



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Argosy Foundation is pleased to present our Annual Report for 2014. This year, the Foundation made grants totaling \$5.3 million in support of the arts, environment, health, human services, and education organizations nationwide. As in years past, the foundation partnered with some new organizations, as well as long-standing partners whose work we have been honored to support.

While most of 2014's grants were conceived in 2013, the events of 2014 offered numerous opportunities to reflect on racial and economic inequality, health care, and the impacts of climate change, among other salient issues. 2014 invited us to look deeper at the scope of our grants and whom they affected, as well as how we might proceed in 2015. Despite a drop in unemployment and strong markets, in 2014 millions of American families still struggled to make ends meet and not enough was accomplished to address climate mitigation and adaptation (despite increasing incidence of natural disasters).

We understand that we alone cannot solve any of these demanding challenges. We are, however, proud to collaborate with and learn from other foundations, non-profits, and local thought leaders to make our communities better places to live. We continue to be inspired by our colleagues and the people, well-known or anonymous, who tirelessly engage their passions for making others' lives better, or the planet healthier. Passion, commitment and curiosity in the face of adversity is a perennial source of inspiration for us. It is heartening to see how far grants can go under the diligent eye of our partners, whether they are endeavoring to feed, house, and train the homeless; provide health services to those without access; promote scientific research; or tenaciously fight to protect our planet. They make our job fulfilling and fun, and we need more of them.

We have and will continue our resolve to support innovative and sustainable approaches to reaching all people and the places they live, and to support incubators for our future problem-solvers.

Onward,

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. ●

2014 FINANCIAL ACTIVITY

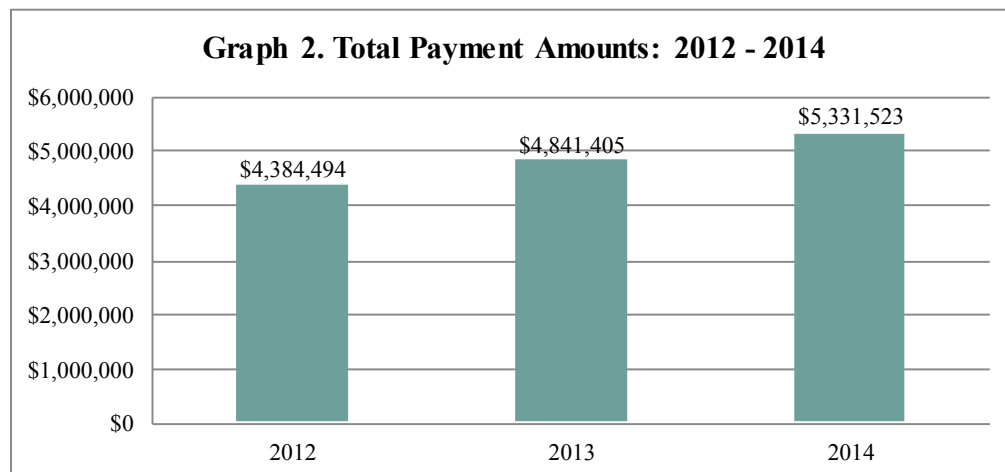
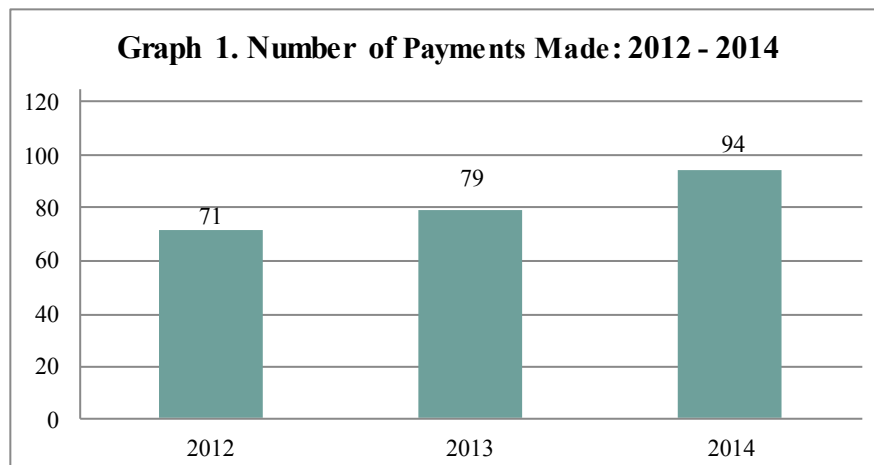
INVESTMENTS AND EXPENSES

Operating & Administrative Expenses in 2014: \$640,518

Charitable Payments Made in 2014*: \$5,331,523

*Grant payments that were made in 2014 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 2014 paid financial investments classified into two categories: grant payments \$20,000 and under, and grant payments over \$20,000.

INVESTMENT FACTS

- 25 organizations received grant payments in the “\$20,000 and under” category for a total of \$267,100.
- 59 organizations received grant payments in the “over \$20,000” range, totaling \$5,064,423.

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

Acumen Fund

To support the general fund.

Asian Pacific Environmental Network

To support a fellowship program.

Attention, Inc.

To support a health program for homeless youth.

Bella Voce Women's Chorus of Vermont

To support production of a CD.

Berea College

To support campus interfaith initiatives.

Boston University—College of Engineering

To support the Annual Fund.

Boulder Shelter for the Homeless

To support programs for the homeless.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee

To support an event.

Brightline Defense Project

To support a solar energy project.

Burlington Choral Society

To support the 2014/2015 concert season.

Center for Biological Diversity

To support an environmental project.

Center for Whole Communities

To support training, campus renovation, and converting to renewable energy.

Champlain Maker Faire

To provide general operating support.

Hands to Honduras

To build a NICU in Tela, Honduras.

Intercambio de Comunidades

To support a program for immigrants.

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

To support planning efforts for a youth program.

Laura Mann Center for Integrative Health

To support a collaborative health project.

Living Lands & Waters

To support river restoration and education projects.

Montshire Museum of Science

To support an engineering education program for children.

Oxfam America

To support general operating expenses.

Public Policy Forum

To support a research project.

Rocky Mountain Institute

To support a fellowship program.

Sonoran Institute

To support economic development and sustainability.

United Way of Chittenden County

To support a fundraising event.

GRANT PAYMENTS OVER \$20,000

Alaska Conservation Foundation

To support the Alaskans for Energy Freedom campaign.

American Academy for the Advancement of Science

To support a fellowship program.

American Indian College Fund

To support scholarships.

Badgerbots Robotics Corporation

To support a technology program for kids.

Beyond Benign

To support curriculum and training programs.

Boston University—College of Engineering

To support outreach and STEM promotion.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America

To support the State Alliances initiative.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee

To support the Decade of Hope Campaign.

Center for Biological Diversity

To support the Endangered Species Condoms project, and a legal program.

Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity

To support heating and weatherization assistance, and the food pantry.

Children's Hospital Corporation

To support the implementation of Standardized Clinic Assessment and Management Plans (SCAMPS).

Colorado Open Lands

To support a fellowship.

Colorado State University Foundation

To support the Center for New Energy Economy.

Committee on Temporary Shelter

To provide general operating support.

Common Good Institute

To provide general operating support.

Communities for a Better Environment

To support an environmental project.

Conservation Colorado

To support staffing.

Conservation Law Foundation

To support membership growth, marine protection efforts, and general operations.

ECHO at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain

To support an endowment.

Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium

To support a science exhibition.

FIRST

To support a robotics competition; the annual fund; and to provide a challenge grant.

Fresh Energy

To support a communications project.

Forest Ethics

To support environmental efforts.

Greater Burlington YMCA

To support a capital campaign.

Gutmacher Institute

To support a research project.

Habitat for Humanity International

To support an interfaith program.

Harvard University—Graduate School of Education

To support a research project.

King Street Center

To support children's athletic programming and a capital campaign.

Lambi Fund of Haiti

To support general operations and a water campaign.

Law Students for Reproductive Justice

To support general operating expenses.

Legal Voice

To support legal work.

Michigan Environmental Council

To provide support for the RE-AMP network.

Mile High Community Loan Fund

To provide general operating support.

Milwaukee Film

To provide general operating support.

Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity

To support a housing project.

Milwaukee School of Engineering

To support a robotics program.

Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra

To provide a challenge grant.

The Museum of Science— Boston

To support the Annual Fund.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy

To support unplanned pregnancy prevention in community colleges.

National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health

To support a reproductive rights program.

(over)

GRANT PAYMENTS OVER \$20,000

(continued)

The Nature Conservancy—Colorado

To support a Colorado River project.

Nursing Students for Choice

To support general operating expenses.

Planned Parenthood of Hidalgo County (Access Esperanza Clinics)

To support education and outreach.

Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains

To support reproductive health education programs.

Provide, Inc.

To support a reproductive health project.

Public Policy Forum

To support research and an event.

River Revitalization Foundation

To support environmental restoration efforts.

Rocketship Education

To support an education program.

Rocky Mountain Institute

To support an energy project.

Schools That Can Milwaukee

To support general operating expenses.

Shelburne Museum

To provide support for general operations and technology upgrades.

Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

To support an energy program.

Tides Center

To support a clean energy project.

United Performing Arts Fund

To support Milwaukee arts organizations.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Foundation

To support the School of Freshwater Sciences.

Urban Ecology Center

To support education and replication efforts.

Vermont Foodbank

To support general operating expenses.

Western Resource Advocates

To support the Clean power Project, and advocacy efforts.

Wisconsin Preservation Fund

To support economic development efforts.

