley
L. Patrick & Sonia McManus
Philip & Jennifer McShane
Dr. Glenn* & Phyllis* Melvey
Rock & Brenda Messerschmidt
Mr.* & Mrs. Charles Moses
FM Crusaders Motorcycle Club
Herman* & Agnes* Natwick
Donovon* & Mary Nelson
Eric & Jean Nelson, in memory of Ollie* & Ann* Nelson
Greg Nelson
Mr. & Mrs. Roger D. Nelson
Ollie* & Ann* Nelson, in memory of Karl Edwin Nelson*
Brent & Laura Nichols
Kathy & Michael Nordness
Billy & Marcia Nustad

Robert Odney
Mr.* & Mrs.* Lewis H. Oehlert
Denis J.* & Linda* Olson
Steven B.* & Carol A. Olson
Howard & Stella Osborn
Aliyah Ott
John Q. & Margo* Paulsen
Gary & Jennifer Paulsrud
Ron & Lynette Pederson
Wayne Perlenfein*
Judy & Darold Peterson
David & Vickie Piepkorn
H. Donald* & Clara* Piepkorn
William & Donna Piper
Sonja Poer
Joseph Powers
Bradley & Beverly Pratt
Gregory Pratt
William R.* & Phyllis C. Pratt
Bill* & Jean Prentice
Ken & Jan Promersberger
Donna K. Reed
Merril Reinhiller*
Noell Reinhiller
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Rodenburg
Eric & Sara Rogne
Dave & Beth Rogness
Mr.* & Mrs. J. David Rostad
Glen P. Running
John & Cydney Runsvold
Paul & Cindee Sather
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Schaefer
Mr. & Mrs. Al Scharidin
Bradley & Carol Schlossman
Jeffrey Schlossman
William A. Schlossman
Wilbur Schumacher
David Schwab
Gregory B. & Pam K. Selbo
Lyle* & Jean* Selbo
Margaret H. Selland
Mr.* & Mrs.* Chester Serkland
Al & Mary Severson

Michael & Kris* Sheridan
Dr. E. Kent Shirley
John & Annette Shotwell Jr.
Ed* & Susan* Simonson
Mr.* & Mrs.* A.K. Simpson
Richard* & Carol Sisler
Sam, Jr. & Laneil Skaff
Sam Skaff*
Gale & Barb Skjoiten
Robert & Sharon Smith
Stephen & Marianne Smith
Richard & Jo Ellen Solberg
Gregg Sorenson
Earl* & Kathryn Stein
Richard Stern & Nancy Torson
Ed Stern*
Reed & Vicki Stigen
Jacque & Louise Stockman
John F. & Mary Jo W. Stockman
A.K.* & Bertha* Stromme
Robert C.* & Betty Tallman
Jerry & Lorrie Thoenke
Michael & Molly Thomas
Dr. David & Sharon Tranby
Del Tysdal
Franklin J. VanOsdel
Tim* & Gerry VavRosky
Dick & Jane Walstad
Dr. Richard & Mary Warner
Bob & Susan Wefald
Paul Werner
Herbert* & Ione* Werner
John Whittlesey*
Glenn & Nadine* Williams
John B. & Murial H. Wimbush
David & Beverly Wirth
Tom Wold
Tania Zerr
Three donors who wish to remain anonymous

**In Memoriam*



FOREVER
NOURISHING



3,657 individual children received meals and snacks.

FIND YOUR REASON TO GIVE

The thoughtful investments of our donors are what have made the work of the Y this past year possible, and the generosity of our partners is what will guide us forward.

For more information on how to become a part of this distinguished group of donors, please contact Karen Mathison at 701.364.4115 or mathison@ymcacassclay.org.



BY MAIL

400 1st Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103



ONLINE

ymcacassclay.org/give



VOLUNTEERING

By volunteering whatever your talents and interests, we have a way to put them to use for the betterment of our community. give@ymcacassclay.org

The Power of Community. *Realized.*

**United
Way**



United Way of Cass-Clay

Community Partner

We do our best to ensure that the donor list is accurate; we apologize for any errors or omissions. We are truly grateful for your support, and if you are not presented correctly, please let us know so that we may accurately acknowledge your gift in the future at give@ymcacassclay.org





YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties
400 1st Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103