

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact information:

Mary Langworthy, Executive Director

The Community Foundation for Carver County

Phone: (952) 250-5138

E-mail: mlangworthy@carvercountyfoundation.org

Web site: www.carvercountyfoundation.org

Bob Roepke, Chair

The Community Foundation for Carver County

Phone: (612) 414-1284

E-mail: bohr@klingelhutz.com

Accessible, effective, local philanthropy

Community Foundation investing in Carver County's future

With a commitment to enhancing the quality of life for everyone in Carver County, The Community Foundation for Carver County believes the time to invest in our community's future is now.

The Community Foundation for Carver County (TCFCC) - a public nonprofit organization created by and for the people who live and work in Carver County – was just granted 501(c) (3) status earlier this month.

According to Mary Langworthy, Executive Director, the recently approved 501(c) (3) designation from the Internal Revenue Service is critical to the Foundation's goal to attract and direct tax-deductible gifts and contributions for the benefit of Carver County. Individuals, corporations and other foundations can give directly to The Community Foundation for Carver County.

“This foundation provides an opportunity for donors to give back locally to causes they care about most in Carver County. We are a channel through which donors can direct funds to local nonprofits and other initiatives in our communities that are important to them,” Langworthy said. “The organization is uniquely positioned to ‘connect the dots’ and make the most of local donor resources – addressing gaps in funding now and in the future.”

“A rapidly growing community like Carver County depends upon the collective planning and investment of the people who live and work in it to remain vibrant and healthy,” said Bob Roepke, Chaska, who serves as chair of the Foundation. “Like the Minneapolis Foundation or the St. Paul Foundation, our intention is to make a difference in people's lives, each and every day, right here in Carver County.”

Community support

Roepke is one of 11 volunteers who serve on the TCFCC Board of Directors, each of whom live and/or work in Carver County. The Board members include:

Executive Committee

Bob Roepke, Chair
Klingelhutz Development
Lives in Chaska

Mary Welch, Vice Chair
Executive Director, Chaska Community Land Trust
Lives in Chaska

John Roebke, CPA, Treasurer
Roebke Bratsch, Ltd.
Lives in Waconia

Members-At Large

Karsten Anderson
Superintendent, Watertown-Mayer Public Schools
Lives in Watertown

Paul David
Owner, Paul David Productions
Lives in Waconia

Jonathan Larson, M.D.
Family Physician, Lakeview Clinic
Lives in Victoria

Timothy Looby
Attorney, Melchert Hubert Sjodin, PLLP
Lives in Waconia

Lisa Steinbauer
Editor & Manager of Special Projects, Southwest Newspapers
Lives in Cologne

Jim Weygand
Mayor, City of Carver
Lives in Carver

Rae Jean Madsen
Manager, Carver County Public Health
Lives in Chaska

Richard Scott

Consultant, CHS Consulting

Lives in Eden Prairie

“Each board member brings a wealth of knowledge, history, experience and passion for their community,” Langworthy said. “They strongly believe in and personally support the role of the Foundation in contributing to Carver County’s health and vitality.”

“Carver County’s sense of community is really being challenged by the growth and change we are and will be experiencing,” Roepke added. “The values of community have been important to our county for many, many years, and this foundation is committed to retaining and strengthening those values into the future.”

Connecting interests and needs

All assets gifted to TCFCC remain in the region to have a direct and lasting impact on Carver County. Donors can give to an existing fund or establish their own charitable fund by contributing a variety of assets to the Foundation, which “are then carefully invested while offering maximum tax advantage under state and federal law,” Langworthy said.

The Community Foundation for Carver County has three key funding initiatives to which assets may be directed:

- Human Growth Initiatives (Individuals and Families): Promoting the healthy development and educational needs of families and individuals of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.
- Livable Community Initiatives (Place and Things): Promoting livable communities and innovative approaches to community growth and development.
- Community Connection Initiatives (Communities and Organizations): Encouraging community connections and linkages, through civic engagement, leadership development and community-building initiatives.

“We are committed to helping individuals, families and businesses achieve their charitable financial goals, including offering tools and resources to make giving easy, flexible and effective,” Langworthy said.

“Sharing resources to help others is one of the most rewarding things a person or business can do,” Roepke added. “The opportunities to improve our collective quality of life are endless. The Foundation wants to reach out to everyone in Carver County – we invite you to join in this important community-building work.”

To learn more or to make a gift to The Community Foundation for Carver County, call Mary Langworthy at (952) 250-5138 or visit www.carvercountyfoundation.org.