

2020  
2021

# ANNUAL REPORT



**JOHN T. VUCUREVICH  
FOUNDATION**

*...to make a piece of the world a brighter place.*



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# Leadership REPORT

## PERSEVERANCE...

*'Continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition.'* **Merriam-Webster.**

To say that 2020 and 2021 required perseverance would be an understatement. Who could anticipate we would be faced with a pandemic that would change nearly all aspects of how we lived our lives and conducted our work? Thankfully, the relationships built and the collaborations existing prior to the pandemic, helped the John T. Vucurevich Foundation navigate this difficult time.

Our Board of Directors quickly recognized the need to put on hold our regular grantmaking to prioritize our response to Covid-19. Our founder John himself would oftentimes respond to crisis and critical events happening in the community. It was a bedrock for what he believed in and we strive to carry on his philanthropic spirit. Focusing on medical, food security, housing/homeless, behavioral health, education/childcare/youth supports and government programs the Foundation hosted frequent Zoom meetings with nearly 40 representatives from area organizations to identify immediate needs and strategize quick responses. In 2020, the Foundation awarded over \$1 million in Covid-19 quick response grants. With the incredible work by our nonprofit and government partners, the negative impact of the pandemic was lessened for many in our community.

Despite the pandemic, our non-profit community continued their initiatives, modifying practices where needed to ensure safety of staff and program participants. We were excited to see the opening of the OneHeart transformation campus in January 2021! This campus, the staff and the partner agencies are helping to reduce homelessness, improve housing stability and create a new start for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

Over the past two years, the issue of affordable housing has come to a boiling point. We are pleased to see CommonBond Communities preparing to break ground on their first housing project in Rapid City. This not only brings affordable housing into our community, but also support services for tenants, making CommonBond a unique provider in this area.

We are committed to driving change in affordable housing. In October 2021 the Board of Directors made its largest one-time grant

by investing \$5,000,000 into the Rapid City Strategic Housing Trust Fund to be used for matching other public/private contributions.

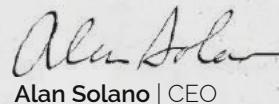
Early learning continues as another major area of focus through our investments in Black Hills Reads, Starting Strong and Early Learner Rapid City. John Vucurevich was a believer in the power of education, and we are pleased to support our earliest learners along with our adult learners through programs like Uplifting Parents, Workforce Connections and our post-secondary scholarships.

To achieve our vision of a compassionate community promoting life-long prosperity for all, we recognize the need for all of us to become more poverty informed and to see the issue of poverty through a different lens. Since 2014, the Prosperity Initiative has provided community training, a coaches network and programming to support our efforts. We have gone through a re-launch of our Prosperity Initiative, now called Different Lens. We invite and encourage all members of our community to participate in one of the community education and awareness opportunities.

In 2021 we launched the 4th Cadre of Emerging Leaders, a group of 30 diverse individuals from the area who form learning labs and develop leadership skills through identifying and working on community projects. This Cadre will be working to support three key initiatives/programs: a re-launch of our Prosperity Initiative, Early Learner Rapid City and the Crisis Stabilization Unit. We are excited to see the work of these Emerging Leaders throughout the year.

Sadly, 2021 did see the passing of Dale Clement, a dear friend, colleague, and advisor to the Foundation. Dale Clement and John Vucurevich held a special bond. So much so, that John named Dale as a lifetime member to the Board. Dale provided many years of leadership to the Foundation for which we are grateful.

As a private foundation, we have benefited from the hard work and foresight of our founder, John Vucurevich. Purchasing his first bank in 1951, John went on to successfully own dozens of banks over the years. In 2018, the board of directors, with the leadership of Dale Clement, made the prudent decision to diversify our investments holdings by selling the remaining banks and investing in a variety of marketable securities. In 2021, the Foundation made grants totaling more than \$12 million while ending the year with an asset value of our investments over \$193 million. As stewards of John's legacy, we are committed to his vision of 'making a piece of the world a brighter place.'



Alan Solano  
CEO



Steve Zellmer  
Board Chairman

# Board OF DIRECTORS



*Eric John Abrahamson*



*Dale E. Clement*



*Sandy Diegel*



*David Emery*



*Jennifer Trucano*



*Tom Vucurevich*



*Steve Zellmer*

# Staff



*Alan Solano*



*Jessica Gromer*



*Jessica Olson*



*Shelly Adams*

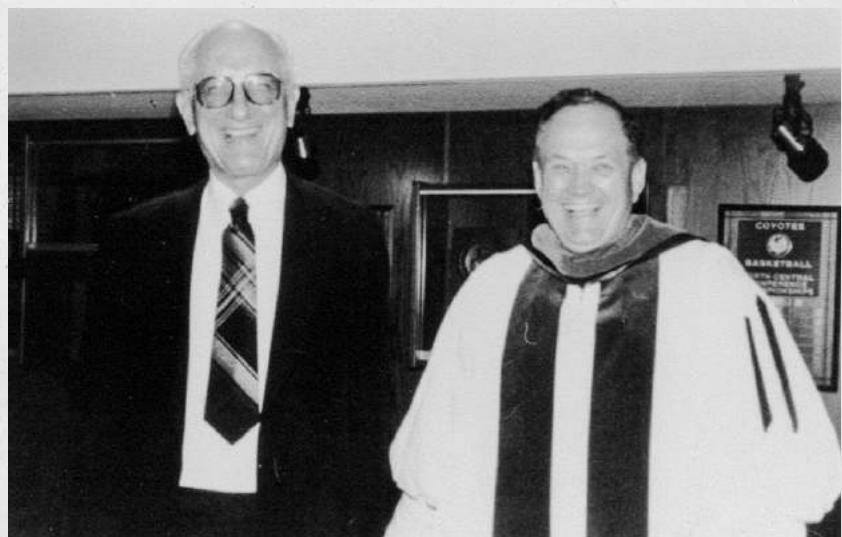


## OUR Founder

The John T. Vucurevich Foundation, a private independent foundation awarded its first grant in 1989. The Foundation became fully funded in 2007 following the death of its founder, John T. Vucurevich. John was born in Yugoslavia in 1912 and at the age of eight, immigrated to the United States and settled in Lead, SD where he attended public school. John worked in a variety of jobs and owned several businesses, but his real passion became banking after purchasing his first bank in 1951. He also owned numerous real estate investments throughout his lifetime. John was a generous philanthropist to a variety of causes during his life and he wanted his philanthropy continued through his Foundation.



As a loyal friend to John T. Vucurevich, Dale faithfully served the John T. Vucurevich Foundation with strength and fortitude for over 30 years. His leadership, mentorship, generosity, and kindness will guide us always. Dale's hearty laughs and big smile leave us with memories to treasure. Dale was admired and loved, and he will be missed.



*John T. Vucurevich and Dale Clement. If you knew Dale, you can hear his laughter in this photo.*

**With the foresight  
and guidance provided  
by our board, the John T.  
Vucurevich Foundation  
continues to strive towards  
its Vision and Mission.**

# Vision

*In sharing John's vision of making a piece of the world a brighter place, we envision a compassionate community promoting life-long prosperity for all. The Foundation will support this vision through strategic initiatives, funding priorities and collaboration with partners who promote long-term sustainable change.*

# Mission

*The John T. Vucurevich Foundation invests in organizations to enhance the quality of life for disadvantaged individuals and families with an emphasis on building prosperity from cradle to career.*

# Speaker SERIES

John T. Vucurevich began the speaker series in 1993 to bring to Rapid City the unique opportunity to listen to foreign dignitaries and others with diverse view points on a multitude of topics. Ticket sales cover only a portion of the event with the remaining cost paid for by the John T. Vucurevich Foundation.

*JTVF is excited to provide the Speaker Series again, hopefully in 2022, when it is safe to do so.*



# Different LENS

Different Lens, formerly known as the Prosperity Initiative, is an initiative to help the Rapid City community become poverty informed. When a community strives to understand poverty through a 'different lens', systems change becomes possible. For individuals and families trying to get out of the crisis of poverty it can seem like an impossible challenge, but it is possible. Through community awareness, training and collaboration JTVF will continue to prioritize poverty informed decision making to create long-term systems change.

**Collaboration and being poverty informed are at the heart of JTVF's grantmaking strategy.** A strong example of this collaboration and being poverty informed is the JumpStart Program, coordinated by the YMCA. The JumpStart Program initially started out serving students in high school who had children. The barrier of access to quality early learning opportunities was identified in families trying to get out of the crisis of poverty. The JumpStart program now also provides early learning experiences for children of clients in other JTVF grant funded programs. These programs include the Workforce Connections Program at the Career Learning Center, Uplifting Parents through Catholic Social Services, and OneHeart.



Career Learning Center  
of the Black Hills



2014

Catholic Social Services, in partnership with Love Inc., were chosen to lead the Prosperity Initiative with a 3-year grant provided by JTVF.

Dr. Donna Beegle came to Rapid City in 2014 to launch the Prosperity Initiative and train nearly 2,000 individuals on understanding poverty.

2015

Three components of the Prosperity Initiative up and going in full swing:

1. The Prosperity Coaches Network
2. Pathways to Prosperity  
A navigator/mentor program
3. Community education training called Poverty 101 provided in the community

2016

Another 3-year grant provided to Catholic Social Services in partnership with Love Inc., to continue the work of the Prosperity Initiative.

## Different Lens Coaches Network Meetings:

The Coaches Network helps provide support, networking opportunities, and resources for the social services sector who are helping many individuals and families experiencing poverty.

The Different Lens Coaches receive in-depth training in the dynamics of poverty in our community. They learn methods for enhancing outcomes when working with those who are struggling in the crisis of poverty. Over 350 Coaches have been trained.

## Poverty 101 Trainings – Community Education and Awareness

- Learn about the different types of poverty, myths of poverty, and gain understanding about crisis living decisions
- Learn about what poverty looks like here locally in Rapid City
- Trainings are provided on a monthly basis

## *Seeing Poverty through a Different Lens*

**2018**

A Program Evaluation initiated with Benchmark Data Labs to understand the impact of the Prosperity Initiative and incorporate lessons learned moving forward with the initiative.

The Prosperity Coaches Network was evaluated to include a follow-up survey to assess poverty competency, poverty awareness, and integration of the Prosperity Initiative values. A strong majority of respondents indicated that the Prosperity Initiative Coaches Training influenced the way they approached their work.

**2020**

Oversight of this work transitioned to JTVF as the final grant concluded. A rebranding process began and in early 2022 the initiative was renamed to Different Lens. The Coaches Network and Community Education/Awareness efforts will continue.

**2019**

Nearly 350 Prosperity Coaches have been trained from over 40 organizations to help people achieve prosperity.

**2021**

# Affordable HOUSING

The issue of affordable housing continues to be a challenge in Rapid City and throughout the state.

Affordable Housing as defined by Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is a household paying less than 30% of its income towards housing costs, including rent/mortgage, utilities, and insurance/taxes.

JTVF is very involved in the work to address affordable housing. We are dedicated to local problem-solving and driving solutions for affordable housing in Rapid City. One such effort was bringing CommonBond Communities, based in Minnesota, to Rapid City. Additional projects continue to be explored with other developers.



The Radiant | 121 LaCrosse

**CommonBond Communities** is a provider of affordable housing and supportive services. CommonBond will be building a development on the corner of Omaha and LaCrosse Street. This site will allow the development of a 42-unit complex consisting of 16 one-bedroom, 14 two-bedroom and 12 three-bedroom units. CommonBond brings a high level of expertise to the area related to Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC). In addition to providing a quality home, CommonBond provides a wide array of services and supports to tenants. This project is one of the first to utilize the Strategic Housing Trust Fund to get this project up and going.

**Stable homes. Strong futures. Vibrant communities.**



An Affordable Housing Collaborative was formed consisting of a wide range of stakeholders



JTVF established an Affordable Housing Donor Advised Fund at the Black Hills Area Community Foundation and invested \$1,000,000



Partnered in a housing study conducted by Black Hills Knowledge Network. Participated in a Housing Summit with developers, banks, nonprofits, city and state stakeholders



Partnered in a 2nd Housing Summit with over 60 stakeholders. Partnered with CommonBond Communities to conduct a market study to see if Rapid City could be a location for CommonBond multi-family housing developments and services



**Affordable Housing**  
A HOUSEHOLD PAYS  
LESS THAN **30%**  
of its income towards  
housing costs.



**2019**

JTFV granted CommonBond \$3,231,000 for start-up costs and support services at their future housing sites for targeted to provide 400 units

**2020**

Actively participated in the newly established Rapid City Strategic Housing Trust Fund through Black Hills Area Community Foundation

**2021**

JTFV funded an additional \$1,000,000 to the Affordable Housing Donor Advised Fund to spur development of supportive and affordable housing in Rapid City. JTFV also provided its largest one time grant ever - a \$5,000,000 gift to be used to match public/private contributions into the Rapid City Strategic Housing Trust Fund.

# OneHeart

A Place for Hope & Healing is a transformation campus that gives people who are homeless or housing insecure a pathway to move out of poverty and into permanent housing and a better life.

JTVF is a funding partner for OneHeart and has been involved with the development of a model like this for over 15 years. In spite of the pandemic, our community's perseverance to get OneHeart open in 2021 was inspiring.



## In its first year of service:

- 38 households were served
- 179 total guests (including children)

# A place for hope & healing...

10



In April 2020 construction began on the four-acre property with preparation and anticipation for opening OneHeart in early 2021. January 4th, 2021 was opening day for the family tower and the provider building. By mid-March 2021 nearly 20 families were living at OneHeart. A newly constructed Cultural Building is now available for programming.

As part of the programming at OneHeart, guests set goals to guide their progress towards upward mobility and getting out of the crisis of poverty. A critical step towards getting

out of the crisis of poverty is through adult education. There were 10 guests enrolled in higher education and 29 guests enrolled in the GED program.

Other supportive services include: early learning opportunities for young children, resource navigation, medical and behavioral health providers, and a social enterprise coffee shop called Home Brew. The 3rd Cohort of Emerging Leaders completed some amazing projects to support the development of OneHeart, such as the proposal of Home Brew.

# Early Learner RAPID CITY

## What is Early Learner Rapid City?

Early Learner Rapid City is a community-driven, grass roots effort, under the umbrella of Early Learner South Dakota. Bringing awareness and support to the importance of how access to a variety of early learning environments impacts our community's future.

## Where does early learning take place?

Everywhere! In the home, classroom, friend's home, religious organizations, on the ranch and playground!

## Who is an early learner?

All children ages 0-8. A child in the home, preschool classroom, grandparent's house, foster home, places of worship, on the farm or ranch. Every child in our community is an Early Learner!

**Early Learner SD continues to reach communities across SD and now includes:**  
Rapid City, Lead-Deadwood, Brookings, Huron, Chamberlain-Oacoma, and Custer

These communities are bringing attention to the forefront that all children have access to high-quality early learning experiences and environments to create a solid foundation for lifelong success.

Early Learner South Dakota is actively seeking new communities. To find out how you can become involved visit [earlylearnersd.org](http://earlylearnersd.org)

## VISION:

*All children have access to high quality early learning experiences and environments to create a solid foundation for lifelong success.*

## Core Leadership Team for Early Learner Rapid City



JOHN T. VUCUREVICH  
FOUNDATION

*...to make a place of the world a brighter place.*



sdaeyc

South Dakota Association for the  
Education of Young Children

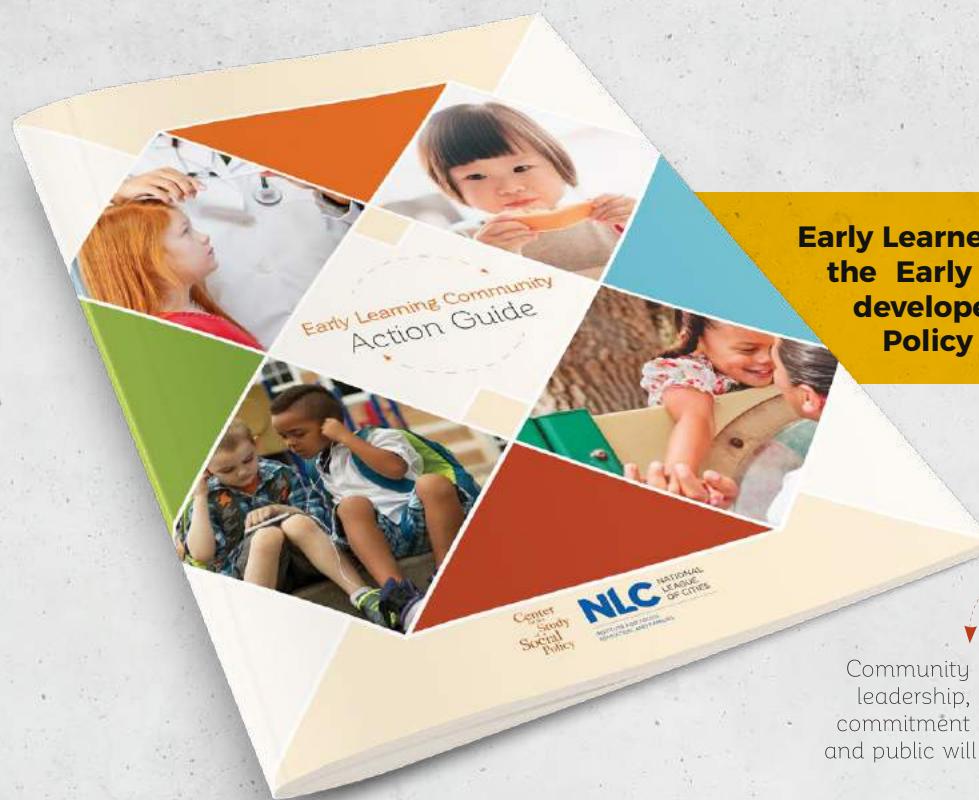
## Why?

All children are the future of our community. They are the next generation of parents, workforce and leaders. Data is clear, early access to quality learning for ALL children leads to healthier, thriving communities. Commitment to our future is rooted in community leadership, quality services that work for all young children and their families including backing local/ state policies and creating safe and caring neighborhoods that support families.

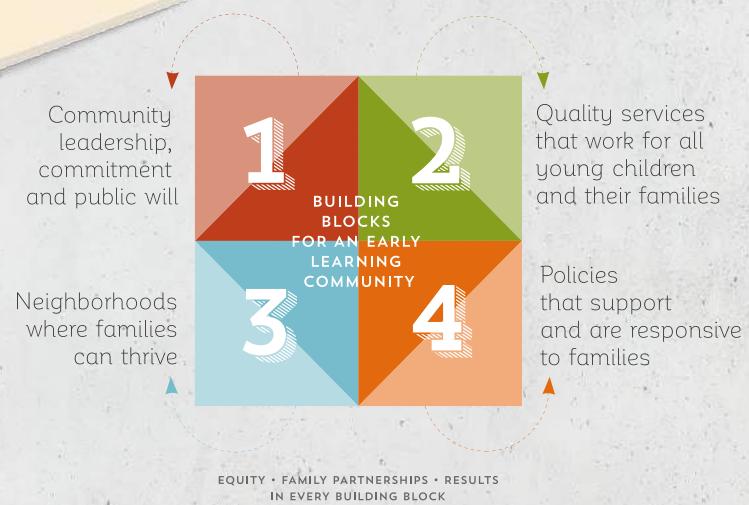
## Who is responsible for early learning?

You! Everyone can support early learning and our future.





**Early Learner Rapid City (ELRC) has been utilizing the Early Learning Community Action Guide developed by the Center for the Study of Social Policy and the National League of Cities.**



### Early Learner Rapid City Committee Accomplishments:

- Created Vision Statement and created one-pager information sheet on ELRC
- Developed 4 goals to guide the work of ELRC
- Have aligned and connected early learning goals to the Rapid City Comprehensive Plan, the Rapid City Downtown Area Master Plan and the Rapid City Cultural Plan
- Identified ongoing equity workgroup to ensure equity is embedded all of the Early Learner work
- Completed a community survey to assess what early learning means to the community and gain insight into where families get trusted information about their young children

- Will be developing 3 focus groups within the medical community, as the most trusted resources, to further assess views on early learning and what resources the medical community needs to support early learning
- Developed social media presence around early childhood health, learning and well-being
- Created rubric for vetting websites to recommend to parents and providers about early learning
- Installed Early Learner Rapid signs at Outdoor Campus West
- Developed a resource guide specifically for Rapid City early learner families, caregivers & providers that is available on the Early Learner SD website

# Emerging LEADERS

The John T. Vucurevich Foundation supports many collaborative initiatives within Rapid City. In order to include and inform as many community members as possible about those initiatives, the Emerging Leaders fellowship was developed. These community members work together on projects to support Rapid City community efforts while learning about the unique challenges that our community faces. In addition to projects, there are networking opportunities, trainings surrounding poverty, culture and trauma during the fellowship experience.

## What is an Emerging Leader?

The Emerging Leaders is a fellowship involving members of local government, nonprofits, faith-based communities, businesses, and grass roots citizens who share the common goal of improving the quality of life in Rapid City through participation in local collective impact efforts.

## Collective Impact:

Collective Impact is a community supported, structured approach to solving complex social problems. Actions are supported by a shared measurement system, mutually reinforcing activities, ongoing communication, and has oversight and organization by an independent backbone organization.

## Goals of Emerging Leaders:

Our goals are to make improvements in our community using a collective effort, one where citizens contribute their talents, skills, and perspectives for the betterment of all. We achieved this through education on the collective impact strategies and initiatives in Rapid City. Participants build mutually beneficial relationships amongst other fellows, community leaders, and local organizations while working together to develop solutions for community issues.



## Benefits:

Fellows are challenged to develop solutions to the problems prioritized by Rapid City's leaders in collective impact initiatives while gaining and enhancing communication and teamwork skills. These activities provide fellows a greater understanding of our community while building relationships with current leaders.

Rapid City currently has several collective impact initiatives in various phases of change. The Emerging Leaders cadres learn about each of these efforts as well as have an opportunity to support specific projects related to these existing endeavors.

**Since the Fellowship began in 2016, there have been over 100 graduates of the program.**



4th Cohort of Emerging Leaders

**JTVF is grateful to have started the 4th cohort of Emerging Leaders.**

This 4th cohort has Working Labs focused on the Crisis Stabilization Unit, Different Lens, and Early Learner Rapid City.

An exciting new component of the program was the beginning of alumni events. The first alumni event was held in December 2021 and was a wonderful time to engage with past participants, let graduates learn about the continued work going on in the community, and also learn about new work taking place.

# Covid-19

## IMPACTS ON SOUTH DAKOTA NONPROFITS

Benchmark Data Labs (BDL) was commissioned by the Western SD Funders Group to analyze the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on South Dakota nonprofits.

The BDL survey and resulting report showed the pandemic had both immediate and long-lasting effects on nearly all the responding organizations.

*(BDL received 279 responses for Round 1 of the survey in April and 180 for Round 2 in October.)*

Nonprofit service models were forced to change rapidly, and although some organizations experienced a funding "surge" during the initial phase of the pandemic, many faced increased demands for service but with uncertainty about future funding and a diminished volunteer workforce.

**87%** of respondents reported being negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**64%** said donations and fundraising opportunities decreased.

**38%** were unable to meet clients in person.

Other negative impacts identified:  
the inability to retain staff, supply chain disruptions, and technology issues.

**BENCHMARK**  
DATA LABS

### BDL Nonprofit Survey Funders:



### An Initial Surge of Support



Needs for services increased and nonprofit delivery systems had to adjust their service models to keep people safe.

# Covid-19 RESPONSE

## JTVF COVID-19 Response:

- Placed our regular grantmaking on hold for a period of time to prioritize COVID-19 Response funding
- Streamlined our grantmaking process to quickly respond to pandemic related needs
- Awarded 52 COVID-19 Grants totalling \$1.127 Million (*see breakdown on following page*)
- Facilitated a weekly convening with area partners to provide a platform for collaboration and connection to understand current local needs and use our own area expertise to problem solve and create solutions
  - Purpose: Quickly identify needs organizations or clients were experiencing and network with the group to match up resources to the identified needs
  - Needs in the following areas were discussed with the larger group: medical, food security, housing and homelessness, childcare/ youth support, government/law enforcement, mental health and substance abuse, and community supports providers.
  - Subcommittees formed out of these Zoom meetings to further address areas of need and develop actionable responses
  - Nearly 40 participants consistently joined these weekly meetings via Zoom
- Strived to make data driven decisions to guide our COVID-19 response and strategy
  - Worked to understand what people were needing by staying apprised with Helpline Center 211
  - Collaborated with the Western SD Funders Group, to help commission a survey of SD nonprofits with Benchmark Data Labs

**Key collaborations that existed before the pandemic were critical to the community's response efforts and put our community in a better position to respond more quickly and effectively.**

## Lessons Learned During the Pandemic

Needs of the community and the needs of different sectors in the nonprofit industry came in waves. JTVF worked to stay apprised of these needs through COVID-19 meetings facilitated by JTVF and staying in touch with our area nonprofits.

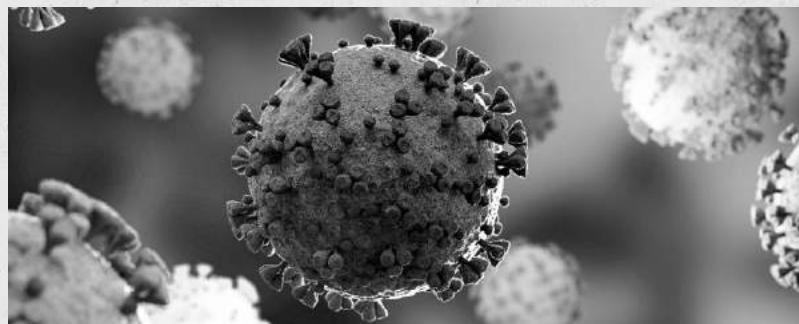
Key collaborations that existed before the pandemic were critical to the community's response efforts and put our community in a better position to respond more quickly and effectively.

### Some of these collaborations included:

- Friends of Food Security
- Western SD Funders Group
- Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition
- Black Hills Reads
- Systems of Care Collaborative

Some of our grants were simple in nature such as cleaning supplies or PPE; while others required more in-depth planning and partners had to creatively think outside of the box.

The pandemic highlighted even more how JTVF needs our partners to accomplish our mission.



# Covid-19 GRANTEE HIGHLIGHTS

## Friends of Food Security Volunteer Incentive Program

JTVF partnered with Black Hills Area Community Foundation to fund a volunteer incentive program to help 2 key organizations during the pandemic to address volunteer shortages and food insecurity needs.

Coordination support was provided by the Helpline Center.

Throughout the program 152 volunteers provided 4,258 volunteer hours to support Meals on Wheels and Feeding SD.



**FEEDING**  
SOUTH DAKOTA

**MEALS ON WHEELS**  
WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA  
TOGETHER, WE CAN DELIVER.

**helpline**  
center

**118**  
Students Impacted

**50**  
Volunteers

**1864**  
Volunteer Hours Donated

## Love Inc. SPARK

United Way, BHACF, and JTVF partnered with Love Inc. to develop Spark Study Spaces. Spark Study Spaces provided academic enrichment, educational and tutor support, along with internet access in a safe environment for RCAS students during e-learning Fridays.

This program served students on Fridays at 4 locations which included: Bethel Church, Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Faith Temple Church of God in Christ, and Rimrock Church Downtown. Volunteers were trained by the YMCA.

- Total students impacted whether for a short time or the complete year: 118 (average attendance each day was between 8-20 at each site)
- Total number of volunteers: 50
- Total number of volunteer hours donated this school year (2020-2021): 1864 hours

**LOVE** **INC**

**SPARK**  
STUDY SPACES

There were  
1,033 blood  
donations.

18



## United Way/Vitalant

Due to the pandemic, blood donations were down yet need increased drastically. The **"Make the Most of the Moment"** campaign was created where for every 100 blood donation appointments during the month of May 2020, \$5,000 would be donated to the United Way of the Black Hills COVID Fund to help our community.



Category	# of Grants	Total Funds Provided	Brief Description
Childcare	9	\$275,500	Assistance for increasing capacity due to CDC guidelines, retaining and recruiting staff, childcare provider loans
Food Security	11	\$256,000	Assistance for increased food costs, improving access to food
Housing/ Homelessness	7	\$240,000	Rental assistance, hotel/motel vouchers, emergency shelter
Other	10	\$131,000	Post-secondary student support funds, nonprofit survey, matching funds
Medical	6	\$101,000	PPE, materials for making masks, equipment for health screenings
Economic Assistance	2	\$75,000	Support to families affected by the pandemic
Technology	5	\$38,500	Technology related needs to deliver services and supports digitally
Government	5	\$10,000	Support for first responder personnel
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>\$1,127,000</b>	

**Covid-19  
RESPONSE  
GRANTS**

# Ongoing WORK

## STARTING STRONG

The Rapid City Starting Strong program, coordinated by Early Childhood Connections, provides a voluntary, community-based scholarship program to help 3 and 4-year old children from low income families access quality early education in partnership with qualified program providers of the parents' choice. Parents of eligible children can choose from five quality approved preschools in the Rapid City area. JTVF began its funding partnership with Starting Strong in 2010. Initially a school year program Starting Strong is now year-round. What started as 30 three year-olds and 30 four year-olds in 2011, has grown to 45 three year-olds and 55 four year-olds.



## BLACK HILLS READS

JTVF continues to be a proud funder of Black Hills Reads, a Campaign for Grade Level Reading Initiative with the United Way of the Black Hills since 2014. Nearly 100 area and state partners collaborate with BH Reads to help ensure children are proficient readers by the end of 3rd grade. The pandemic had an impact on the in-person school activities facilitated by BH Reads but great work continued.

- A comprehensive Data Dashboard was released in 2020 to gain more data for specific BH Reads programs, and also a focus on gathering data for the Black Hills Region and early learner data at a state level.
- Developed a Weekly Digest for providers, families, caregivers, etc. to access materials and activities for children ages 0-5 years old. Have continued this activity post-pandemic
- Facilitated the Black Hills Child Care Collaborative that met weekly at the onset of the pandemic to identify needs and brainstorm solutions for the childcare sector
- Partnered with National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) to do a child care needs survey to understand the needs of the childcare providers in SD during the pandemic
- BH Reads joined the leadership team for Early Learner Rapid City





## UPLIFTING PARENTS

Uplifting Parents (UP) empowers single parent families by providing resources and support to promote their achievement in education. The program helps lower-income single parents acquire the education needed to become financially secure and provide stability and opportunity for their children.

Uplifting Parents Coalition, led by Catholic Social Services is comprised of over 60 partnering agencies who refer clients into UP. Uplifting Parents continues the randomized control trial being completed with Notre Dame's Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities (LEO) through 2024. The study is examining whether UP increases college graduation rates for single parents. Early results show promising evidence of a large effect size for persistence in two-year and four-year degree programs.

Uplifting Parents has served 130 single parents and their families from 2014 through 2021.



## POST-SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Our Founder, John Vucurevich consistently invested in the education of post-secondary students of all ages. JTVF continues John's legacy of support by providing scholarships to improve access to students who otherwise may not have the opportunity to pursue further education. For the 2020-2021 & 2021-2022 academic school years, JTVF awarded \$620,000 annually in scholarships to 5 institutions. For 2022-2023 academic year scholarships were increased to \$775,000 to be provided to the 5 institutions.



SOUTH DAKOTA  
STATE UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA

# A Look AHEAD

## COMMUNITIES THAT CARE

The Rapid City Systems of Care Collaborative (SOCC) is comprised of representatives from local behavioral health youth serving organizations. SOCC chose the Communities that Care (CTC) youth prevention model to help increase protective factors and decrease risk factors in youth. The SOCC voted unanimously to move forward with implementing CTC in the Rapid City community.

JTVF partnered with United Way of the Black Hills Mental Health Initiative along with the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) to coordinate and implement Communities that Care (CTC). CTC is a community-based prevention system proven to reduce youth health and behavior problems community wide. CTC provides a structure for:

- engaging community stakeholders
- establishing a shared community vision
- assessing levels of risk and protection in communities
- prioritizing risk and protective factors in youth
- setting specific, measurable community goals



In 2021, community key leaders were identified and engaged in the CTC model, with nearly 40 key leaders completing CTC orientation. A Community Board has been developed and is now organizing into committees to begin the next steps of this model. If interested in learning more or engaging with this work please reach out to JTVF.





## **WEST RIVER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ALLIANCE**

The West River Behavioral Health Alliance (WRBHA) held its first meeting in March 2017 to discuss options for the community's behavioral health patients. To better understand those needs a study was commissioned with the Helmsley Charitable Trust. In December 2019 the National Council for Behavioral Health presented its report on Pennington County's Behavioral Health Continuum of Care.

### **Main goals of the study were:**

- Identify the strengths and opportunities that currently exist in the county and understand the effectiveness of the existing structures, providers, and programs in addressing community need;
- Identify gaps in the current system;
- Engage key community members in the planning effort; and
- Provide recommendations about an ideal service array

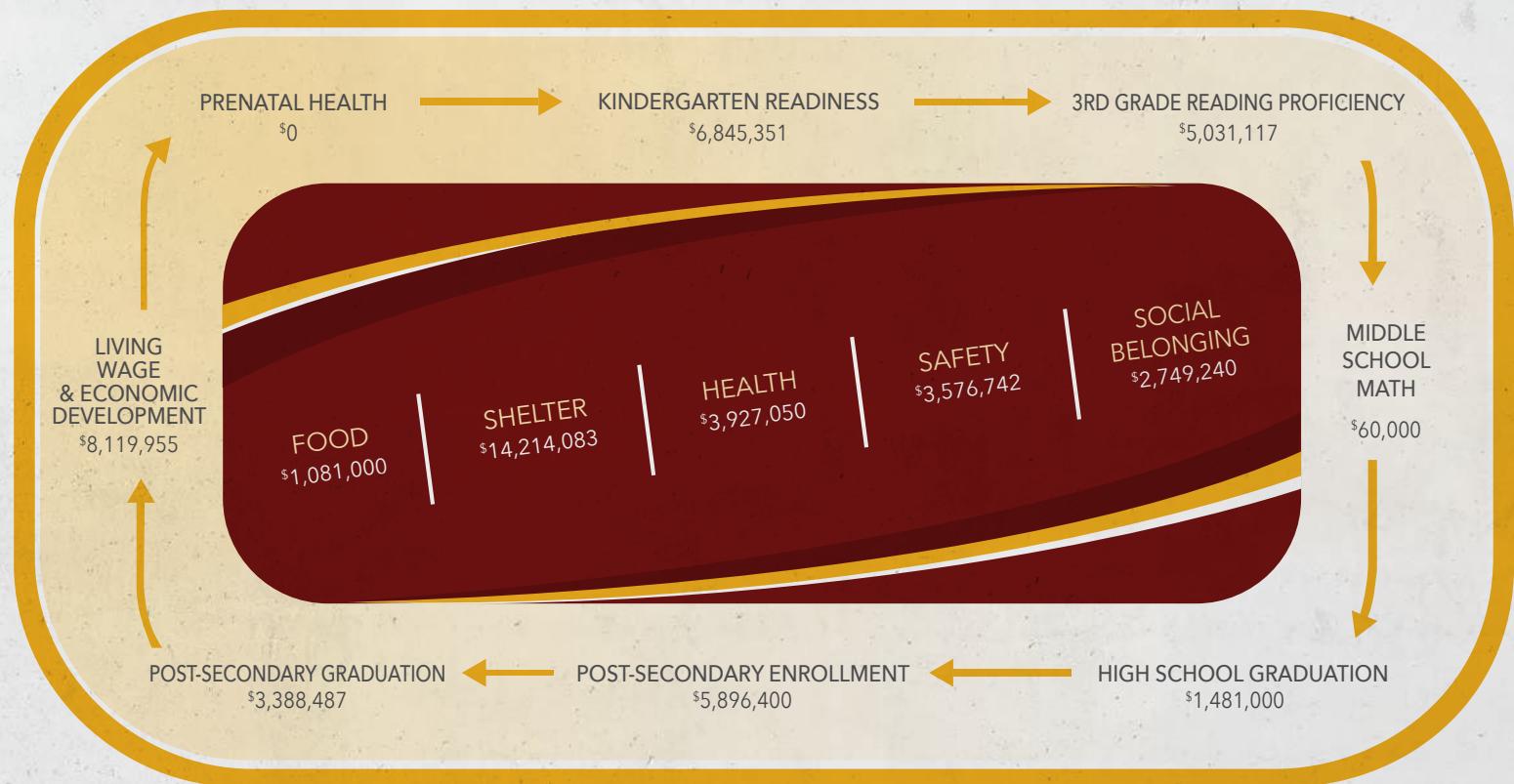
**The study resulted in 13 recommendations provided in the report and throughout 2020 WRBHA collaborated to prioritize 3 recommendations and begin taking action:**

1. Develop a Crisis Stabilization Unit at the Care Campus. This will provide individuals up to a 5-day stay
2. Develop/Expand telehealth services
3. Expand the capacity for psychiatry services in the area



# Funding STRATEGY

The graphic below is a visual of our grantmaking strategy called our *Moving from Poverty to Prosperity Infographic*. This infographic helps JTVF continue to gain knowledge in the key intervention/outcome points and guide our funding priority areas moving forward.



# Financial REPORT

	2021	2020
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Assets	\$4,941,762	\$7,364,226
Investments	\$190,465,556	\$179,197,576
Property and Equipment	\$7,205	\$16,207
Investments Held in Trust	\$1,215,793	\$1,066,232
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$196,630,316</b>	<b>\$187,644,242</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Current Liabilities	\$1,356,226	\$1,782,020
Other Liabilities	\$4,544,782	\$5,330,189
Net Assets	\$190,729,308	\$180,532,034
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$196,630,316</b>	<b>\$187,644,242</b>
Revenues	\$22,574,637	\$23,645,752
Expenses	\$12,377,363	\$6,845,474
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$10,197,274	\$16,800,278
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$180,532,034	\$163,731,756
Net Assets End of Year	\$190,729,308	\$180,532,034

# 2020 GRANTS Awarded

## A COVID-19 Response Fund. . . . . \$1,127,000

JTVF has provided COVID-19 Response Funding to various organizations focused on food security, eviction mitigation, supplies, technology, and childcare

## Arts South Dakota . . . . . \$4,000

2020 Virtual State Arts Conference

## Behavior Management Systems. . . . . \$150,000

Family Pathways school-based counseling and support programs

## Black Hills Area Community Foundation . . . . . \$20,000

Collective Impact planning

## Black Hills Special Services Cooperative

### (Career Learning Center). . . . . \$546,000

Workforce Connections Program supporting adult learners to further their education and training

## Black Hills State University Foundation. . . . . \$5,000

Scholarships to low income youth to participate in a virtual Camp Invention Summer Camp

## Boys & Girls Club of Rosebud . . . . . \$90,000

Support for three youth centers and a teen center located in Mission, Rosebud, and Parmelee on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation

## Chamber Music Festival of the Black Hills . . . . . \$20,000

Educational virtual music programming for youth in the Black Hills

## Cheyenne River Youth Project . . . . . \$125,000

Lakota Youth Arts and Culture Institute in Eagle Butte

## Feeding South Dakota . . . . . \$50,000

Hunger relief efforts to include the BackPack Program and mobile food distribution throughout the Black Hills

## Helpline Center. . . . . \$62,500

- Volunteer Connections Program to link volunteers and nonprofit agencies together in the Black Hills - \$55,000

- Promotion and volunteer recruitment of the VITA and AARP free income tax preparation service for the 2021 tax year in the Black Hills - \$7,500

## Honorariums. . . . . \$64,844

- Black Hills Area Community Foundation

- Black Hills by Choice Fund - \$1,000

- Black Hills Area Community Foundation Operating Endowment Fund - \$3,677

- CommonBond - \$9,333

- Feeding South Dakota - \$4,667

- Friends of South Dakota Public Broadcasting - \$2,500

- Lifescape Foundation - \$1,000

- Rapid City Club for Boys - \$1,000

- United Way of the Black Hills - \$1,000

- University of South Dakota - Barbara

- Hughes Clement Program Endowment - \$22,000

- YMCA of Rapid City - \$14,000

- Youth and Family Services - \$4,667

## Hope Center. . . . . \$85,000

Drop-in Day Center providing support to assist individuals working through the crisis of poverty and homelessness

## LifeScape Foundation . . . . . \$282,000

To increase capacity and services provided to children who have autism at their Rapid City Speciality Clinic

## New Dawn Enterprises . . . . . \$25,000

Remodel client bathrooms in their transitional residential treatment center in Vale, SD

## One Spirit. . . . . \$50,000

Support for their End Hunger Program on the Pine Ridge Reservation

## Passages Women's Transitional Living . . . . . \$300,000

New transitional living facility in Rapid City to increase capacity, providing residential re-entry service services to women

<b>Pennington County Health &amp; Human Services . . . \$100,000</b>	Discretionary funds for basic needs and job-related expenses and tiered incentives for the Safe Solutions Program
<b>Pennington County Mental Health Court . . . . . \$10,000</b>	Assist participants and their families with miscellaneous expenses while in the program
<b>Pennington County Veteran's Treatment Court. . . . \$10,000</b>	Assist participants and their families with miscellaneous expenses while in the program
<b>Rapid City Area School District . . . . . \$250,000</b>	Support for the Academy of Human Services & Education
<b>Rapid City Arts Council. . . . . \$65,000</b>	Youth and Young Adults Arts Education programming to provide youth and young adults access to the arts
<b>Rapid City Club for Boys . . . . . \$130,000</b>	Out-of-school and outreach programming to middle school and high school boys
<b>St. Francis Mission . . . . . \$130,000</b>	Free and reduced fee dental clinic serving the Lakota people on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation
<b>United Way of the Black Hills . . . . . \$200,000</b>	Annual fundraising campaign focusing on strategic initiatives
<b>Volunteers of America . . . . . \$250,000</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of the Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition- \$200,000</li> <li>• Mommy's Closet, providing emergency support services and case management for families of children ages 0-13, and coordination of the Western SD Diaper Bank - \$50,000</li> </ul>
<b>YMCA of Rapid City . . . . . \$199,000</b>	Jump Start Childcare Program to assist teen parents and parents taking steps to achieve educational goals and self-sufficiency
<b>Youth and Family Services . . . . . \$100,000</b>	Girls Inc. out-of-school program

**2020  
GRAND  
TOTAL  
\$4,450,344**

# 2021 GRANTS Awarded

**A COVID-19 Response Fund. . . . . \$27,525**

JTVF has provided COVID-19 Response Funding to various organizations focused on food security, eviction mitigation, supplies, technology, and childcare

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Black Hills . . . . . \$50,000**

Mentoring programs for at-risk youth

**Black Hills Area Community Foundation . . . . . \$6,300,000**

- Affordable Housing Fund intended to spur development of supportive and affordable housing in Rapid City - \$1,000,000
- Affordable Housing Fund to be used to match private and public contributions into the Rapid City Strategic Housing Trust Fund - \$5,000,000
- Matching funds to assist nonprofits to grow their endowments - \$300,000

**Black Hills Community Theatre . . . . . \$15,000**

Education and outreach efforts provided to area schools to incorporate theatre activities into other areas of learning to enhance comprehension and communication

**Black Hills Playhouse. . . . . \$25,000**

A new outdoor stage and performing space at the theatre in Custer State Park

**Black Hills State University Foundation. . . . . \$255,000**

- Scholarships - BH State University Rapid City - \$250,000
- Scholarships to low income youth to attend Camp Invention Summer Camp - \$5,000

**Boys & Girls Club of Rosebud . . . . . \$75,000**

Support for three youth centers and a teen center located in Mission, Rosebud, and Parmelee on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation

**CASA Program Seventh Circuit Court . . . . . \$150,000**  
Staffing, training, and volunteer support to advocate for children

**Chamber Music Festival of the Black Hills . . . . . \$15,000**  
Educational music programming for youth in the Black Hills

**Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation . . . . . \$8,000**  
Native American College Fair and Summit to provide college access experiences for area students

**Feeding South Dakota . . . . . \$100,000**  
Hunger relief efforts to include the BackPack Program and mobile food distribution throughout the Black Hills

**Friends of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. . . . . \$30,000**  
Early Learning Initiative to collaborate with stakeholders and provide educational content, resources and professional development about the importance of early learning

**Front Porch Coalition . . . . . \$44,000**

- Facilitation of a teen suicide prevention group called Defying Defeat - \$25,000
- Capacity building/strategic planning - \$19,000

**Helpline Center. . . . . \$120,000**

Volunteer Connections Program to link volunteers and nonprofit agencies together in the Black Hills

**Historic Homestake Opera House Society . . . . . \$375,000**

Matching funds for the National Endowment for the Humanities Grant Award for renovation and restoration of the theatre

**Honorariums. . . . . \$63,980**

- Black Hills Area Community Foundation - \$20,630
- Black Hills Special Services/Career Learning Center (Workforce Connections Program) - \$2,250
- CommonBond - \$3,500
- Feeding South Dakota - \$3,250
- One Heart - \$3,000
- Youth & Family Services - \$3,250
- Rapid City Arts Council (Dahl Arts Center) - \$2,500
- University of South Dakota - Barbara Hughes Clement Program Endowment - \$14,600
- Rapid City YMCA - \$11,000

**Hope Center. . . . . \$95,000**

Drop-in Day Center providing support for the homeless and those living in poverty in Rapid City

<b>Literacy Council of the Black Hills</b> . . . . .	<b>\$25,000</b>
Program tutoring adults in basic reading and writing skills, as well as English language learning	
<b>Lost &amp; Found</b> . . . . .	<b>\$25,000</b>
Develop, administer, and analyze a comprehensive mental health survey to be completed at Western Dakota Tech	
<b>National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)</b> . . . . .	<b>\$50,000</b>
Programming for mental health education and supports in the Black Hills	
<b>New Start Housing Collaborative</b> . . . . .	<b>\$550,000</b>
Provide housing vouchers for individuals and families unable to access public housing; clients receive extensive case management and support services	
<b>Northern Hills Alliance for Children</b> . . . . .	<b>\$60,000</b>
Education services to young children and families in the Northern Black Hills	
<b>Northern Hills Drug &amp; 4th Circuit DUI Courts</b> . . . . .	<b>\$20,000</b>
Assist participants and their families with ancillary services to encourage and reinforce positive behavior while in the program	
<b>Oglala Lakota College</b> . . . . .	<b>\$120,000</b>
Scholarships - Nursing Program	
<b>Pennington County Board of Commissioners</b> . . . . .	<b>\$300,000</b>
Construction of the Adult Crisis Care & Stabilization Unit located at the Pennington County Care Campus to help address behavioral health needs in Western South Dakota	
<b>Pennington County Drug Court</b> . . . . .	<b>\$20,000</b>
Assist participants and their families with miscellaneous expenses while in the program	
<b>Pine Ridge Girls School</b> . . . . .	<b>\$20,000</b>
School serving 6th-9th grade students in poverty on the Pine Ridge Reservation	
<b>Rapid City Area School District</b> . . . . .	<b>\$20,000</b>
Support to bring the Delta Dental Bus to Rapid City Area Schools to provide qualifying students with free dental care	
<b>Rapid City Public Library Foundation</b> . . . . .	<b>\$50,000</b>
Purchase of an electric bookmobile for the Rapid City Public Library to provide access to library materials and books to underserved neighborhoods	
<b>Sanford Underground Research Facility Foundation</b> . . . . .	<b>\$25,000</b>
Stipends and materials for the education and outreach program, providing STEM professional development for K-12 educators in South Dakota	
<b>Simply Smiles</b> . . . . .	<b>\$127,000</b>
Support for building a therapeutic foster home in LaPlant, SD on the Cheyenne River Reservation	
<b>South Dakota State University Foundation</b> . . . . .	<b>\$908,000</b>
Support of the Native American Nursing Education Center (NANEC) for mentoring, cultural programming, and student support - \$528,000 Scholarships - Rapid City Nursing Program - \$380,000	
<b>United Way of the Black Hills</b> . . . . .	<b>\$450,000</b>
Black Hills Reads, a Campaign for Grade Level Reading Initiative, building awareness and targeting efforts to ensure children enter school ready to learn and they are proficient readers for 3rd grade	
<b>University of South Dakota Foundation</b> . . . . .	<b>\$80,000</b>
Scholarships - Rapid City Nursing Program	
<b>Volunteers of America</b> . . . . .	<b>\$100,000</b>
Mommy's Closet, providing emergency support services and case management for families of children ages 0-13, and coordination of the Western South Dakota Diaper Bank	
<b>Wellfully</b> . . . . .	<b>\$630,000</b>
Pilot a Youth Crisis Care Center located at Wellfully to support youth in crisis in a trauma-informed manner	
<b>Western Dakota Vocational Technical Foundation</b> . . . . .	<b>\$640,000</b>
\$320,000 - Scholarships - LPN/ADN Nursing Programs \$320,000 - Scholarships - Other WDT Programs	
<b>Youth and Family Services</b> . . . . .	<b>\$200,000</b>
Girls Inc. out-of-school programming	

**2021  
GRAND  
TOTAL  
\$12,168,505**



# JOHN T. VUCUREVICH FOUNDATION

*...to make a piece of the world a brighter place.*

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