Our Leadership Development Initiatives:

As part of WPN’s commitment to forging community collaborations, we actively engage social entrepreneurs, impact investors and consultants in our work to spur innovation in the sector.

- **Leadership Advanced** is an innovative approach to leadership development for nonprofit and grantmaker executive directors and senior managers. WPN coordinates this nine-session professional development training with facilitators Steve Zimmerman, Spectrum Nonprofit Services; and Mary Stelletello, Vista Global Coaching and Consulting.

- **The Sustainability and Impact Project**, facilitated by Jeff Smell, Ph.D., founder of Midwest Social Innovation LLC, and Steve Kuper, Innovative Learning Strategies, is an executive education project designed for nonprofit leaders interested in designing and implementing their own social innovation model that achieves sustainability and impact for their organization.

- **The Sustainability and Impact Alumni Project**, facilitated by AppRobo LLC, is an executive education project designed for nonprofit leaders interested in using design thinking and lean startup methods for exploring sustainable impact in their organization for the communities they serve.

- **The Wisconsin Leadership Development (WiLD) Project** is led by Dan Grandone. This leadership development effort teaches participants how to engage others around their own core values, structure effective leadership teams, and make strategic choices that lead to measurable, effective action for change.

Special Thanks to Our Leadership Development Initiative Benefactors:

Bader Philanthropies, Inc.; Charles E. Benidt Foundation; Daniel M. Soref Charitable Trust; Greater Milwaukee Foundation; Joseph and Vera Zilber Family Foundation; Katz Family Foundation; Prairie Springs; The Paul Fleckenstein Trust; R A Stevens Foundation, Rockwell Automation; The Brico Fund; The Saint John Fund; The Grandone Family Fund.
By any measure, 2016 was a successful year at WPN. As we worked to continue our mission of advancing philanthropy throughout the state, we are proud to provide you with just a few examples of that success.

Our extensive palate of professional development and networking events were attended by over 400 members, prospective members or individuals from Wisconsin’s service-providing nonprofit organizations. Roundtable discussions, events such as Breakfast with a Grantmaker, notable speakers including Martha Tufi from the UN Foundation, and our ever-popular Grantmaker Bootcamp were just a few of these. Our biennial Wisconsin Gives Report reflected survey results from many of our state’s funders, and we added the Wisconsin Leadership Development (WiLD) Project to our community leadership development initiatives. Finally, we saw continued growth in our customized research services, with half of our membership taking advantage of this unique benefit.

The recent expansion of our membership categories to include higher education and healthcare foundations played a significant role in one of 2016’s most notable growth measures: 23 new members, 6 of which were from these new funding categories. We also welcomed new community, independent, and corporate foundation members, as well as corporate giving programs, donor-advised funds, individual philanthropists, federated funds and public funders to our network. Geographic diversity was a hallmark of this growth, with new members representing Dane County, Green Bay, the Fox Valley and Southeastern Wisconsin.

Also noteworthy was our continued advocacy of the Endow Wisconsin initiative that WPN is spearheading on behalf of Wisconsin’s 19 accredited community foundations. Designed to enhance individual and corporate financial support, Endow Wisconsin is a proposed tax credit that has the potential to increase Wisconsin philanthropic giving.

We invite you to take a closer look at WPN’s success through our 2016 Annual Report. We think you will agree it was another productive year as we strengthened our commitment to being your partner for effective giving. Most importantly, thank you for the role you, our members, continue to play in our 39-year tradition of growing Wisconsin’s philanthropic spirit. It is gratifying knowing that, together, we can positively impact so many lives in our local communities, nation, and world.

Karen Wilken
Board Chair
Kern Family Foundation

Jill Van Calster
President and CEO

KERN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Karen Wilken, Chair
Kern Family Foundation

Steve Goldberg, Vice Chair
CUNA Mutual Group Foundation
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BMO Harris Bank

Curt Detjen
Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

Lisa Hiller
Bader Philanthropies, Inc.

Amy Kerwin
Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Membership Dues, 52%

Program Revenue, 1%

Program Related Revenue, 11%

Grants/Donations, 31%

Sponsorships, 5%

Total

$466,558

Salaries/Fringe, 39%

Outside Services, 9%

Functional Expenses, 8%

Research, 10%

Building/Occupancy, 7%

Total

$461,835

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

TOTAL ASSETS

$700,339

TOTAL LIABILITIES

$34,177

TOTAL UNRESTRICTED ASSETS

$277,024

TOTAL TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED ASSETS

$389,138

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS YEAR END

$537,384

WPN published its biennial report which provided a comprehensive look at the state of philanthropy in Wisconsin and throughout the United States. Historically, WPN developed this report by accessing and compiling information from numerous national studies and data sources. However, this methodology posed several challenges.

Therefore, WPN has enhanced the report by undertaking a qualitative and quantitative survey of Wisconsin grantmakers. This included an extensive survey seeking feedback from 383 of our state’s funders on the type and level of support awarded, as well as topics such as projections for the upcoming fiscal year, evaluation of their philanthropic impact, and their perception of the overall status of Wisconsin nonprofit service organizations.

http://wpphilanthropy.org/learn/wisconsin-gives/