



GENEROSITY MATTERS

Your Gifts at Work



Your Gifts Lift Others

Since the **Employee Emergency Aid Fund** in the Oakwood Foundation was established in 2022, 14 employees and families received emergency grants thanks to your gifts.

Four employees received help during the first two years of the program; it was surprising and unfortunate that 10 needed help last year.

Your generous gifts respond to these personal emergencies as a tangible way to help and encourage Oakwood employees when they are facing a difficult situation.

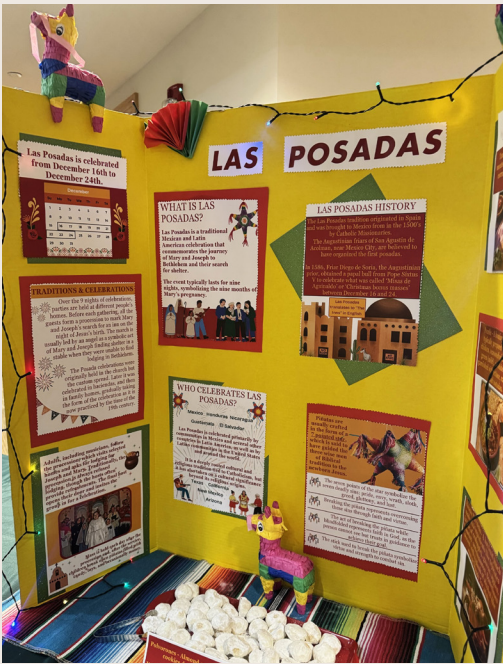
The grants are confidential, and recipients are not asked for their stories.

Two grant recipients who sent notes of thanks shared their gratitude:

"I'd like to thank you and all Oakwood Foundation donors for the much-appreciated and generous gift! This will most definitely help me while I'm off work!"

"My family and I have faced some major challenges in these past few years. Kindness, like this gift, means so much. Please express my appreciation to those involved."

The fund answers requests for help involving health or hardship situations for an employee, their spouse or child, or in cases of a disaster impacting an employee's residence.



Your Gifts Foster a Sense of Belonging

Aspen Maxwell, *Horticulture and Landscape Supervisor, Co-chair of DEIB Committee (they/them)*

In 2024, we recognized the importance of ensuring that people of all backgrounds, identities, races, and life experiences feel welcome working and living in the Oakwood Community. Your gifts to the Oakwood Foundation made it possible to create a new staff-led Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Committee which seeks to support and improve commitment to inclusion, one of Oakwood’s core values.

Oakwood Village remains committed to advancing diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in 2025. Our mission statement for this committee is: *to create an inclusive environment where diverse perspectives can thrive and to promote a sense of belonging among staff members by providing educational resources and working to remove barriers to staff success caused by inequality, injustice, and discrimination.*

Your gifts last year supported a speaker series, new training for staff members, and educational and informational materials for use by the entire Oakwood Community. This year, your gifts will increase community involvement, facilitate a DEIB monthly newsletter highlighting culturally significant months and events, and bring in additional educational speakers. Thanks to your gifts, we are planning exciting programming, events, and learning opportunities for 2025!



Your Gifts Put Up a Fence

Your gifts improved a popular walking path around the Prairie Ridge campus in 2024.

Dead Juniper shrubs behind Settlers Ridge were removed last summer, and a new fence was installed in December. The rail fence protects path users from a 6-foot drop.

Horticulture Supervisor Aspen Maxwell plans to apply mulch to the area in the spring and watch for any returning invasive vines.

Maxwell hopes the area will be ready for planting in 2026.





Peggy's Park is Ready

A generous gift from a former resident created an Agility Park to provide outside therapy for Oakwood Rehabilitation patients.

Margaret (Peggy) Lindberg called Oakwood home from November 2006 until her passing on December 15, 2021. A generous donor during her lifetime to Oakwood and other charities, Lindberg continued her philanthropy after death by creating a foundation.

The Agility Park provides an outdoor component for rehab patients, notes Rehabilitation director Kristin Lefel. "The Agility Park will provide a tranquil and attractive outdoor space for our therapy team to address mobility goals at an elevated level. The variety of surfaces in such a unique space will allow for advanced opportunities to work on skills we otherwise wouldn't have the environment to do so."

The park also serves as an area where families visiting loved ones in Hebron can visit and relax.

The Margaret A. Lindberg Foundation voted to support the park behind the new Hebron Oaks facility in 2023. A ground-breaking ceremony was held on September 23, 2024, and the dedication of Peggy Lindberg's Agility Park will be on May 5.



Your Gifts Set the Table...

in the Tabor Oaks Oakridge Inn where residents enjoy new tables at breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The tables arrived October 30, 2024.

Director of Dining Services Laurie Sachtjen is glad to replace the original tables.

"The update to the dining space has drawn more and more Tabor residents to come to the dining room for meals, adding to the sense of community! Our staff also appreciates the update, as the new tables are easy to clean!"

Updated Online Giving Page!

If you want to give to the Oakwood Foundation online you may use the Oakwood Village website, **oakwoodvillage.net** and click on the word **donate** at the top of the screen.

You may also reach the giving page by entering **<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/oakwoodfoundationinc>** in your browser.

As an additional security measure, your Card Security Code (CSC) is required to complete a gift. Besides making a one-time gift, you may also set up a recurring gift to join the Oak Tree Circle.

Welcome to New 2024 Donor Society Members!

All Oakwood donors are vital in carrying out the mission of Oakwood Village. We recognize those who joined an Oakwood Foundation donor society for the FIRST TIME last year. A complete list of 2024 donors will appear in *Oakwood Outlook* later this year.

Oak Society Donors join this society by giving \$1,000 or more through one or more gifts in a calendar year.

Margaret Baker	Elizabeth Conklin	Roland R. Rueckert
Nadine Bergstrom	Steven & Patty Dyreson	Maxine Sandretto
Ann M. Bertler	Bob & Jane Ferrett	Claire Shaffer
Dorothy A. Blotz	Toshiko Gunji	Dale & Rhoda Sharpee
David & Rhoda Braunschweig	Tom & Kelley Gunkel	Josephine Skogman
Brooks & Ginger Brenneis	Janice Hamilton-Crawford	Sandra Synnes
Thomas L. Bruckner	Ann Harsh	Elsie & Robert Todd
Mike & Bonnie Callen	Theoder Heuvelman	Mary Trewartha
Susan & Charles Carlson	Doug & Mary Loving	Emily York
Jan Christian	Jerry R. Martin	
	Art & Marcia Rainwater	
	Patricia Riley	

Golden Oak Society The Golden Oak Society honors donors who give \$5,000 through one or more gifts in a year.

Audrey Burkholder	Herbert J. Hopen	Barbara Pettersen
Ulla N. Evans	Charlotte Larsen	Charles & Helen Read
Janet Ferris	Michael & June McCowin	Jan B. Robertson
Cheryl & David Frazier	Patricia Paska	Emily A. York

Oak Tree Circle This society recognizes donors who give automatically each month using a credit card, direct deposit, or payroll deduction.

Elizabeth Conklin	Jennifer McGinty	Andrea Thompson
Cara Hamm	Brittany Montgomery	Yolanda Toro
Lisa Johnson	Nataja Morrisette	Natasha Weberg
Andrew Kaucic	Elizabeth Rollert	Nicole Whitfield
Tricia A. Knaus	Christine Schulz	Anna Yeung
Kristin Everett Lefel	Mate Mukobeko Sellers	

Lifetime Golden Oak Society Donors join this society with \$50,000 or more in lifetime gifts.

Michael and June McCowin

Oak Legacy Circle Donors who name the Foundation in their estate plan may join this society by letting us know. These donors told us of their intentions to include Oakwood during 2024.

Cliff & Dorothy Haaland Michael & June McCowin

Realized Estate Gifts Oakwood honors the memory of friends whose legacy gifts were received last year.

Lois Gilbert Anderson	Chrystie M. Jackson	Jean Tews
David T. Bohlman	Barbara Prescott	Esther Tinglum
Elaine T. Hendrickson		



Peter Maas, Exercise & Fitness Specialist tries out the leg press.

A Donor Gift Carries Weight

A donor who saw an opportunity stepped up with a gift that delivered a new leg press to the Acorn Club fitness center at Prairie Ridge.

Most of the gym's equipment supports heart health. Xai Vang, Senior Exercise and Fitness Coordinator, says the new machine will improve strength and mobility in an individual's hips, knees, and ankles.

"[From] a seated position and with a large platform to place their feet, people using the machine can target most of the muscles that help them stand, walk, and squat safely. The platform also allows single-leg exercises."

Thanks to strong donor support that furnished the facility, the Acorn Club opened its doors in 2019.