



WILLMAR AREA
Community
Foundation

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Willmar Area Women's Announces Fundraising Total *Dollars raised total more than \$58,000*

Willmar, Minn. – The Willmar Area Women's Fund (WAWF), an initiative of the Willmar Area Community Foundation (WACF), announces it has raised \$58,305.

Through generous community donations and the efforts of committee members and volunteers during its annual Caring for Women Campaign, the Fund exceeded its original goal of raising \$50,000. The Campaign began in June of 2020 and ended January 2021, and took place virtually this year due to COVID-19.

The funds raised during this campaign will be used to aid efforts to raise awareness of and prevent sexual exploitation and assist victims using a trauma informed care approach in Kandiyohi County. A total of \$19,300 will be used for trauma informed care training and awareness grants.

The Willmar Area Women's Fund helps fund and fuel the work of partner organizations, Safe Avenues, Kandiyohi County Attorney's Office, Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services and PACT 4. These organizations are part of a local coalition working to stop sexual exploitation, assist victims using a trauma informed care approach and prevent the occurrence of exploitation. The goals of the Willmar Area Women's Fund are: to raise funds, broaden awareness of and provide training around sexual exploitation and to expand this work to include trauma informed care training and awareness building in Kandiyohi County.

"This outpouring of support from generous donors will allow us to continue to help fuel the important work being done by our local partners," states WAWF Chair, Jean Geselius. "We will

also build on our efforts to expand our support of trauma informed care training in the area using some of the dollars raised.”

More information about the Willmar Area Women’s Fund can be found at www.NotHereNotOurKids.com or by calling the Willmar Area Community Foundation at 320-235-4380.

The Willmar Area Community Foundation (WACF) attracts and administers charitable funds for the benefit of the local Willmar area. Since 1998, WACF has grown to over \$19.8 million in assets and awarded \$9.6 million in grants to nonprofits. The WACF is governed by a local board of directors and is a partner of CommunityGiving, which is a collaborative of community foundations united under a single framework to create efficiencies that maximize the impact of our donors. Collectively, CommunityGiving administers over 880 funds totaling more than \$153 million. Learn more at CommunityGiving.org/Willmar.