

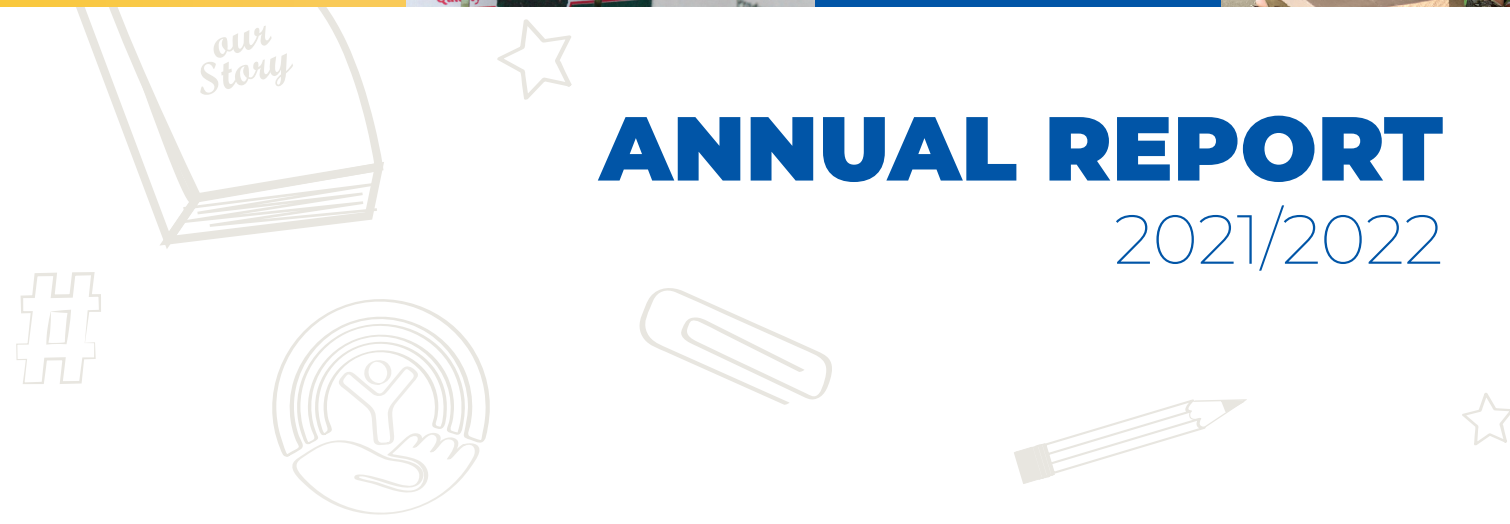


United Way of Douglas
& Pope Counties



ANNUAL REPORT

2021/2022



A letter from the Executive Director

Once upon a time in Douglas & Pope Counties, community members came together to make a difference in the lives of their neighbors and friends.

Despite the hardships faced by many individuals and families brought on by a pandemic, and the rising costs of daily living, our community rose to the challenge to meet the needs of others and provide support in times of uncertainty.

Several faced barriers of access when it came to mental health services, educational opportunities, housing, employment and food. We are committed to our mission to create change by connecting people, resources, and ideas to continue to offer necessary programs and provide grants to local non-profits to reduce barriers.

The extraordinary generosity of time and donations has created opportunities for people who live in our area. I am inspired by the resilience of our community and the dedication of our donors, partners and staff.

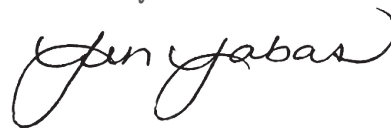
At United Way we convened local partners and collaborated with city, county and state leaders, nonprofit organizations, businesses, donors, and volunteers to make the greatest impact by investing in health, education and financial stability programs. These partnerships allowed us to launch Hope Haven, a program that provides shelter for individuals who are homeless and assists them in securing affordable housing.

We were overwhelmed with the outpouring of support and thank you for making this our largest campaign ever and most successful

year in responding to needs. We have not only recovered but have emerged stronger than ever!

I invite you to continue reading about our collective impact through stories from local people whose lives were touched by your support of United Way.

Thank you for inspiring us and joining us in creating *a happily ever after* for so many!



Jen Jabas
Executive Director
jjabas@uwdp.org

Current Team Members



Jen Jabas
Executive Director
Maria Haug
Accountant & Office Manager
Kendall Brickweg
Marketing & Communications
Leah Wolkow
Program Coordinator

Mission, Vision and Values

Mission Statement

We are changing the game by connecting people, resources, & ideas to promote individual self-sufficiency by investing in health, education, and financial stability.

Vision

We LIVE UNITED, inspiring people to make a lasting difference in the lives of all.

Values

- Stewardship
- Trustworthy
- Respect
- Community Collaboration
- Innovation

United Way of Douglas and Pope Counties fights for the health, education and financial stability of every person in our community.

Accreditation



2021-2022 Board Members



First Row: Mark Anderson, Sanderson Bell, Andrew Cavers, Lisa De Krey, Tom Flynn, Jessie Hjelle, Stephanie Howe

Second Row: Bob Iacono, Darcy Josephson, Dave Lamb, Glenn Miller, Erica Overshiner, Todd Peterson, Brandy Quam

Third Row: Corey Simonson, Carl Vaagenes, Harley Vestrum



Photos: Cot set for a Hope Haven guest at First Lutheran Church.

A big, bold move for our community.

This fall we experienced an increase in homelessness in our community... we saw individuals faced with the reality of staying in dangerous situations, sleeping in their car or outdoors during cold winter nights. We quickly responded and launched a new program in partnership with WCMCA; Hope Haven.

Together with support of law enforcement, local churches and hundreds of volunteers we launched a program to care for these individuals immediate needs. Hope Haven allowed those served to have peace of mind by providing warm meals and shelter for the night.

During the day guests worked with case managers to improve their situation, secure permanent housing and work towards financial stability. 100% of individuals who stayed with us were able to secure housing during their stay.

That's the impact of United Way, the ability to meet our communities needs when they arise. Your support and donations have allowed us to do it!

United Way of Douglas
& Pope Counties



Health Goals

Goal: Individuals/Families have opportunities to improve their mental health.

Focus Areas:

- Promote mental health and healing with children and youth.
- Promote mental health and healing with adults.

Story “A Father and His Three Sons” Provided by a United Way Health Grant Recipient

“We have been providing services for a father to visit his three sons. He is also working on completing the Nurtured Family Program. During his time with us he has completed treatment, has a steady job, and continues to work on getting his life in a place that is safe to take care of his children. During their visits they play pool, air hockey, do crafts, and always share a meal together as a family.”

Health Investments



ELDER NETWORK:

Helping seniors live independently by meeting emotional, social, mental health, and respite care needs.
- \$8,500 -



LSS OUT PATIENT MENTAL HEALTH:

Services that ensure safe homes & hopeful futures for a family.
- \$18,000 -



LSS COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES:

Family based service, centered on prevention, intervention, and treatment for those who are in crisis and/or have a child at risk of out of home placement.
- \$7,500 -



VILLAGE FAMILY SERVICE CENTER:

Quality education & counseling encompassing an array of services in both in and out patient settings.
- \$19,000 -



WCMCA PLUS KIDS:

Douglas County safe exchange and visitation location for parents to conduct supervised visits.
- \$16,500 -



UWDP SINGLECARE:

*Formerly "FamilyWize"
Prescription discount cards for individuals who have no or limited insurance or medications not covered by their current insurance.
- \$0 -



Education Goals

Goal: Children enter school ready and prepared to be successful.

Goal: Youth gain the knowledge and skills to be successful in their career and future.

Focus Areas:

- Increase literacy for children and youth.
- Equip children and youth with knowledge and skills to support lifelong learning.
- Equip families with knowledge and skills to support child and youth learners.

Story **“Providing Scholarships”** Provided by a United Way Education Grant Recipient

“A young family was overwhelmed by mounting bills and daycare costs. Our program was able to provide a full scholarship to the family so that their child could attend preschool and make huge academic and social gains throughout the year. The child really benefited from the socialization of same age peers!”

Education Investments



APS COMMUNITY EDUCATION - LIFE LONG LEARNING:

Youth scholarship dollars to support students and families
- \$23,000 -



BRANDON, EVANSVILLE ECFE:

Programming that aims to have each child ready for Kindergarten.
- \$1,000 -



MINNEWASKA ECFE:

Programming that aims to have each child ready for Kindergarten.
- \$8,000 -



UWDP DAY OF CARING:

Day of community service projects and volunteer engagement with Discovery Middle School 8th grade students.
- \$2,880 -



UWDP STUFF THE BUS:

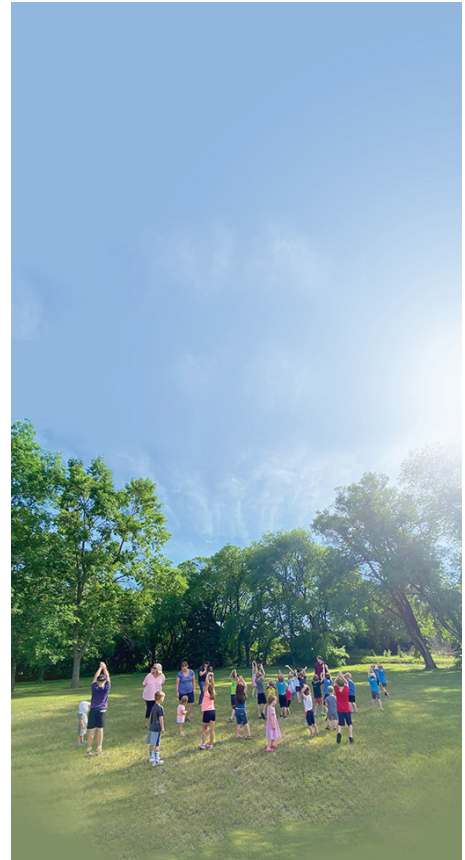
Program that provides K-12 students with new school supplies and backpacks through community collection and distribution.
- \$8,206 -
+ In-kind donations



UWDP TRAVELING TREE HOUSE:

Mobile learning center, staffed with educators, provides literacy programming over summer in community neighborhoods.
- \$17,312 -





Photos: (Left) 340 Students received backpacks through Stuff the Bus. (Right) Students learn and play at Garfield Park-a-While Gardens while attending the Traveling Tree House. (Bottom) 8th Grade DMS students take on outdoor projects for the Day of Caring.

Financial Stability

Goal: Individuals/Families have opportunities for employment, enhanced financial literacy and their basic needs met.

Focus Areas:

- Assist individuals in gaining and maintaining employment.
- Promote life skills and financial literacy.
- Ensure basic needs are met (Food, Housing and Personal Safety)

Story “A Homeless Student” Provided by a United Way Financial Stability Grant Recipient

“A local high school referred a homeless senior to our office. We were able to place her in our program for a short period of time. During that time she began working and was accepted to a local Community College. Staff assisted her in securing housing near the college and worked with her on several life skills. She remains housed and continues to receive case management from our staff.”

Financial Stability Investments



LEGAL SERVICES OF NORTH-WEST MINNESOTA:

Legal services for those in serious need, based on issues such as low income, domestic violence protection, legal education of tenants, and housing rights.
- \$17,000 -



NORTH COUNTRY FOOD BANK:

Low cost, quality food and non-food products distributed to member agencies at discounted rate.
- \$ 30,000 Douglas -
- \$ 8,000 Pope -



SOMEPLACE SAFE CRIME VICTIM ADVOCACY:

Crisis assistance and advocacy for individuals impacted by physical or sexual abuse.
- \$20,000 Douglas County -
- \$6,000 Pope County -



SOMEPLACE SAFE PARENTING TIME CENTER:

Pope County safe exchange and visitation spot for parents to have supervised visits.
- \$6,000 -



WCMCA TRANSITIONAL HOUSING:

Temporary housing for families with high barriers. Offers support, structure, and supervision while families seek permanent housing.
- \$13,000 -



WCMCA LAUNCH PAD:

Provides free, temporary housing for those experiencing homelessness while they work on establishing stability.
- \$13,000 -

Financial Stability Investments



ALEXANDRIA AREA YMCA:

Providing Scholarships for YMCA Childcare families who are experiencing hardship.

- \$5,500 -



UWDP

BACKPACK ATTACK:

Provides students with a child-friendly bag of food to take home over the weekend.

- \$61,526 -



UWDP

EQUIPPED TO WORK:

Provides resources to individuals that allow them to secure employment.

- \$5,000 -



UWDP HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM:

Assists local families in stretching dollars by matching them with someone who purchases holiday gifts for their kids ages 0 - 18.

- \$4,636 -

- + In-kind donations -



UWDP FOOD DROP:

Monthly food distribution event in both Douglas & Pope Counties that is available to all residents facing food insecurity.

- \$32,353 Douglas -

- \$17,008 Pope -



UWDP COAT DISTRIBUTION:

Coats and cold weather wear made available to residents in need. All items are free of charge.

- All In-kind donations -



Photo: Volunteers packs bags of food outside of New Life Christian Church for the Douglas County Food Drop.

Leaders in Giving

TOCQUEVILLE

(\$10,000)

Ekstrand Family

DIAMOND

(\$7,500-\$9,999)

Vestrum, Harley & Jeannie

PLATINUM

(\$5,000-\$7,499)

Kopitzke, Mike & Deloris

GOLD

(\$3,500-\$4,999)

Anonymous

Dale, Dr. Paul & Karen

Wosepka, Tom & Kelly

SILVER

(\$2,000-\$3,499)

Anonymous

Ballou, Jon & Kathy

Cole, Linda

Florell, Paul & Judith

Klimek, Brian & Nicole

Kuhlmann, Judy

Lefebvre, Gerald

Loken, John

Meyer, Randal & Joan

Thompson, David E

Vaagenes, Carl & Kristen

Zabrosky, Geri

TITANIUM

(\$1,000-\$1,999)

Bakker, Travis & Mary

Baumgartner, Mark

Beebout, Lance & Melani

Bell, Sandy & Michele

Berg, Kristen

Bianco, Joanne

Bisek, De Wayne & Dorothy

Bristow, Mike & Jean

Bruckner, Sherry

Bush, Tim & Terri

Carns, Ryan & Jody

Castle, Tony & Nancy

Christiansen, Scott

Finley, Bill & Jenna

Flowers-Wink, Kim

Flynn, Tom & Susan

Good, Heather & Charley

Haug, Andrew

Haugen, Chris & Nanette

Hennen, Anthony & Phyllis

Henry, Stephen & Diane

Hoffman, Brian & Sandra

Hohn, Jeffrey & C.J.

Howell, Ken & Jeanne

Hunter, Neal & Laurie

Iserman, Brent & Molly

Jabas, Jamie & Jen

Jodsaas, Vicki

Kuhn, Jeff & Beth

Larson, Mark

Lehtola, Dan

Lenertz, Tom

Mammel Family Foundation

Meissner, Carol & Harold

Meyer, Nate & Sharlo

Miller, Glenn & Ann

Olson, Timothy

Paulsen, Nick

Peterson, Todd & Susan

Pfeiffer, Mike & Michelle

Ramos, Jorge & Stephanie

Restad, Jeff

Ricker, Michele

Rohr, Kent & Cindy

Scherber, Jordan & Morgan

Schultz, Roger & Ruth

Sellnow, David & Bobbi Jo

Shaskey-Setright, Carl & Jody

Shockman, Caleb

Simonson, Corey & Michelle

Suchy, Mark & Stacey

Timmerman, Eric & Lisa

Trenne, Joanne

Tubbs, Sandra & Robley, Dave

Urke, Jill & Brent

Van Hout, Lawrence & Lisa

Wendlandt, Miranda

West, Mark

Zimny, Anthony & Leann

Zwilling, Craig & Rebecca

BRONZE

(\$750-\$999)

Carstensen, Tasha

Fuller, Roger

Iverson, Barb

Jones, Michele

Landman, Kirk & Jane

Loosbrock, Anthony

Pohlen, Jason & Gina

COPPER

(\$500-\$749)

Albright, Rebecca

Anderson, Dianna

Anderson, Ethan

Anderson, Jack & Edith

Anderson, Linda

Anderson, Mark & Sally

Anderson, Robert & Marcia

Anonymous

Bantau, Ronald

Beck, Dean & Joyce

Bethke-Kaliher, Michelle

Buckley, Dennis

Chapman, Christopher

Currens, Dave & Sue

Doering, Lee

Eggebraaten, Kimberly

Ekola, Erik

Engebretson, Paul & Linda

Fernholz, Paul & Heather

Flaig, Barbara

Friday, Ralph & Paulette

Leaders in Giving Continued

COPPER

(\$500-\$749)

Greenwaldt, Bill
Gugisberg, Marnie
Harvey, Jonathan
Haug, Stephen & Kathleen
Haugen, Kevin
Hawkins, Dan
Helgeson, John
Hillard, Catie
Hunt, Kai & Myrna
Huseth, John & Joan
Iacono, Robert & Margaret
Illies, Marc & Sara
Issendorf, Troy & Rhonda
Johnson, Donald & Judy
Jost, Ken & Nora
Kinney, Randy & Cathy
Kleinschmidt, Abby
Kompelner, Ryan
Lamb, Dave & Melonee
Langseth, Daniel & Pamela

Larson, David & Cheryl Dr.
Lien, Anthony
Lindoo, Jeff & Janna
Loxtercamp, Kim
Lundeen, Marc & Susan
Lutterman, Janet
Mackedanz, Marvin & Holly
Mages, Jim & Tricia
Malingen, Mark
Martin, Dan
Martinson, Paul & Anna
Mattox, Leigh
McCarten, Paul
Mess, Brooke Ann
Mohabir, Kathleen
Molitor, Ronald
Mounsdon, Matthew
Navratil, Derek & Isabelle
Neils, Craig
Nelson, Peter & Kari
Niblett, Whitney
Nielsen, Mitchell

Olson, Chris
Olson-Loy, Douglas & Sandra
Pappenfus, Larry & Beth
Paulsen, Rick & Sandy
Perseke, Bobbi & Billy
Petersen, Mark & Shari
Platt, Mary & Chuck
Quam, Joel & Brandy
Rushing, Alex
Sand, Lindsey
Sands, Kyle
Seela, Glenda
Snyder, Catherine
Spychalla, Amy
Stubbs, Aaron
Swenson, Bryce
Taillefer, Duane
VanderTuin, Brad & Leigha
Warzecha, Jennessa
Watts, Raymond & Wendy
Wentworth, Todd & Amy
Westphal, Carol

This list may not reflect all donors who gave \$500+. Not all business campaigns are able to provide employee names and their donation amount. If you believe that you may be one of these donors or corrections need to be made, please contact us to update our records.



Photo: Executive Director Jen Jabas meets with invested community members to help allocate requested dollars to non-profits.

Partnership Package

**LIVE UNITED
PARTNERS**

(\$10,000+)



Our Partnership Package (\$1,500+) and Community Partners (\$500 - \$1,499) recognizes gifts given from a business or organization in support of United Way or a United Way program. These categories do not include employee giving or grants.

PARTNERSHIP PACKAGE COMMUNITY IMPACT

**(\$5,000+ Dollars directed toward
United Way Program(s))**

Alexandria Covenant Church
Alomere
Consolidated Equipment
Group, LLC
First Lutheran Church

GOLD (\$5,000)

3M
American Solutions for Business
Anonymous
ITW Heartland
Sanford Health

SILVER (\$3,000)

Integrity Title Inc
Knute Nelson

BRONZE (\$1,500)

American National Bank
Eagle Bank
Bell Bank
Nodland Construction Co., Inc.
Osakis Economic Development Corp
Sauk Valley Lutheran Church
SunOpta
Target
Zavadii Development Inc.

COMMUNITY PARTNER (\$500 - \$1,499)

Ag Country Farm Credit Services
Alexandria Chamber of Commerce
Alexandria Veterinary Clinic
Alexandria Youth Division YBA
Bethany on the Lake
Elim Lutheran Church
Glenwood Rotary Club
Hardwood Hills Golf Course
Heartland Orthopedic Specialists
Lions Club of Carlos Minnesota
Mid-State Hydraulic & Machine
Nelson Community Association
Ollie`s Service, Inc.
ORB Management
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Stearns Electric Association Trust
Studio E Architects LLC
VFW Auxiliary Post 7902

*“Only by giving are you able to receive
more than you already have.”*

JIM ROHN

Employee Giving Campaigns

Businesses or organizations who held Employee Giving Campaigns.

3M	Ellingson Plumbing & Heating & Air Conditioning	Minnewaska School
Aagard Group, LLC	Federal Express	Osakis Elementary School
Alexandria Light and Power	First Western Bank & Trust	PrimeWest Health Systems
Alexandria Public Schools	Glacial Ridge Hospital	Runestone Area Education District
Alomere	Glenwood State Bank	Runestone Electric Association
American Solutions For Business	Henry`s Foods	Sanford Health
Ashby School District #261	Horizon Public Health	Solutions Behavioral Healthcare Professionals
Bell Bank	ITW Heartland	Target
Brandon-Evansville School District	Knute Nelson	Tastefully Simple
Bremer Bank	Legal Services of Northwest	United Parcel Service
CliftonLarsonAllen	Minnesota	US Bank
Coborn`s Inc.	LGC	Wal Mart
Consolidated Equipment Group, LLC	Lutheran Social Services	Widseth Smith Nolting & Associates
Douglas Machine	Massman	Zimny Insurance
Echo Press	Minnesota State Employees	

In-Kind Giving & Grants

In-Kind Giving: Goods or services donated or given at a reduced rate that were valued at \$500+.
Grants: Grantors who provide \$5,000+ to United Way or a United Way Program.

IN KIND GIVING

Henry's Foods
CLA
Cub Foods
Geneva Golf Club
West Central Sanitation
Alex Rubbish and Recycling
Smokin' Brews & Ques
3M

GRANTS

Douglas Machine Foundation
Emergency Food & Shelter Program
Otto Bremer Foundation
West Central Initiative



Photo: CliftonLarsonAllen and Tastefully Simple team up for a Backpack Attack packing.

Engagement



Photo: Women United members enjoy the spring fundraising event.



Photo: Brenton challenges golfers to a putting game at their sponsored hole at the Golf Classic.



Photo: Completed Speed Volunteer projects Birthday Bags, Household Baskets, Meal in a Bag & Care Kits.

AFFINITY GROUPS

As an integral part of United Way, Affinity Groups fight for the health, education, and financial stability of every person in Douglas & Pope Counties.

UNITED WAY WOMEN UNITED

Women United

Women United's mission locally is to help children become educated, empowered, and elevated by focusing on childhood literacy. The Annual Women United Fundraiser supports The Traveling Tree House and childhood literacy locally. In 2022 Women United was able to raise \$17,284 to support the Traveling Tree House!

UNITED WAY RETIRE UNITED

Retire United

Retire United is an affinity group bringing together retired individuals who share an interest in creating a better community by volunteering, advocating and giving.

EVENTS

United Way events create an opportunity for awareness, philanthropy and FUN. Our signature fundraisers get businesses and individuals involved in community and giving back to support health, education and financial stability. Each year our fundraisers account for \$50,000+ of our total campaign.

Your attendance, sponsorship and support of these events throughout the year is appreciated!

- **Trap Tournament** September
- **Chili Cook-off** October
- **Live United Luncheon** November
- **Beer, Wine & Food Tasting** February/March
- **Women United** April
- **Golf Classic** June

COLLABORATION

Community Impact Coalition

CIC's strategic intent is to create long lasting impact in our community in the areas of health, education and financial stability by serving as a resource in identifying and meeting community needs, as well as being a resource to one another. Meetings take place once a month.

Speed Volunteering

Speed Volunteering opportunities were created by United Way with input from local non-profits. These worksheets contain projects focused around addressing a commonly expressed needs from clients served. Projects can be easily coordinated and completed with friends, families, youth groups or coworkers. Completed projects can be dropped off at United Way. United Way connects these resources with people and agencies in Douglas and Pope Counties who need them.



Photos: (Left) Team Massman joins us at our Annual Trap Shooting Tournament. (Right) ITW lends their skills by helping us to update our backroom to better serve our community. (Left) Cub Foods and The Blizzard provide Christmas Meals to those in need through Speed Volunteering and the United Way Holiday Gift Program. (Right) After hosting Rise & Shine at the Glenwood Chamber & Welcome Center volunteers stayed to help pack bags of 750 bags of Backpack Attack. (Left) Volunteer Deanna organizes our Coat Room as we get ready to distribute coats to guests. (Right) Sertoma joins us on the golf course for our biggest golf fundraiser yet!

VOLUNTEER

uwdp.galaxydigital.com

Search volunteer opportunities from United Way and other local non-profits.

STAY CONNECTED

@unitedwaydouglaspope
www.uwdp.org



LEARN MORE

View our audited financial and more at www.uwdp.org.



**United Way of Douglas
& Pope Counties**

United Way of Douglas & Pope Counties
PO Box 1148
Alexandria, MN 56308

**NON-PROFIT
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