

Community Progress Initiative

The Community Progress Initiative is a bold 3-year program in South Wood County and Rome to create vibrant communities with prosperous local economies. The project aims to:

- Stimulate new enterprises, resulting in additional job opportunities.
- Create a business-friendly environment and empower entrepreneurs.
- Build the area's endowed charitable assets to support sustainable community development.
- Motivate emerging young leaders to drive positive change.
- Inspire community spirit and pride.

Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Vision:

Wisconsin Rapids, Biron, Grand Rapids, and surrounding townships

The Wisconsin Rapids area is a close-knit inclusive community that:

- celebrates diversity,
- supports and promotes the arts and special events, and
- offers a hip, cosmopolitan, and bustling downtown.

It supports a thriving, diversified economy in a healthy environment, and through a strategy of regional branding supports the development of businesses and entrepreneurship. Unique recreational and tourism opportunities are abundant and anchored by a historic downtown/riverfront neighborhood.

Wisconsin Rapids Area Fund Committee:

Tom Marshall
Jackie Bredl-Dietrich
Dan Huotari
Gary Rosencrans
Lorraine Schmutzer

The Community Foundation of South Wood County has been building endowed assets to support the changing needs of our community since 1994. Today, the Foundation administers more than 240 charitable funds created by individuals and organizations that want to give something back to their community.



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

Community Foundation of South Wood County
478 East Grand Avenue
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
Phone: 715 423-3863
www.cfswc.org

For good. For ever.™

BARKER • MEAD FUND

ESTABLISHED BY RUTH & HARTLEY BARKER AND GILBERT & JAYLEE MEAD

Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Progress Fund

Plant The Seed Endow Your Community!



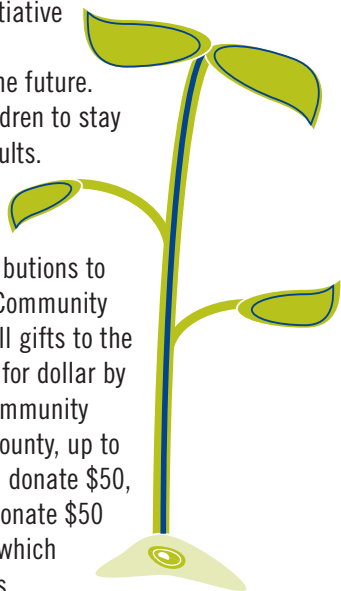
make it happen!
**Community
Progress**
INITIATIVE

Plant The Seed Endow Your Community!

The Community Progress Initiative is all about improving our communities, now and for the future. We want a place for our children to stay or return to when they are adults.

You can plant the seed now for a stronger community by making contributions to the Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Progress Fund. Right now, all gifts to the fund will be matched dollar for dollar by the Barker Mead Fund at Community Foundation of South Wood County, up to \$20,000. For example, if you donate \$50, the Barker Mead Fund will donate \$50 to match your contribution, which means the Wisconsin Rapids Fund grows by a total of \$100.

Our goal is to raise \$70,000 to get this fund started, and we need your help. Please read on to see how the Wisconsin Rapids Area Fund will benefit our area:



What is the Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Progress Fund

The Wisconsin Rapids Area Fund is an endowment fund—the total of all combined donations into a permanent account. These donations are invested for the long-term for a common purpose: *To support unique progress/community improvement opportunities within the Wisconsin Rapids area as identified by the citizens of Wisconsin Rapids, Biron, Grand Rapids and surrounding townships.*

The principal of the fund is never spent; it is “endowed” and available for growth in perpetuity. As the account earns interest and dividends over time, a portion of the earnings is distributed annually in the form of grants that support the goals of the Wisconsin Rapids area, consistent with the Community Progress Initiative.



Who can apply for a grant

Grant proposals that will benefit the Wisconsin Rapids area may be submitted by local 501c3 organizations, locally recognized nonprofits, or community improvement projects.



How are grant distributions determined

The Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Progress Committee, made up of Wisconsin Rapids Area citizens, will review applications at regular intervals and, based upon grant guidelines, will decide which proposals to fund.

Thanks to the generosity of the Barker Mead Fund at Community Foundation of South Wood County, the Wisconsin Rapids Area Fund will have an initial \$5,000 for grant-making. Future grant funds will come from the earnings of the endowment fund.



How can I help

You may donate directly to the Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Progress Fund, or you may establish a personal, named endowment fund that will support it in perpetuity. Common types of contributions are: cash or appreciated securities; memorial or honorary gifts; bequests; life insurance; and planned contributions over a specific period of time.

Contributions to the Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Progress Fund are pooled, professionally invested, and administered by Community Foundation of SWC.



Where do I donate

You may use the attached form, or contribute online at www.cfswc.org.

Contribute/Pledge by mail or online www.cfswc.org

Gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law.



YES, I want to support the Wisconsin Rapids Area Community Progress Fund.

Name

Address

City, State & Zip

Daytime Telephone

Email Address

- My \$ _____ contribution is enclosed.
- I pledge \$ _____; please contact me.
- I recommend this contribution be made from my Donor Advised Fund at Community Foundation of SWC.
- I would like more information; please contact me.

Please make checks payable to:

Wisconsin Rapids Area Fund

**Mail to:
Community Foundation of South Wood County
478 E. Grand Ave.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494**

Thank you for your contribution!