ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

What is the St. Croix Valley Foundation?

The St. Croix Valley Foundation is a locally governed public trust that enables you, regardless of your means, to make a lasting difference in the St. Croix Valley.Founded in 1995 by a group of Valley residents, the Foundation provides a way for you to leave a legacy of your values and beliefs to future generations, to take full advantage of the tax benefits for your estate, and to advance the quality of life in this wonderful Valley.

Our central purpose is to assist you with your philanthropy and to enhance this community of communities now and in the future. We provide flexible, efficient and simple ways to ensure that your charitable giving achieves the greatest possible impact.

If you live, work or have roots in the Valley and wish to make charitable contributions that will benefit this area, we invite you to consider the St. Croix Valley Foundation as your partner in your philanthropy.

Honoring Our Founders

Our Founding Board of Directors were far-sighted, progressive individuals from both sides of the St. Croix River. They included: Sarah Andersen, John Baird (first Board chair), Jim Bradshaw, David Brandt, John Coughlin, Kathleen Doar, Molly GaleWyrick, Karen Hansen, Orv Johnson, Peter Kilde, Rita Lawson, Dan Lien, Marilyn McCarty, Dan McGuiness, Erv Neff, Lynn Shafer, Heidi Smith Erspamer and John Tunheim. We owe them a debt of gratitude for establishing an institution that will benefit the St. Croix Valley forever.

Our positive impact on the valley

Since our founding in 1996, the St. Croix Valley Foundation has made 6018 grants amounting to $ 20.6M throughout the communities we serve. But in addition to money, we have touched the lives of thousands of people; children, the elderly, the needy. Thus, we have improved the quality of life for all those who live, work and play in these communities.

Carpenter Nature Center 2015

2015 Health and Wellness grant to the Centre, New Richmond.

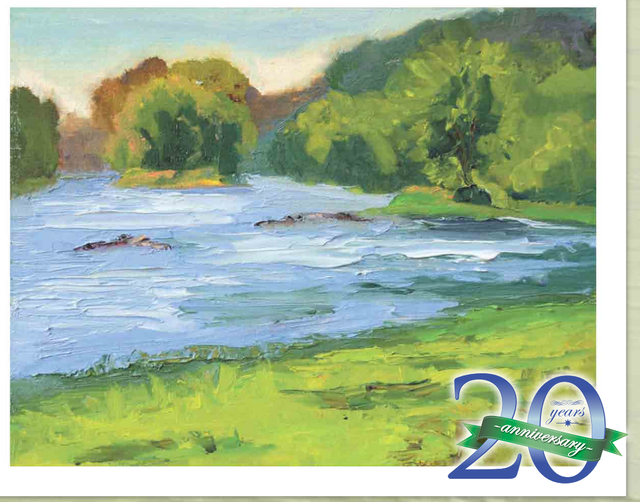
Our mission

The mission of the St. Croix Valley Foundation is to enhance the quality of life in the St. Croix Valley Region by:

- Encouraging charitable giving in the Valley
- Connecting people and programs
- Forming partnerships to address community concerns

Celebrating 20 years of serving the St. Croix Valley
"From small streams, mighty rivers grow."

ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SERVING THE ST. CROIX VALLEY

ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

Celebrating 20 Years of serving the St. Croix Valley

We make it easy for you to give back to your community. Named fund types include:

Valley Impact Funds, Donor-Designated Funds, Family Foundation-Advised Funds, Agency Funds, Acorn Funds and Scholarship Funds. Or, you may choose to contribute to one or more existing funds.

Engaging individuals in communities to build the future.

516 Second Street • Suite 214 • Hudson, Wisconsin 54016
www.scvfoundation.org • info@scvfoundation.org • 715.386.9490

Front Cover Image: "St. Croix River Inspiration" by former Board Chair Gretchen M. Stein

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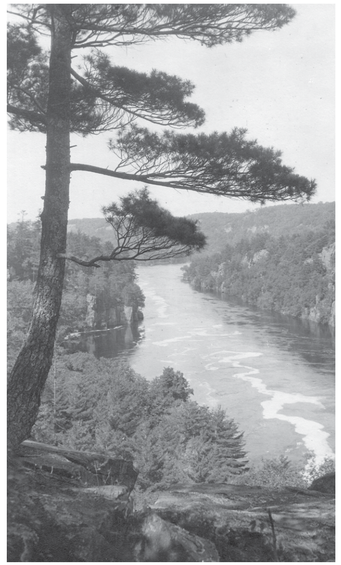
ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

"From small streams, mighty rivers grow."

John Baird, our first Board Chair, said these words 20 years ago, and they remain true today. Starting from no more than a wellspring of an idea, the St. Croix Valley Foundation is now approaching $50 million in assets. Understanding that we needed a vehicle to accept estate gifts, our founders saw the wisdom of establishing a community foundation that could increase local wealth while benefiting everyone.



"River View," Osceola Historical Society

ST. CROIX VALLEY FOUNDATION

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVING THE ST. CROIX VALLEY

Annual Reunion 2008. Pictured from left to right is Heidi Erspamer, John Baird, Jim Bradshaw and Jane Stevenson.

"The Foundation shares our personal values. It is important for those who live in and appreciate the valley to contribute to the valley. We all benefit from a healthy community, it does not happen accidentally. It takes the concerted efforts of many of its citizens."

~ Karen Ciegler Hanson & Craig J. Hansen, donors

"It has been a pleasure to try to accumulate wealth but the joy is not just in the accumulation, but in deciding how to distribute it as an extension of your life. However, in order to make that happen you need to have a plan".

~ Jon Belisle, donor

$10 million in assets reached on the 10th Anniversary of the foundation. Pictured from left to right is Jill Shannon, Gretchen Stein and David Griffith.

4-H girls present mosaic Art Bench in Prescott.

"Everyone can be a Philanthropist"

Those words sparked the St. Croix Valley Foundation's founding in 1996 by civic-minded people with the vision of a new community foundation dedicated to the St. Croix Valley region and its distinctive communities.

Today, we make grants of approximately $2 million per year. But even then, we can only fund 46% of all worthy grant applications. Much work still needs to be done to truly increase the quality of life for all of our citizens. As generous as our donors are, we can still do better.

If you live, work or have roots in the Valley, and wish to make charitable contributions that will benefit this area, the St Croix Valley Foundation or one of its Affiliated Foundations is the unique institution to assist you. We provide a way for you to leave a legacy of your values and beliefs to future generations, to take full advantage of the tax benefits for your estate while advancing the quality of all for all in this wonderful St. Croix Valley. Please contact us at 715-386-9490 or www.scvfoundation.org.

Year	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Assets	Founders	.4M	.7M	1.1M	1.8M	2M	3.6M	5M	6.2M	7.4M	8.9M	14.3M	15.9M	14.5M	16.8M	21.7M	28.4M	31.7M	39.8M	46.3M	**50M goal**
# of Funds	1	6	30	47	65	87	99	107	122	128	150	178	233	246	268	326	333	306	367	403	425 goal
Grants Given	$0	$0	$9,000	$33,000	.2M	.5M	.4M	1.7M	.86M	.9M	1.1M	1.6M	1.2M	.7M	1.5M	1.5M	1.1M	1.6	1.4M	1.6M	2M goal
Board Chairs			John Baird	Jim Bradshaw	David Brandt	Sarah Andersen	Sarah Andersen	Orv Johnson	Orv Johnson	Peter Kilde	Peter Kilde	Gretchen Stein	Gretchen Stein	David Wettergren	David Wettergren	Steve Wilcox	Steve Wilcox	Marty Harding	Marty Harding	Todd Gillingham	Todd Gillingham

St. Croix Valley Community Foundation is established

River Falls Community Foundation
New Affiliates
Hudson & River Falls,WI

Assets grew to $5,000,000

Recognized for meeting the Council on Foundation's National Standards

Partners for Future launched

New Affiliates
Amery, WI
& Chisago Lakes, MN
Charities Review Approval

Name change to St. Croix Valley Foundation

Lower St. Croix Valley Community Foundation
New Affiliate Lower St. Croix Valley

Investment Partners Program launched

New Affiliate
Stillwater, MN

New Affiliates
New Richmond
& Somerset, WI

New Affiliate
Prescott, WI

New Affiliate
Northwest Alliance Community Foundation

Focus on Partnerships

Celebrating 20 years of serving the St. Croix Valley

"From small streams, mighty rivers flow."

"Celebrate life, create a legacy, and make a difference."
~ Jim Bradshaw, Founder

Our partners care for the St. Croix Valley by:
• Making our families strong • Enhancing our unique cultural & historical resources • Preserving the river & our scenic landscapes • Celebrating our creative spirit