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2021 ANNUAL REPORT

re·sil·ience

noun

an ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.

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P.O. Box 25
Mt. Sterling, IL 62353
www.tracyfoundation.org

A Letter to Our Organization Partners

For nearly 25 years, the Tracy Family Foundation has invested in your work and celebrated your stories of impact. Through the years of our partnership, nothing could have prepared us for the unprecedented challenges that arose due to COVID-19.

With each obstacle that arose, we remembered that every time Robert and Dorothy Tracy faced a challenge, they focused on their values of family, faith, education, leadership, and community and let those values guide their actions.

We have sought to do the same.

Our value of family has compelled us to care for, support, and encourage you.

Our value of faith has kept us persistent in hope.

Our value of education has reminded us that even in our busiest moments, learning is essential for progress.

Our value of leadership has inspired our investment in your skills to help organizations navigate uncertainty and change.

Our value of community has energized our efforts to connect you with one another.

We want you to know that we are here for you, through thick and thin, through your hardest days and brightest moments.

We also want to help provide the financial resources you need, but more than that, we want to be your partner. We want to remind you that our world needs your leadership. We want to encourage your grit and resilience. We want to inspire your innovation and bold ideas to tackle big problems. We want to connect you to others that can fuel your growth and development. We want to enable your impact for sustainable and lasting change.

We believe that our best days are ahead of us and look forward to continuing our work together to see a world where communities thrive and families flourish.

With gratitude,

The Tracy Family Foundation Board and Staff



TFF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Standing, from left: Kevin Bird; Ben Tracy; Brian Buckley, Treasurer; Jean Buckley, President; Suzy Parn; Pat Smith, Vice President

Seated, from left: Wanda Tracy; Susan Stamerjohn, Secretary; Kristin Tracy; Linda Tracy



TFF STAFF

Back row, from left: Angie Schlater, Program Manager; Terry Jenkins, Program Manager; Kim Bielik, Executive Administrative Assistant and Grants Manager

Front row, from left: Dan Teefey, Executive Director; Megan Costigan, Program Manager; Jean Buckley, Board President

About the Tracy Family Foundation

Since 1997, the Tracy Family Foundation has sought to exemplify the values of Robert and Dorothy Tracy by investing in organizations that impact communities and change lives.

Our Vision

Our vision is to see a world where communities thrive and families flourish with all generations of the Robert and Dorothy Tracy family giving and serving together.

Our Mission

Our mission is to advance innovative, collaborative, and sustainable change in communities and cultivate a philanthropic spirit in all generations of the Robert and Dorothy Tracy family.

INNOVATIVE

We strive to introduce new, original, and creative ideas.

COLLABORATIVE

We work jointly and in coordination with strategic partners.

SUSTAINABLE

We pursue opportunities that can be maintained successfully over time.

Our Values

FAMILY

Robert (RT) and Dorothy Tracy instilled their values of honesty, integrity, fairness, faith in God, respect, and a strong work ethic into their 12 children. All generations of the Tracy family seek to honor these values and cherish their relationships with one another. The family is firm in their belief that healthy families—with solid values—are core to healthy communities.

FAITH

The Catholic/Christian beliefs of RT and Dorothy Tracy inspired them to love their neighbors as themselves. Their faith continues to influence the work of the Tracy Family Foundation.

LEADERSHIP

The Tracy family believes that when a leader gets better everyone wins—individuals, families, organizations, and communities.

EDUCATION

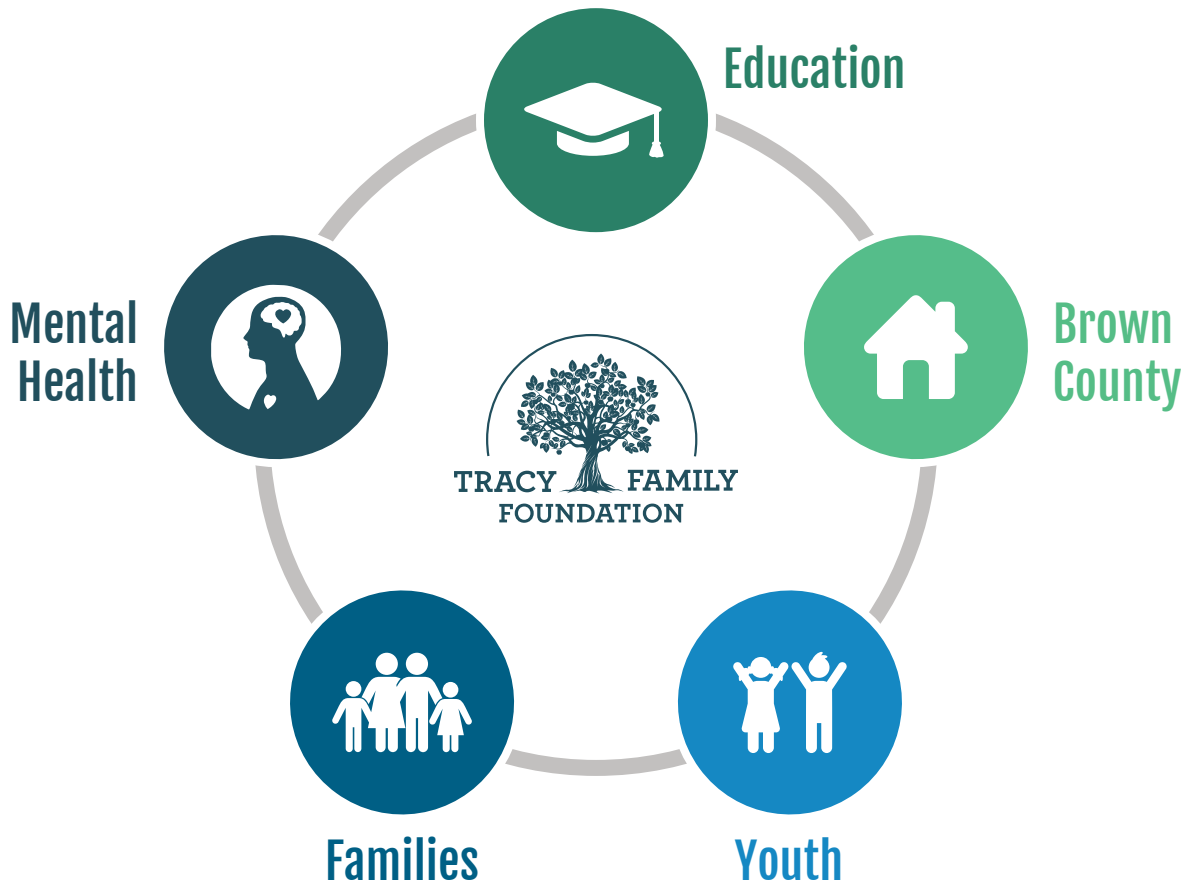
The Tracy family believes that education and opportunity go hand-in-hand. A quality education opens doors to new worlds and new possibilities.

COMMUNITY

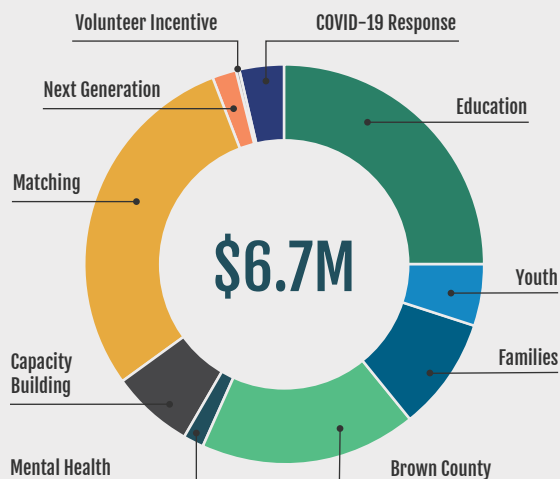
Home is where the heart is, and it is the people that make up our communities that often create the most meaning in our lives. The Tracy family wants everyone to experience the support and encouragement of strong community.

TFF Focus Areas

Our vision to see communities thrive and families flourish centers on five key focus areas: Education, Brown County, Youth, Families, and Mental Health. The values of the Robert and Dorothy Tracy family drive these focus areas, and they are each essential to making the impact we want to see in the communities we serve.



Approved Grants by Focus Area in 2021



Focus Areas	2021 Dollars	Other Programs	2021 Dollars
Education	\$1,666,667	Capacity Building	\$442,380
Youth	\$348,654	Matching	\$1,942,813
Families	\$602,951	Next Generation	\$131,000
Brown County	\$1,167,556	Volunteer Incentive	\$15,000
Mental Health	\$113,650	COVID-19 Response	\$226,856

Total of All 2021 Grants = \$6,757,527



FOCUS AREA Education

2021 Total Education
Grants Awarded:
\$1,666,667

We cultivate learning communities that inspire lifelong learners, leaders, and problem-solvers. Our education work seeks to:

Encourage every child's potential

Inspire a growth mindset

Emphasize the whole child

Strengthen quality and excellence

Build strategic partnerships

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

DonorsChoose | \$90,000

In 2021, we partnered with DonorsChoose, an organization that enables teachers to request materials and resources for their classrooms and makes these project requests available to individual donors through its website. DonorsChoose vets each request, ships the funded resources directly to the classroom, and provides thank yous and reporting to donors and school leaders. We offered matching funds for projects posted to the DonorsChoose platform.



In total, we supported 242 educator projects across 20 public school districts in West Central Illinois.

DONORS CHOOSE

"I wanted to say a huge thank you for your support with my DonorsChoose electric violin project. With your support, we raised the money for the violin in mere hours! I was floored by the response."

— **Chad Ensinger**, Quincy Jr. High Orchestra Director, Quincy, IL

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

AdoptAClassroom.org | \$10,000

We offered Catholic schools in West Central Illinois a matching grant opportunity through AdoptAClassroom.org. Catholic school teachers were able to create classroom pages and solicit donations for their classroom needs. We then matched donations made to the projects. Eleven Catholic schools and 71 teachers took advantage of our matching grant opportunity.

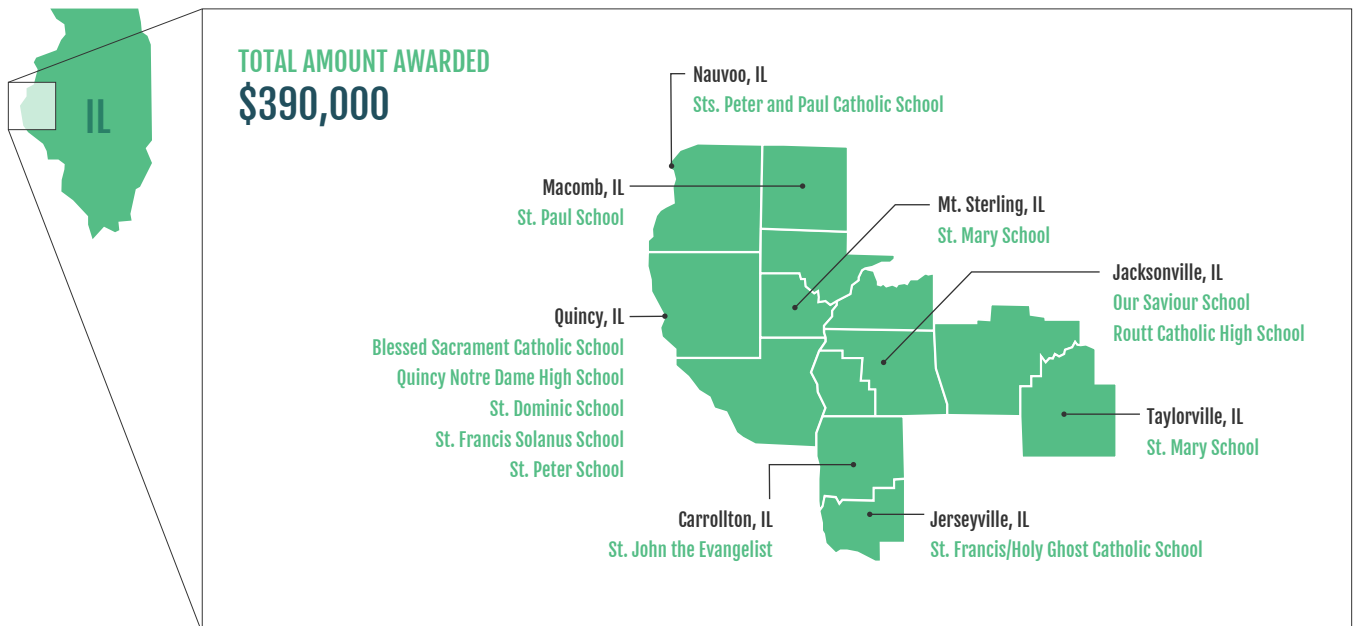


Catholic Schools Grants

Catholic education has played a significant role in the Tracy family's lives. The powerful and positive impact of this education has motivated them to see Catholic schools thrive, not just survive.

We offered 13 Catholic schools in West Central Illinois the opportunity to participate in our Catholic Schools Grant Program, which provided grants up to \$30,000 to each school to help them offer high-quality education and faith development for students.

WEST CENTRAL ILLINOIS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVED GRANTS



» Visit [TracyFoundation.org](https://www.TracyFoundation.org) to see the other Education grants we funded in 2021.



FOCUS AREA Youth

2021 Total Youth
Grants Awarded:
\$348,654

We nurture strong, healthy, and resilient youth. Far too many kids do not have the opportunity to grow up in healthy and whole families, so we invest in organizations that:

Develop
emotional
health

Build
leadership
skills

Encourage
faith

Spur
wellness

Cultivate
academic
achievement

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Camp Wojtyla | \$10,000

Camp Wojtyla in Erie, Colorado, runs 16 different summer camps for various age groups and types of adventure. The camp integrates mountain experiences like rock climbing, hiking, and white water rafting with Catholic faith formation. Students overcome the challenges of a wilderness experience while studying scripture and discussing God’s impact on their lives with trusted leaders and peers.

We provided a grant for camp scholarships to help make this camping experience available to students that would not be able to pay the camp’s full cost.





GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Jacksonville Youth Collaborative | \$60,000

We helped organize and fund the Jacksonville Youth Engagement Program (J-YEP), which brought together 14 organizations in Jacksonville, Illinois, to serve youth in some of the most under-resourced neighborhoods in Jacksonville.

With our help, the collaborating organizations surveyed approximately 400 students, parents, and youth providers in Jacksonville and identified mental health, college and workforce preparation, academic tutoring, mentoring, character development and resilience, and

sports programming as the greatest community needs for under-resourced youth.

The collaboration then utilized a TFF grant to design and execute various programs to meet the community's needs, including after-school tutoring and mentoring; sports camps; and Boy and Girl Scouts.

We hope to help catalyze similar youth collaboratives in other communities.

» Visit TracyFoundation.org to see the other Youth grants we funded in 2021.



FOCUS AREA Brown County

2021 Total Brown
County Grants Awarded:

\$1,167,556

We empower Brown County, Illinois, to be a magnet community where people live, learn, work, and play. To reach this goal, our Brown County work seeks to:

Encourage
quality
education

Build
community

Develop
infrastructure

Strengthen
recreation

Spur the
local
economy

Brown County Early Learning Center Opens

After years of planning, the Brown County Early Learning Center (BC ELC) was officially opened on February 8, 2021. We designed the approximately 8,500-square foot learning center in Mt. Sterling, Illinois, to encourage the academic and social/emotional development of children—infants through Pre-K. While we funded 100 percent of the building’s purchase and renovation, the YMCA of West Central Illinois operates the ELC. We provide more than \$5,000 per child in annual support to the Center to ensure that tuition rates are affordable for local families.

The Center includes nine classrooms, an indoor and outdoor recreation space, a staff room, a nursing mother’s room, a consultation room, and an office. The ELC employs 18 individuals and had 55 students enrolled at the end of 2021.

Ultimately, we believe the Center will not only ease the burden on parents frantically searching for childcare but will improve the education outcomes for students in Brown County. Learn more about the Brown County Early Learning Center by visiting browncountyselc.org.



“I adore the children. Love my coworkers. We are so fortunate in Brown County to have this wonderful resource.”

— BC ELC Teacher

“The children are truly thriving at the BC ELC, and it is amazing as a parent to witness. Thank you!”

— BC ELC Parent

BROWN COUNTY LONG-TERM INITIATIVES



Brown County Trailways Rendering



Brown County Trailways Plan

Brown County residents have long asked for diverse and attractive health, wellness, and leisure options and attractions. To help address this need, we led the development of the Brown County Trailways Master Plan in 2021.

The process included a local steering committee, field research and analysis, and public engagement. The completed plan provides a visionary, yet practical strategy to assist Brown County in becoming a leader in West Central Illinois for trailways development and use.

Brown County provides an excellent canvas to weave a diverse network of trailways, which would link together the unique natural, cultural, historical, and community destinations of Brown County. The Trailways Plan utilizes a variety of trailway types including newly constructed 10-foot-wide asphalt paths, asphalt shoulders added to existing roadways, and bicycle markings and signage along existing roadways.

This plan also positions Brown County to effectively seek public funding for phased trailway implementation through all of Brown County, including Mt. Sterling. Engineering work has already begun on the first trail of the network and an action plan is being developed to prioritize and execute other phases.

The New Brown County Library

We awarded a \$350,000 grant to the Brown County Public Library for the construction of their new \$5.4 million library in Mt. Sterling.

The vision for this 21st-century facility is to provide access to technology, services, resources, and programming not always available in a small rural community. It will allow the library to ramp up programs they currently offer and allow space for potential expansion of programs. The new facility will provide age-appropriate areas, reading nooks, new technology options, genealogical research, small study/group rooms, and a community room that seats approximately 100 people.



Brown County Public Library Architectural Rendering



Visit TracyFoundation.org to see the other Brown County grants we funded in 2021.



FOCUS AREA Families

2021 Total Families
Grants Awarded:
\$602,951

We foster strong, healthy, and resilient families. We want families in West Central Illinois to be loving environments where marriages are strong and kids flourish. We invest in organizations that help families to:

Sustain
emotional
health

Develop
deep
relationships

Nurture
vibrant
faith

Maintain
healthy
lifestyles

Advance skills
needed for
sustainable careers

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Communio Marriage Enrichment | \$111,000

In 2021, we recruited five churches to participate in a marriage enrichment project with Communio, a nonprofit organization that consults with churches to equip them with data insights and ministry best practices to foster healthier relationships for singles, those preparing for marriage, married couples, and those in marital crisis.

Each of the participant churches will:

- Diagnose their church’s and community’s relationship needs.
- Develop a full-circle relationship ministry that serves singles and all types of couples.
- Use marketing and micro-targeted outreach to connect the public to the church’s relationship programming.
- Receive hands-on strategic planning and ongoing consultation.

One participating church, Lutheran Church of St. John in Quincy, Illinois, which has average weekly worship attendance around 100, saw 340 people attend its first outreach event—Trunk or Treat—a day of unforgettable family fun. This extraordinary success is largely due to a committed team of staff and volunteers and outstanding performance by their social media marketing campaign.



Visit TracyFoundation.org to see the other Families grants we funded in 2021.



FOCUS AREA Mental Health

2021 Mental Health
Grants Awarded:
\$113,650

We strengthen the lives of children, families, and adults by championing mental health. Our mental health investments seek to:

Begin with proactive prevention of mental illness

Develop strategies to identify mental illness early

Connect people with mental health treatment

Normalize healthy conversations about mental health

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Cornerstone | \$25,000

We provided a grant to Cornerstone, an organization from Quincy, Illinois, that seeks to provide a safe, non-judgmental environment for youth through their Comprehensive Youth Services (CYS). CYS provides mental health counseling to at-risk-youth who have social, emotional and/or behavioral problems.

CORNERSTONE'S GOALS

Short Term

Children receive timely and appropriate treatment for mental health issues and have a caring adult in their lives.

Intermediate Term

Children have improved behavioral health and make pro-social behavior choices.

Long Term

Youth are not involved in the juvenile justice system and live in a safe, permanent home.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

Schuyler County Mental Health | \$25,000

The availability of professional mental healthcare is sparse in rural West Central Illinois, so we provided a grant to Schuyler County Mental Health to hire a licensed clinical social worker to improve service to their clients. This new position will help to serve the growing mental health needs of the area.



Visit [TracyFoundation.org](https://www.TracyFoundation.org) to see the other Mental Health grants we funded in 2021.

Capacity Building

Capacity Building is not a TFF focus area in the traditional sense, but it enriches all of our work. We want to help organizations develop the tools needed to achieve their mission and improve their internal capacity.

Thus, the Capacity Building Grant Program awards up to \$5,000 to any school or organization in West Central Illinois and those outside of that area if they have received a Formal Funding grant from us in the past.

Capacity Building grants must be used for professional development, marketing support, strategic planning, or any other project that will make the organization more equipped for its work. These are a few of the special programs we led in 2021:

Jumpstart Fundraising: Organizations repeatedly indicate that generating revenue and fundraising dollars is their No. 1 concern. Thus, we partnered with Jumpstart Fundraising, a movement of grantmakers that seeks to provide nonprofits with the integrated tools, plan, coaching, and technology required to build fundraising capacity to diversify revenue and sustain the programs they fund. We invested in five West Central Illinois organizations, and each organization made significant progress in generating revenue.

“Capacity Building funding is a game-changer for Western Illinois Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Without your support, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to offer the programming we currently make available.”

— **Todd Sweatman**, Area Director

Video Storytelling and Social Media Training: Every day nonprofit organizations see the impact of their work, but they often struggle to tell these stories to their communities. This project gave 13 nonprofit organizations access to a professional videographer that crafted their stories into a powerful video and provided organizations with the social media tools to continue to share their message.



Graduates of the New Board Member Training Program.



Graduates of the Nonprofit Leadership Academy.

2021 Total
Capacity Building
Grants Awarded:
\$442,380

Board Assessment and Development: It's often challenging for organizations to recruit board members, orient them to their processes, develop their skills, or fully engage them in the organization's work. Thus, we engaged regional nonprofit consultants and seasoned nonprofit board members to become certified in BoardSource's Consultant Certification program. These newly certified consultants were then paired with six organizations in West Central Illinois and worked with them to improve their boards.

Board Recruitment and New Board Member Training Program: West Central Illinois communities are filled with great leaders and organizations making an impact, but it is often challenging for them to find each other. This project creates this vital connection. We worked with John Wood Community College (JWCC) to recruit potential nonprofit board members and then train them for nonprofit board service. Once trained, they were added to a database that is shared with nonprofit organizations by the Community Foundation in Quincy, Illinois.

Nonprofit Roadmap: Nonprofit organizations aren't always sure where to start building their capacity; they need practical tools to guide this process. Thus, we developed a Nonprofit Roadmap assessment tool that guides organizations through a self-improvement pathway to identify areas for needed growth and obtain clear next steps to begin their improvement process.

The Nonprofit Roadmap

Our nonprofit roadmap focuses on the seven pillars that are essential for healthy organizations and was developed collaboratively with the Leap of Reason Ambassadors Community:

1. Courageous, adaptive executive and board leadership
2. Disciplined, people-focused management
3. Well-designed and well-implemented programs and strategies
4. Financial health and sustainability
5. A culture that values learning
6. Internal monitoring for continuous improvement
7. External evaluation for mission effectiveness

About the Tracy Family

Everything the foundation does is possible because of Robert and Dorothy Tracy. The pair raised 12 children and started Dot Foods in 1960. That little company, based in Mt. Sterling, Illinois, is still owned and operated by the Tracy family, but it's not a tiny operation anymore. Today, the company is the largest food industry redistributor in North America, with customers all across the world. Because of the company's success, we are able to help so many organizations across the United States.

Even though the family, now comprising 131 family members (and growing), has spread out across the

country, they still consider Mt. Sterling home and want to see West Central Illinois thrive. The Tracys are incredibly engaged in the foundation; they serve on TFF committees, represent the family on the foundation board, and encourage one another to make an impact in their communities through special Tracy family grant programs.

Through our Tracy family TFF Instagram feed, a quarterly e-newsletter, volunteer projects, and grant programs, they are able to be involved and informed on the foundation throughout the year.



Next Generation Advisory Board (NGAB)

Another way to engage family members is through the NGAB. This board helps prepare Tracy family members between the ages of 16 and 40 years old to serve in other leadership positions both inside and outside of the family. Their work determines the focus and funding for Special Impact Grants (SIG), with a budget of \$100,000.

They collaborate to identify a common value and focus area, research organizations making a difference in that space, and then choose organizations to invite to apply for a TFF SIG. In 2021, NGAB selected foster care as their focus and recommended a \$20,000 grant award to five organizations.



*Kelsey Cope,
Chair*



*Jake Schlater,
Vice Chair*



*Kelsey Tracy,
Secretary*



Ari Buckley



Jake Schmidt



Natalie Tracy

2021 Special Impact Grants

ORGANIZATION	CITY, STATE	USE OF FUNDS
Child Center – Mary Grove	Florissant, Missouri	Therapeutic Residential Treatment Program
Good Shepherd Family and Children Services	St. Louis, Missouri	Treatment Foster Care Program
Mount Saint Vincent Home	Denver, Colorado	Residential Care Program
SOS Children's Villages of Illinois	Chicago, Illinois	Sibling Foster Care
Voices for Children of Tampa Bay	Tampa, Florida	Children's Needs Fund

TRACY FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Discretionary Grant Programs

The Foundation has several grant programs specifically designed to encourage Tracy family members to replicate Robert and Dorothy Tracy’s personal dedication to generosity and service. Each of these grant programs multiplies the time, talents, and resources of family members in the communities they live and on the issues they care about.



Matching Grant Program

TFF trustees, TFF staff, and Tracy family members ages 16 and older are invited to make personal donations to nonprofit organizations and to apply for matching grant dollars for those organizations from TFF.

MATCHING GRANTS	2021
TFF Matching Grants Dollars	\$1,942,813
% of 2Gs (24) who Participated	100%
% of Eligible 3Gs (46) who Participated	70%

Family Invitation Grant Program

Tracy family members ages 30 and older who live outside of West Central Illinois may invite a nonprofit organization within 50 miles of their home to apply for a TFF Formal Funding Grant.

FAMILY INVITATION GRANTS	2021
Total Family Invitation Grants Dollars	\$579,750
% of Eligible 2Gs (16) who Participated	100%
% of Eligible 3Gs (36) who Participated	94%

Next Generation Grant Program

Tracy family members between the ages of 5 and 30 are invited to apply for grants on behalf of nonprofit organizations.

NEXT GENERATION GRANTS	2021
Total Next Generation Grants Dollars	\$131,000
% of Eligible 3Gs (29) who Participated	90%
% of Eligible 4Gs (14) who Participated	100%

Volunteer Incentive Program

Tracy family members can also request additional grant dollars for an organization when they volunteer for that organization. In 2021, \$15,000 was awarded to organizations through this program.

COVID-19 Impact Fund

In our 2020 annual report, we shared how the COVID-19 virus wreaked havoc on our partner organizations, but that when we work as a team, we are stronger together.

We mobilized more than \$550,000 in 2020 to meet the needs of communities in response to COVID-19. The disruption did not go away though, and additional assistance was needed in 2021. We again offered \$226,856 in special COVID-19 assistance funds to organizations still struggling to serve their communities.

In addition to our COVID-19 assistance funds, we awarded a \$50,000 grant to the Regional Office of Education in Quincy, Illinois, to offer grants to West Central Illinois schools so that they could show appreciation to the educators and support staff in their building. Every school in West Central Illinois was eligible and could use the funds to creatively celebrate their staff through food and fun.



“While many organizations use the word ‘partnership,’ the Tracy Family Foundation actually embodies it. Thank you for the honor of being one of the many nonprofits you have partnered with to sincerely change the world for the better.”

— Cynthia Pliska, Director of Development, The Rise School of Denver, CO

We are *Still*
here for you.

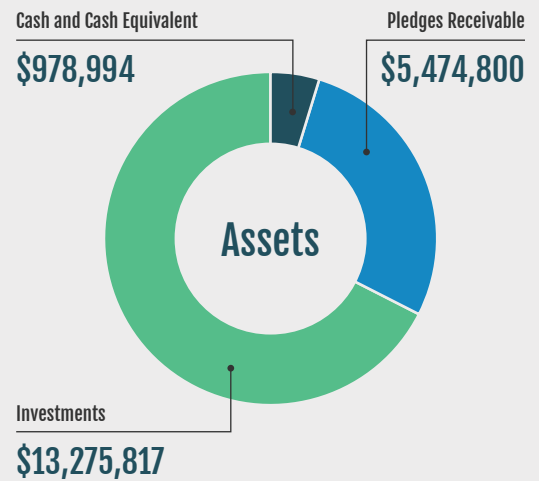


2021 Financials

Statement of Financial Position

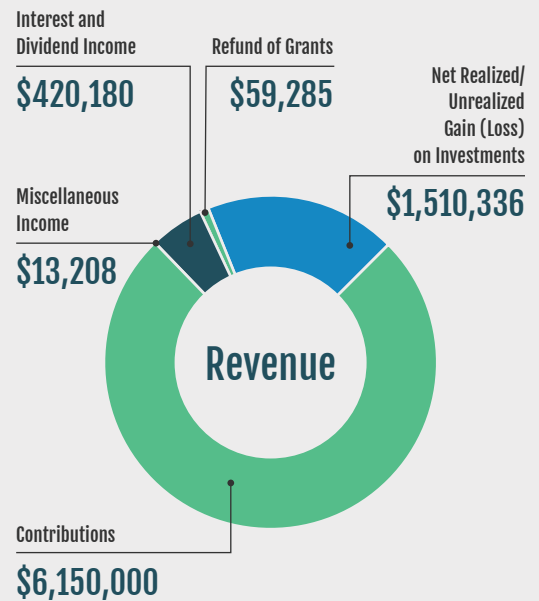
January 1–December 31, 2021 (Pre-Audit)

Assets	Dollars
Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$978,994
Pledges Receivable	\$5,474,800
Investments	\$13,275,817
Total Assets	\$19,729,611
Total Liabilities	\$822,861
Net Assets–Unrestricted	\$18,906,750
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$19,729,611



Statement of Activities

Revenue	Dollars
Contributions	\$6,150,000
Interest and Dividend Income	\$420,180
Miscellaneous Income	\$13,208
Refund of Grants	\$59,285
Net Realized/Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	\$1,510,336
Total Revenue	\$8,153,009



Expenses	Dollars
Total Grant Expense	\$6,757,527
Direct Charitable Expenses	\$595
Total Operating Expense	\$882,015
Total Expenses	\$7,640,137
Increase in Net Assets	\$512,872
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$18,393,878
Net Assets at End of Year	\$18,906,750

