

# FIELD OF INTEREST FUND

By establishing a Field of Interest Fund with us, you can target your gift to address needs in a specific area of community life that matters most to you such as the arts, environment, or health. You choose.

## HOW IT WORKS



**GIVE**



**GROW**



**GRANT**

Our program experts award grants to nonprofits and programs that are making a difference in the area you select. Your gift stays flexible enough to meet community needs in your interest area – even as those needs change over time.

- You identify an area of personal interest as broad or narrow as you wish.
- You **make a \$100,000 endowed or \$10,000 non-endowed gift** to the Community Foundation during your lifetime or through a bequest in your will. You can give cash, appreciated stocks, real estate, or other assets.
- We set up a **special fund in your name**, in the name of your family or business, or in honor of any person or organization you choose.
- You may **receive tax benefits** in the year your gift is made.
- We **evaluate needs and award grants** in the name of the fund you establish. However, if you prefer, grants can be made anonymously.

## OTHER ADVANTAGES

Our professional program experts continually monitor changing community needs so that you can be sure grants made in the name of the fund make the most impact in your field of interest and support your personal legacy of giving.

You can add new gifts of any amount to the Field of Interest Fund you establish at any time – and so can others who share your interests in the community. Endowed gifts become a permanent community funding resource.

## HONORING A PASSION



William B. Mark was an engineer by training who, along with his wife, Caroline S. Mark, formed the A. Ward Ford Foundation in honor of Caroline's grandfather, Austin Ward Ford, a pioneer in the early business machine industry.

After attending an industrial laser conference, Bill Mark became interested in using lasers in the medical field. With the foundation's medical director, Dr. Ellet Drake, several other like-minded individuals, and a generous grant from Caroline and the A. Ward Ford Foundation, the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery (ASLMS) was founded in 1981 right here in Wausau, Wisconsin.

If Bill was the brains of the Society, Ellet Drake was the heart, and Caroline was the soul. She was a lady of significant means, which she used wisely and generously. She believed in the value of education and the benefit of research which she supported throughout her lifetime.

The A. Ward Ford Memorial Institute Fund was formed by Caroline within the Community Foundation as an endowed fund in 2001 to continue to provide research grants on a national level. It is a legacy to Bill and Caroline Mark and their contribution to the laser medical field.