



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES

Message from the Trustees

We are pleased to release our annual report for the year 2016. This year, Argosy Foundation provided \$5.8Mi in grants to organizations working to improve health, public service, education, arts and humanities, human services, and the environment.

2016 brought us new opportunities, as well as difficult challenges amidst a tumultuous election season. Organizations we support – many of whom are reliant on public funding – suddenly found themselves in uncharted territory. Several were unexpectedly forced to re-strategize their courses for the near future, and did so without missing a beat in providing services to those who need it. Their resilience is inspiring.

Adding to this complexity, we witnessed the unprecedented power that unverified news sources have over the views and decision making processes of Americans, sometimes leading communities into supporting people and causes that undermine their best interests. This issue has underscored the importance of teaching critical thinking, supporting higher standards in journalism, and improving access to accurate information and research that helps keep the public well-informed. Along with that of private citizens and nonprofits, our role as grantmakers has been challenged by these unprecedented times, demanding heightened flexibility and innovative thinking to tackle pressing issues in a divided nation.

As is often the case with challenges, opportunities arose as well, which propelled us to identify common ground prospects and lift cross-partisan voices on issues that affect quality of life for all people. Through the good work of some of our partners, we were pleasantly surprised to witness the de-politicizing of issues such as climate change, and its deep implications for our economy and environment.

This year, we have continued to examine how the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors can benefit from assessing the role of diversity and inclusion in staffing and operations to better reflect our collective mission to improve the communities we serve. We are inspired by the thought leaders on cultural competency that captivated the nonprofit and philanthropic sector in 2016, and are eager to further our learning as we strive to fulfill our mission as a Foundation.

These opportunities amid uncertainty inspire and humble us. They invigorate our resolve in unpredictable times as we do our small part to foster dialog and work toward making the communities we serve better places to live.

The Argosy Foundation

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MISSION, VISION, AND GUIDING VALUES

Mission

The mission of the Argosy Foundation is to support people and programs that make our society a better place to live. We seek to employ creative and entrepreneurial approaches that help people to help themselves, and become self-sustaining whenever possible. Our intention is to solve systemic problems, build teams and communities, create replicable solutions, and inspire others to contribute in their own ways.

Vision

Argosy's vision is a world where all people are empowered and inspired to make a positive impact on their communities and our world.

Guiding Values

Family

This foundation is formed around a family and is meant to strengthen it. We are committed to encouraging and empowering philanthropy among family members.

Fiscal Stewardship

Argosy Trustees view themselves as stewards of financial and intellectual resources. We expect of ourselves and our partners a disciplined and responsible use of these resources.

Decision-Making

Argosy is deeply committed to informing the decision-making process. Proportionate to their impact, decisions should be the end result of rigorous research, data, and analysis, including best practices, risk contingency, and scenario modeling.

Human Resources

The most important variable in an organization is personnel. We are committed to aggressively seeking out, retaining, and developing an increasingly effective staff. We strongly support our partners in doing the same, particularly in leadership.

Method of Engagement

We seek to make investments that empower through infrastructure and long-term capacity-building. We approach investments with a shared notion of engagement, defined benchmarks, and an exit strategy. We encourage creativity, try to avoid bureaucracy and dependence, and focus on outcomes.

Outcomes

We are committed to continually assessing the effectiveness of ourselves and our nonprofit partners, and equally dedicated to learning from and adapting to the findings. We encourage and support partners to adopt efficient and creative study designs.

Volunteer Ethic

We celebrate and encourage the charitable impulse in society. We believe in interacting with our peers, our partners, our staff, and the community with respect and grace. Where we disagree with others, we try to communicate productively.

Collaboration

What is done well in isolation is often done better in partnership. We seek collaboration and encourage our partners to continually explore potential collaborations when they lead to greater efficiencies, scalability, and pooled-voice advocacy.

Curiosity

We believe that continually examining the world in which we live and the fields in which we work makes us better grantmakers. We are committed to remaining open-minded, sharing knowledge, and learning from our successes and failures.

Integrity

By operating in a manner consistent with our values, we hope our methodology and integrity will earn respect. We value diversity and differences of opinion regarding our decisions and actions. ●

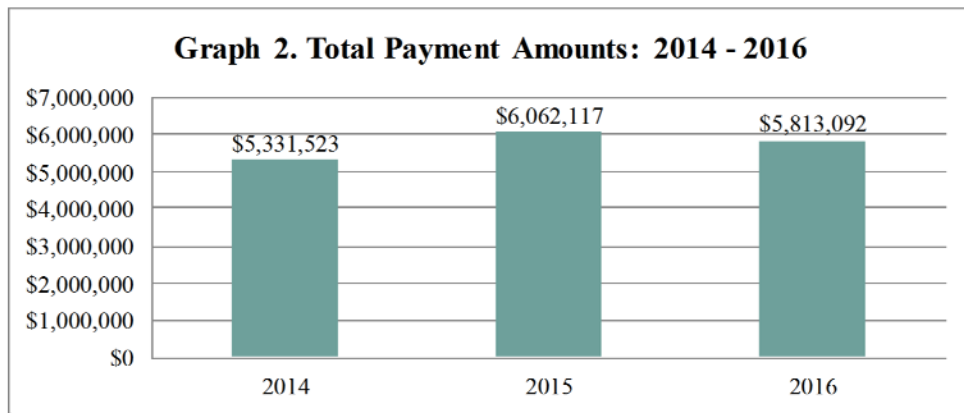
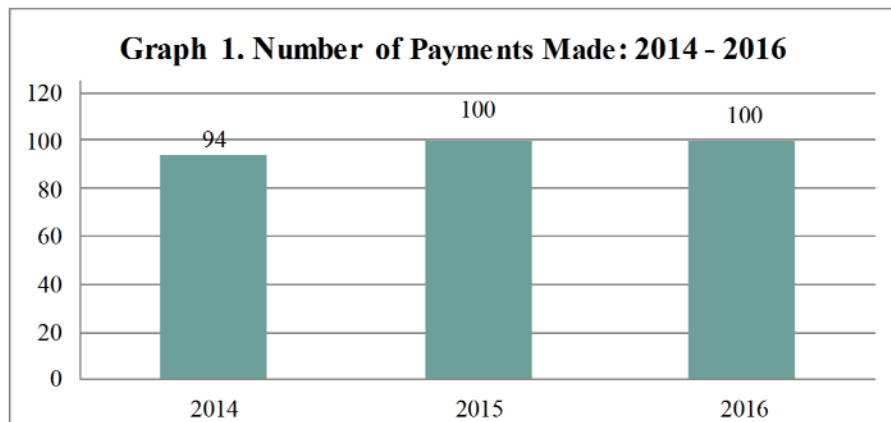
2016 FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

INVESTMENTS AND EXPENSES

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Operating & Administrative Expenses in 2016: | \$602,301 |
| Charitable Payments Made in 2016*: | \$5,813,092 |

*Grant payments that were made in 2016 may have been approved in previous years, as grants can be paid over several years.

Please note that Argosy's investments are not always financial. For example, Trustees and staff frequently serve on executive search committees and advisory boards, provide in-house research, and assist with program evaluations.



INVESTMENTS BY TYPE AND ORGANIZATION

The following lists present Argosy's 2016 paid financial investments classified into two categories: grant payments \$20,000 and under, and grant payments over \$20,000.

INVESTMENT FACTS

- 30 organizations received grant payments in the “\$20,000 and under” category for a total of \$277,352.
- 67 organizations received grant payments in the “over \$20,000” range, totaling \$5,535,740.

Please note: Some of the organizations listed may have received more than one grant payment, and some payments may fulfill grants approved in previous years.

GRANT PAYMENTS \$20,000 AND UNDER

30th Street Industrial Corridor
To support an environmental project.

Acumen Fund
To support the general fund.

Attention Homes
To support programs for the homeless.

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless
To support programs for the homeless.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America
To match an employee donation.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee
To support an event.

Center for Biological Diversity
To support an environmental program.

Center for Veterans Issues
To support a program for veterans.

Center for Whole Communities
To support training and converting to renewable energy.

Colorado Public Radio
To provide a matching grant.

East Troy Middle School
To support a robotics program.

Energy and Enterprise Initiative
To support clean energy efforts.

FIRST
To support STEM.

Habitat for Humanity International
To match an employee donation.

Hands to Honduras
To support construction and equipment for a NICU.

IngenuityNE
To support STEM.

Intercambio de Comunidades
To support a program for immigrants and general operations.

Not An Alternative, Inc.
To support an environmental project.

Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains
To provide general operating support.

Public Accountability Initiative
To provide general operating support.

Public Policy Forum
To support a research project.

Riverside University High School Foundation
To match an employee donation.

Steps Coalition
To support an environmental project.

Tamarack Waldorf School
To match an employee donation.

The Kitchen Community
To match an employee donation.

The Vote Solar Initiative
To provide general operating support.

University of Vermont
To support the Integrative Health program.

University of Wyoming Foundation
To support the Center for International Human Rights Law & Advocacy.

Urban Roots
To match employee donations.

Women for MACC
To match an employee donation.

GRANT PAYMENTS OVER \$20,000

American Academy for the Advancement of Science
To support a fellowship program.

American Indian College Fund
To support scholarships.

Baptist Health South Florida Foundation
To support a research project.

Beyond Benign, Inc.
To support Green Chemistry.

Boston University College of Engineering
To support a STEM program.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee
To support a campaign.

Center for Biological Diversity
To support an environmental project.

Center for Youth Engagement
To support a research project.

Central Florida FIRST
To support growth efforts

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity
To support heating and weatherization assistance, and the food pantry.

CHOICES—Memphis Center for Reproductive Health
To support training.

Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights—COLOR
To support health programs.

Common Ground Communities
To support programs for the homeless.

Cook Inletkeeper
To support an environmental project.

Cooperation Jackson
To support an environmental project.

Creative Commons
To support a special event.

Deep Time Journey Network
To support an art project.

Environmental Learning for Kids
To support environmental education

FIRST
To support a robotics competition; growth efforts; and to provide a challenge grant.

FIRST in Canada
To support a robotics program at a children's hospital.

FIRST in Iowa
To support growth efforts.

FIRST in Michigan
To support STEM.

FIRST in Texas
To support STEM.

FIRST Robotics Western Canada
To support FIRST Mechatronics Makerspace

Foundation for Community-Driven Innovation
To support Central Florida FIRST.

Haven Health Clinics
To support a health program.

If/When/How (Law Students for Reproductive Justice)
To provide general operating support.

IndianaFIRST Inc.
To support STEM.

Interfaith Youth Core
To support an interfaith project.

KC STEM Alliance
To support a FIRST Robotics program.

Kentucky Health Justice Network
To support a healthcare project.

Khan Academy
To support technology enhancements.

King Street Center
To support a capital campaign, and a youth program.

Legal Voice
To provide general operating support.

Living Lands & Waters
To provide general operating support.

Mercy Connections
To provide general operating support

Milwaukee Film
To provide general operating support.

Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity
To support an internship program.

Milwaukee Marathon, Inc.
To provide general operating support.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
To provide general operating support.

Minneapolis Foundation
To support Re-AMP.

MIT Collaborative Initiatives
To support a research project

Montshire Museum of Science
To support youth programs.

GRANT PAYMENTS OVER \$20,000

(continued)

The Museum of Science – Boston
To support general operations.

Oklahoma FIRST
To support a STEM project for youth.

Pierson Library
To support a special project.

Pine Island Community Farm
To support a farming program.

Planned Parenthood Great Plains
To support capital expenditures.

Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky
To support a health program.

Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains
To support reproductive health education programs.

Radio Milwaukee, Inc.
To support a community project.

RENEW Wisconsin
To support environmental projects.

River Revitalization Foundation
To provide general operating support.

Rocketship Education
To support an education program.

Saint Paul FIRST Robotics HUB
To support growth efforts.

Schools That Can Milwaukee
To support general operating expenses.

Shelburne Museum
To provide support for general operations.

SisterSong
To support a project.

Stand (FKA Forest Ethics)
To support an environmental project.

The Vote Solar Initiative
To provide general operating support.

United Performing Arts Fund
To support Milwaukee arts organizations.

Urban Ecology Center
To support environmental education.

Vermont Foodbank
To support general operating expenses.

Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden & Grand Isle Counties
To support a youth & family program.

Wake Forest University Health Sciences
To support an internship program.

Western Resource Advocates
To support a clean energy project.

Western NY STEM Hub of the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County
To support STEM.
