



MEDIA RELEASE

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THE HORMEL FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$14.7M IN GRANTS TO BENEFIT THE AUSTIN COMMUNITY

Board of Directors Announces Record Distribution for 2022

Austin, Minn. (Nov. 17, 2021) The Hormel Foundation board of directors approved record distributions of \$14.7 million today to nonprofit agencies for 2022.

“The dedicated effort, hard work and success of Hormel Foods’ employees has once again put us in a privileged position to distribute funds to nonprofit organizations that will benefit everyone in our community,” said Jeffrey M. Ettinger, chair of The Hormel Foundation.

“We can be thankful to the founders of The Hormel Foundation who 80 years ago had the foresight to create a plan to safeguard our community throughout generations.”

The Hormel Foundation grants advance the missions of nonprofit organizations in Austin. Those organizations are Austin Area Foundation, Austin Community Charitable Fund, Austin Community Growth Ventures, Austin Community Scholarship Committee, Austin Public Schools, Cedar Valley Services, City of Austin, The Hormel Institute, Mayo Clinic Health Systems - Austin, Parenting Resource Center, Riverland Community College, Salvation Army, United Way of Mower County and the YMCA of Austin. The Hormel Institute, a world-renowned cancer and biomedical research center and part of University of Minnesota, is a principal recipient of The Hormel Foundation's annual contributions.

In addition to foregoing, the Cedar River Watershed District received a grant to build two large projects in the headwaters of Dobbins Creek to improve water quality and reduce peak flooding. Earthen berms will be built to temporarily hold large amounts of stormwater and snow before slowly releasing it.

“We have made great progress toward cleaner water and less flooding but, without the huge, ongoing support from The Hormel Foundation, we would not be anywhere close to where we are today,” CRWD administrator Justin Hanson said. To date, CRWD has built 14 upland-storage projects and achieved at least a 10-percent reduction in peak flow at the Cedar-Dobbins confluence in Austin.

Another grant was approved by the Foundation to supplement the budget for MnDot’s replacement and refurbishing of I-90 bridges to allow for aesthetic upgrades and safety improvements. “These improvements will improve pedestrian access across the bridges for both walkers and bikers,” said Tom Dankert, “City of Austin’s Director of Administrative Services.

About The Hormel Foundation

A separate entity from Hormel Foods Corp., The Hormel Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1941 by Hormel Foods Corporation founder George A. Hormel and his son, Jay C. Hormel. Contributions from The Hormel Foundation directly benefit the Austin, MN area.

The Hormel Foundation ranks fifth in annual giving among Minnesota's largest community/public foundations and public charity grant makers. The Hormel Foundation's contributions are a direct result from the dividend increases of Hormel Foods' common stock – the Foundation's main asset.

The Hormel Foundation supports the Austin/Mower County community through organizations that provide food, shelter and clothing, advance quality healthcare, education and research and enhance the quality of life through projects that benefit people here and beyond.