

incourage



Who We Are

At Incourage, we build upon our community's assets to help create a community that works well for all people. While financial assets are key, we balance that with a belief that the greatest asset we have is our people. We partner with residents and organizations to shape the community they desire and provide financial and social resources needed to make it a reality. We seek funding from a combination of sources, including individuals, organizations, foundations and government to support our commitment to fostering an inclusive, adaptive community.

What We Do

Incourage is a community investor

We identify, nurture and fund grants and impact investment opportunities that support our community.

- Distribute grants to support nonprofit organizations.
- Support resident-led ideas and initiatives that bring people together to strengthen our community.
- Provide scholarships to local students.
- Invest in Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) that provide loans and support services to local small businesses and entrepreneurs.
- Convene, facilitate and partner to establish and grow community assets, like the Tribune building project, Centralia Center, Performing Arts Center and more.
- Provide startup and administrative support to bring projects to fruition.

Incourage is a community builder

We not only fund programs; we lead, create and deliver programs ourselves.

- Facilitate adaptive leadership and training programs, including Speak Your Peace.
- Deliver nonprofit staff/board training, along with capacity building opportunities.
- Convene residents and organizations to share knowledge, skills and resources to solve community issues and fill needs.
- Commission research, educational briefs and data to support more informed decisions about our community's future.



How Can I Help?

If you live in or care about this community, Incourage's story is **your story**. Help Incourage invest in building a strong community. **Donate to Incourage today.**

Incourage simplifies giving by offering donors a single path to supporting the community and causes you care about. Your options for contributing to or through Incourage include:

- **Friends of Incourage Fund** Help us to realize our founder's vision of a community that works well for all by donating to this fund that directly supports our work as a community investor and community builder.
- **Established Funds** Contribute to a fund to support a particular area of interest, including:
 - What If:** Contribute to resident-led initiatives and projects that bring people together to strengthen our community.
 - Scholarships:** Fund scholarships that support the youth in our community.
 - Tribune Project:** Support the redevelopment of the Tribune building into a hub of economic and community innovation.
 - Interests & Causes:** Contribute to funds that directly support your passions and interests, including arts and culture, youth, environment, recreation and more.
- **Personal/Family Giving** Create a fund in your family's name or to honor someone else. You, as the donor, can help guide how funds are distributed within the community, consistent with Incourage's mission and final approval. These funds would include Donor Advised Funds, Designated Funds and Scholarship Funds.

Give to Incourage

Most common ways to contribute to Incourage:

1. Send a check or stop by Incourage at 478 E. Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.
2. Donate online at: <https://incouragecf.org/give/give-now>
3. Transfer appreciated company stock, an IRA or other holdings. For more information about this option, contact Betsy Wood at bwood@incouragecf.org or 715-818-6175.
4. Make an estate gift by designating Incourage as a beneficiary through your will.

For a complete list of options and more details on how to give, go to:

<https://incouragecf.org/give/ways-to-give>

Our Backstory

Guided by the vision of our founder, Virginia Brazeau, Incourage is dedicated to meeting the changing needs of our rural, Central Wisconsin community through philanthropy that is by the people, for the **people**, within **place**, across **generations**. Founded as a community foundation in 1994, Incourage is a nonprofit philanthropic organization serving the south Wood County area. We have been unwavering in our commitment and adaptable in our approach.

Today we continue to uphold the mission set forth by Virginia. By serving as a knowledge resource, catalyst, partner, convener, and investor, we continue to strengthen and meet the changing needs of our community.



**By donating to Incourage,
you are investing in our
community.
Thank you for helping to
realize a community that
works well for all.**