



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2020

Making a difference together

## Together we persevere

The global pandemic of 2020 brought unprecedented challenge and together we have persevered.

Our employees, companies, and communities saw first-hand how critical community truly is—as the place in which we live and work, perhaps more-so as a shared connection.

In 2020 the Otter Tail Corporation Foundation reached each of the communities in which our companies operate—and touched the lives of more people than we can count—supporting charitable efforts designed to help our communities persevere.

To our partners, shareholders, and Otter Tail Corporation employees—thank you for making a difference together.



**Stephanie A. Hoff**

*Director, Corporate Communications  
Otter Tail Corporation*

*President*

*Otter Tail Corporation Foundation*



**Charles S. MacFarlane**

*President and Chief Executive Officer  
Otter Tail Corporation*



*Stephanie A. Hoff*



*Charles S. MacFarlane*

# ABOUT OUR FOUNDATION

## Board of Directors 2020-2021

Stephanie Hoff  
*President*

Kari Alme  
*Vice President*

Tyler Nelson  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

Kevin Moug  
*Board Member*

## Contact

Niki Vaagene  
*Foundation Contact*

## Our mission

To connect with our communities to support young minds, invest in our current and future workforce, create vibrant culture and vital communities, improve health and human services, and protect our natural resources.

The Otter Tail Corporation Foundation oversees the charitable activities of Otter Tail Corporation and its subsidiaries. The majority of Foundation funding comes from Otter Tail Corporation shareholder dollars.

## Our priorities

We have dedicated our resources to the communities where we work and live and their innovative projects and programs that create measurable impacts in our areas of emphasis.



### Community, civic, and cultural development

Community, civic, and cultural development, such as programs and projects that focus on local, regional, or statewide economic and cultural development, including efforts that increase awareness of culture and the arts and encourage their growth, particularly for regions or populations that would otherwise be unable to participate.



### Education

Education, especially early childhood education initiatives and programs that support schools of higher learning with special interest in curricula and capital improvements in the study of business, political science, economics, engineering, and natural/physical sciences as they relate to the energy and industrial industries.



### Environment

Environment, such as programs that emphasize sustainability, preservation, environmental education, and stewardship of our land, water, and air with an emphasis on collaborative programs that strengthen ties between businesses and communities.



### Health and human services

Health and human services, including initiatives and programs that help individuals and families struggling with daily living challenges, including hunger, poverty, domestic violence, homelessness, and disabilities.

## Grant application and review process

We are focused on our communities and review applications for grant consideration throughout the year based on need, project, and impact. Submitting an application is simple—visit [ottertail.com](http://ottertail.com) and select About Us, then click on the Foundation link for step-by-step guidance.

Organizations must be a 501(c)(3) and should plan to include the following materials:

- Description of the organization, its history, and where the organization serves.
- Tax exempt status letter under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.
- List of officers and board of directors.
- Most current annual report.

To submit an application or for more information about the Otter Tail Corporation Foundation, email [foundation@ottertail.com](mailto:foundation@ottertail.com)

## Employee match programs

The Foundation funds two matching gifts programs for Otter Tail Corporation employees.



### Charity Choice

Charity Choice is a matching gifts program designed to support the causes favored by Otter Tail Corporation employees as well as encourage employee volunteerism. If an Otter Tail Corporation employee contributes at least \$100 or provides a minimum of 24 hours of personal volunteer time a year to one qualifying nonprofit organization, Otter Tail Corporation Foundation makes one matching donation up to \$500 to that organization on the employees' behalf.

Make a **CharityChoice**  
choose from over 1000 charities



### Higher Education

If an Otter Tail Corporation employee or board member is making a cash donation to a college, university, or local community scholarship fund, Otter Tail Corporation Foundation will match it dollar for dollar, from \$25 up to \$1,000.

# 2020 IN REVIEW

## Where we gave

### ARIZONA

Phoenix

### GEORGIA

Gainesville  
Tucker

### ILLINOIS

Peoria

### MINNESOTA

Alexandria  
Detroit Lakes  
Eagan  
Elk River  
Fergus Falls  
Moorhead  
Pelican Rapids  
Otsego  
St. Paul  
Vining

### NEW YORK

Troy

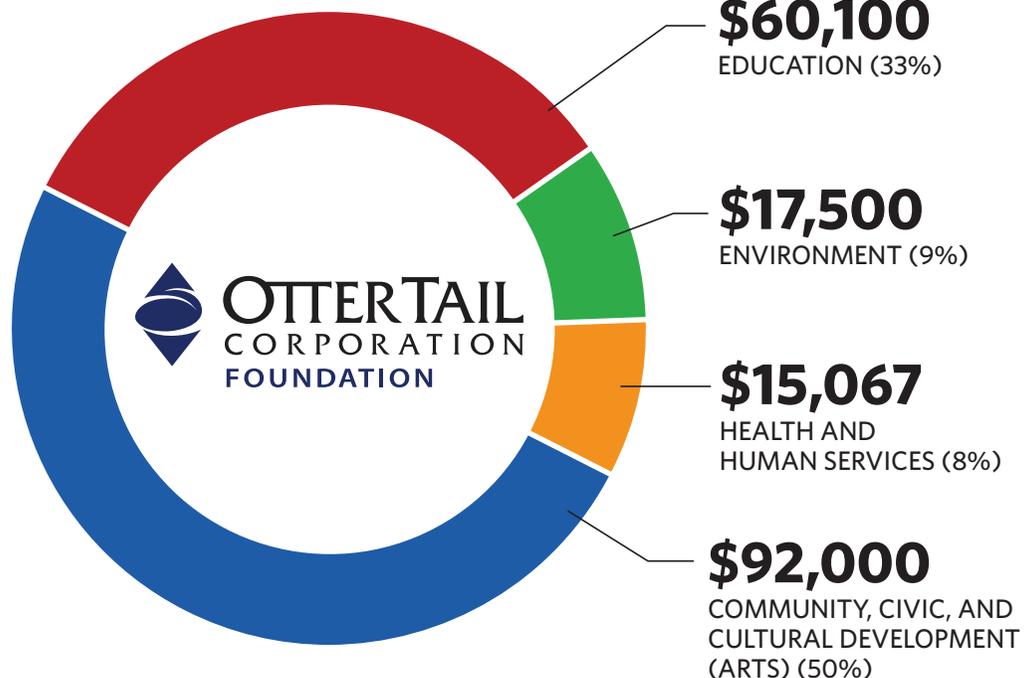
### NORTH DAKOTA

Fargo  
Grand Forks  
Jamestown

### SOUTH DAKOTA

Eastern South Dakota

## Donation type



**TOTAL GIVING \$184,667**

### Granted totals from employee match programs\* included



Charity Choice

**\$2,100**



Higher Education

**\$4,500**

*\*Based on the 39 employees of Otter Tail Corporation*

# GIVING IN ACTION

## COVID-19 relief

Otter Tail Corporation Foundation donated \$45,000 to organizations needing COVID-19 relief. The Foundation targeted these funds to help with food supply and distribution, healthcare, and education.

### St. Mary's Food Bank

*Moorhead, MN*

"It is a tough time for many of our Arizona neighbors and they are turning to St. Mary's Food Bank for help. Because of your generosity, they are provided pantry items, fresh produce, meat, eggs, dairy, bread and more to feed their families. We are grateful for your generosity and compassion. Thank you!"

*President and CEO, Tom Kertis*

### Salvation Army of Fergus Falls

*Fergus Falls, MN*

"Thank you so much for your generosity and partnership with The Salvation Army. Please know that your gift will create an immediate impact on our community by helping us provide life-changing services to those who need them most."

*Lieutenant Anthony Nordan*

### M State Foundation and Alumni

*Fergus Falls, MN*

"Your gift to support our students during times of crisis is highly appreciated. It will surely make a great impact on them while they work to achieve success in their educational goals."

*Director of Advancement and Development*

*Melvin Whitney, Jr.*

### More organizations that received COVID-19 relief:

- FM Area Foundation Hospitality for Healthcare  
*Fargo, ND*
- Caer Food Shelf, *Elk River, MN*
- Clear Lake Emergency Food Shelf  
*Otsego, MN*
- Becker Country Food Pantry  
*Detroit Lakes, MN*
- Georgia Mountain Food Bank  
*Gainesville, GA*
- Open Door Pantry  
*Eagan, MN*
- Peoria Area Food Bank  
*Peoria, IL*

## Education

### Minnesota Private College Fund

*St. Paul, MN*

"We want to thank you for the gift from Otter Tail Corporation [Foundation] to the Minnesota Scholars Fund. Scholarships from the Minnesota Scholars Fund support students demonstrating financial need who are natives of Minnesota."

*Director of Development Carolyn Jones*

### UND Alumni Association Foundation

*Grand Forks, ND*

"Thank you for your partnership and all you do for our UND students!"

*Chief Executive Officer DeAnna Carlson Zink*

### Gigi's Playhouse

*Fargo, ND*

"Through your generosity, children and adults with Down Syndrome will achieve their Best of All. Your investment provides continued opportunities for social, education, therapeutic programming, and parent resources. Thank you for believing in Gigi's mission and supporting Gigi's At Home!"

*Site Manager Heather Lorenzen*

Continued on page 6



# 2021 GIVING

Our communities will continue to persevere, and the Otter Tail Corporation Foundation will continue to partner with local organizations to make an impact where it's needed most.

We know 2020 was a trying time, and the impact of COVID-19 will not completely fade with a new year. That's why we remain steadfast in our dedication to helping our communities. As we forge ahead toward a brighter horizon, we can make a difference—together.



*This Annual Report is published by Otter Tail Corporation Foundation to provide an overview of the Foundation's giving. The information presented in this report is based on financial commitments made in the 2020 calendar year.*

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