

MEDIA RELEASE

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**Northwest North Dakota
Community Foundation**

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John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust Investments Exceed \$1.1M in Northwest North Dakota

Crosby, N.D. — The Trustees of the John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust have awarded fourteen grants totaling \$365,310 to organizations seeking to improve the quality of life in North Dakota, propelling the Trust's total investment in the area to \$1,157,895 since its inception in 2019. These grants mark the second funding cycle of community investments to come from the Trust in 2021.

“With the John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust, each Trustee is engaged in understanding the needs of northwest North Dakota to inform our decision-making processes and to invest these dollars in alignment with John and Elaine’s original intent,” remarked Steve Andrist, Trustee. “We are thrilled to have directed investments of over \$1.1M into projects led by community champions in northwest North Dakota.”

Successful grant applicants were selected because of their demonstrated and predicted future impact on the area by supporting community and economic development, arts and culture, and innovation. The organizations receiving funds include:

- **North Dakota News Cooperative:** \$50,000 as the beginning of a multi-year contribution to provide original, in-depth journalism for use by media outlets statewide.
- **Prairie Public Radio:** \$90,000 to support The Great American Folk Show with Tom Brosseau.
- **City of Noonan:** \$30,000 to install a new community playground.
- **Minot State University Development Foundation:** \$30,000 to complete renovations of MSU Summer Theater’s outdoor amphitheater.
- **Divide County Historical Society:** \$20,000 to build a new exhibit.
- **Crosby Moose Lodge:** \$14,800 to install new flooring in the dining room.

- **Williston Area Visual Artists:** \$10,600 to conduct a regional art project focused on portraits of northwest North Dakotans who lost their lives to Covid 19.
- **Upper Missouri Ministries:** \$5,000 to support Divide County students to attend Camp UMM.
- **Mouse River Players:** \$3,000 to complete theater renovations.
- **Crosby Senior Citizens:** \$3,000 to install a new air conditioning unit in the senior citizens center.
- **American Legion Auxiliary:** \$2,500 to support Divide County girls to attend Girls State.
- **Divide County School District:** \$2,410 to purchase a new sound system for the school's auditorium.
- **Crosby Blue Line Club:** \$2,000 to support the annual silent auction.
- **Northwest Juvenile Drug Court:** \$2,000 to provide community involvement incentives.

“With the grants made this round, we are especially excited to make significant investments in journalism as well as the arts and humanities,” remarked Levi Andrist, Trustee. “These investments will extend the tremendous contributions grandpa and grandma made during their lives in these areas, which are so critical to healthy and vibrant communities in North Dakota.”

The John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust's community investments are administered by the Northwest North Dakota Community Foundation. The next opportunity to request funds from the John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust will be in the spring of 2022. Successful applications will align with the Trust's focus areas, which include: Arts, Culture, & Creativity; Community Development; Economic Development; and Innovation. More information on the John & Elaine Andrist Trust and its community investment process can be found at www.johnandelaineandristcharitabletrust.com.

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About the John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust

The John and Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust was established in 2018 through the couple's estate plan. John and Elaine were lifelong Divide County residents who had strong affection for the community, its people, and North Dakota. They were committed throughout their lives to supporting improvement, growth, and prosperity. Through this charitable trust, they continue the work of community development.

About the Northwest North Dakota Community Foundation

Through a generous gift by George Gaukler, a benevolent Williston area developer, local residents were able to establish the NWND Community Foundation. The NWND

Community Foundation will bring together passionate people and trusted resources to create lasting change in the communities of Williams, Divide, and McKenzie counties.

More information about the NWND Community Foundation, including the John & Elaine Andrist Charitable Trust's grant guidelines, restrictions, and other opportunities to submit funding requests for consideration may also be found on the website.