

Valley Queen

Charitable Foundation

2023 Annual Report



Making Milbank a great place to live, work, & play

OUR FOUNDATION

We were established in 2017 by Valley Queen Cheese as a non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

The Charitable Foundation strives to advance positive change by supporting organizations and initiatives that have community, educational, industry or humanitarian focus.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

In addition to improving our local communities, the Foundation:

- » Supports secondary and undergraduate level education
- » Contributes to the success of dairy industry organizations
- » Assists those in need due to financial hardship or unexpected challenges when help is needed most.

Board of Directors

Doug Wilke
Chair

Ken Karels
Vice Chair

Mike Misterek
Secretary/ Treasurer

Kristin Tanner
Director

Trudi Robel
Director

Brad Snaza
Director

Bryan Johnson
Director



Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are delighted to present the 2023 annual report for the Valley Queen Charitable Foundation. This report highlights our efforts and accomplishments in fulfilling our mission to Make Milbank a great place to live, work, & play.

Throughout the year, we partnered with over 70 organizations and countless individuals to make a positive impact on the lives of those in need. We are proud of what we have achieved in the past year, and this report is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our board members, staff, and volunteers. We are grateful for their tireless efforts in making our projects a reality.

We hope this report will inform and inspire you to join us in our ongoing efforts to create a better future for all.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Wilke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The logo for Valley Queen Charitable Foundation. The words "Valley Queen" are in a large, bold, white font with a black outline, set against a yellow background. Below it, "Charitable Foundation" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The logo is positioned on a yellow background that is part of a larger graphic element on the right side of the page.

Bed Building Event

Sleep In Heavenly Peace

On Saturday, April 15th the air at the Grant County 4H building was filled with sawdust and the sound of sanders and other power tools as a group of 40 Valley Queen Volunteers joined the Watertown Sleep In Heavenly Peace team to build 25 beds for area kids in need. It was a wonderful event, and one that will be repeated!



Funding Future Leaders

Over \$35,000 in scholarships awarded in 2023



We know the future of our community and industry depend upon the cultivation of strong leaders. That's why we are proud to support scholarships for high school seniors and students in undergraduate and technical programs in South Dakota and Minnesota.

The Foundation supports scholarships at Milbank High School, South Dakota State University, and Lake Area Technical College.

\$300,000 Pledge To Legion Field

Milbank, has a rich history when it comes to baseball. As the birthplace of American Legion Baseball, the sport holds a special place in the hearts of the community members.

In May 2023, the Foundation announced a generous \$300,000 matching gift to the Legion Baseball Field Fundraising Committee. The dollar-for-dollar match meant that every dollar raised by the committee would be matched up to \$300,000 bringing the project one step closer to completion.



By the end of 2023, over \$125,000 had been raised and matched, with even more donations anticipated for 2024!

The Legion Field is slated to host games in the spring and summer of 2024, and it is sure to be a source of pride for years to come.

Splash Park Update



In 2022, Valley Queen Impact Team members presented the idea of a community splash park to the Charitable Foundation and the City of Milbank. The idea was received with great enthusiasm, and in collaboration with the Flynn Estate, work began on the new \$450,000 Splash Park. The splash park, located in Hurley Park, is a free and family-friendly summertime attraction for the community with numerous water features. The park's construction was completed in the fall of 2023, and the community eagerly awaits its grand opening in the summer of 2024!

Foundation contributes \$250,000 to Milbank High School



CNC Plasma Cutter



Patient Simulator

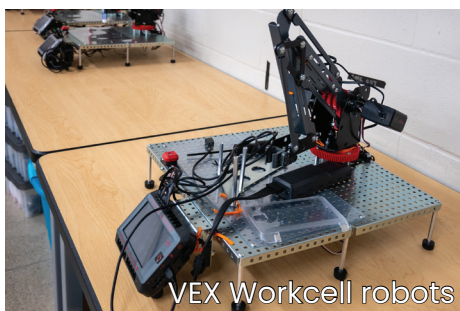


CNC Router

In June 2023, The Foundation announced a \$250,000 contribution to the Milbank School district for the new Career and Technical Education (CTE) expansion. These fund supported the purchase of specialized equipment needed to enhance the overall education experience of students in the Career and Technical Education classes, including:

2 Oxy-Acetylene Tables, 4 Multimatic 255 Multiprocess Welder, 1 MetalPro Hydraulic Bender, CNC Plasma Cutter, Veterinary Science Training Materials, Engineering Laptops, Plotter, VEX Workcell robots, an AVID CNC Router, and ALEX a cloud-connected patient simulator.

The CTE expansion opened in the Fall of 2023 and is a truly remarkable space filled with state-of-the-art equipment. Students now have a chance to be exposed to modern technology and career opportunities in highly technical fields.



VEX Workcell robots



Vet. Science Materials



Multimatic Welders

Manager Directed Contributions

Twice each year, each Valley Queen department manager selects a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to receive a \$1,500 donation on their behalf from the Valley Queen Charitable Foundation. Managers then present the checks to their organizations of choice.

In 2023, \$57,000 was distributed to a wide array of causes and organizations through manager-directed contributions.

75+ organizations benefitted from more than \$300,000 in contributions this year.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
AMERICA'S MIGHTY WARRIORS
BACKYARD BULLDOGS CHILD CARE
BARRON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
BEACON CENTER
BIG STONE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL
BIG STONE COUNTY ANIMAL RESCUE
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF WATERTOWN
BULLDOG BOOSTER CLUB
CENTRAL PLAINS DAIRY FOUNDATION
CHAUTAUQUA COMMUNITY CONCERT ASSOCIATION
CHILD'S VOICE - SANFORD MEDICAL CENTER
CITY OF MILBANK-HEART OF MILBANK RECREATION GIFT FUND
CORONA FIRE DEPARTMENT
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
EAST CENTRAL CASA PROGRAM
EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH - PRESCHOOL
ESSENTIA HEALTH FOUNDATION
FAMILY VISITATION CENTER
GRANT COUNTY 4-H
GRANT COUNTY 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS
GRANT COUNTY CHILD PROTECTION TEAM
GRANT COUNTY COMBINED APPEAL
GRANT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
GROUND WORKS - SD AG IN THE CLASSROOM
IT ONLY TAKES A SPARK CANCERWALK
JOY RANCH OF SOUTH DAKOTA
JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SD
LAKE AREA TECH FOUNDATION
LEADERSHIP SOUTH DAKOTA
LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH
MAIN STREET INDUSTRIES
MAKE A WISH OF SD-Region 4
MCCROSSAN BOYS RANCH
MHS EDUCATION FOUNDATION-LEANN KUPER SCHOLARSHIP
MIDWEST HONOR FLIGHT
MILBANK AREA HOSPITAL AVERA

MILBANK BALL DIAMOND ASSOCIATION
MILBANK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION- GOLF COURSE
MILBANK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION-YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE
MILBANK FFA (MILBANK SCHOOL)
MILBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT (CITY OF MILBANK)
MILBANK HIGH SCHOOL - OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS
MILBANK HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION FOUNDATION
MILBANK HIGH SCHOOL TRAP SHOOTING TEAM (MILBANK SCHOOL)
MILBANK SCHOOL DISTRICT 25-4
NATIONAL DAIRY SHRINE - CDPEC FUND
ND DELTA UPSILON EDUCATION FOUNDATION
ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN
PARENTS PROMOTING EDUCATION (KOCH SCHOOL)
PRAIRIE FIVE/BIG STONE FOOD SHELF
READ MINISTRIES
ROBERTS COUNTY 4-H/SHOOTING SPORTS
ROCK RANCH
RONALD MC DONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF MN
RONALD MC DONALD HOUSE CHARITIES OF SD
SALVATION ARMY
SD AMERICAN LEGION FOUNDATION
SD DIABETES COALITION
SD JUNIOR HOLSTEIN ASSOCIATION
SDSU FOUNDATION (Scholarships)
SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE INC.
SOUTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL & RURAL LEADERSHIP
SOUTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL FOUNDATION
SOUTH DAKOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOUTH DAKOTA
ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL
ST. LAWRENCE PARISH OF GRANT COUNTY - SCHOOL
THE ABBEY OF THE HILLS
THE FATTED CALF
THE TIMOTHY INITIATIVE, INC.
TOWN OF REVILLO
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN RIVER FALLS FOUNDATION
VEBLEN CLUB
WILMOT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



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