



MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITY TO BENEFIT FROM \$34 MILLION FROM THE HORMEL FOUNDATION

Board of Directors Announces 2026 Distribution

Austin, Minn. (Nov. 22, 2025) - Hormel Foundation board of directors approved distributions of \$34 million for nonprofit agencies in the Austin/Mower community for 2026.

“The board of The Hormel Foundation considers it an honor to be empowered to manage and distribute these funds to local nonprofit organizations,” said Steve Rizzi, acting chair of The Hormel Foundation. “Our gratitude begins with the faithful dedication of Hormel Foods’ employees for their effort in generating funds that benefit so many.”

The Hormel Foundation’s grants advance the missions of nonprofit organizations in Austin and Mower County. 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 University of Minnesota, 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 Foundation continues to support the Austin Assurance Scholarship which the Foundation started in 2019. In addition, the Foundation has launched a new digital equity initiative. The project will fund digital navigators who will provide individualized, community-centered digital support systems to help residents confidently utilize technology to more fully participate in education, employment, healthcare, civic life, and everyday tasks. The committee that worked on this initiative was led by Molly Lanke, Executive Director at the Mower County United Way who said, “Digital equity is

ultimately about people feeling supported, not overwhelmed. By investing in navigators, the Foundation is helping ensure every resident has someone they can turn to – someone who listens, understands their goals, and helps them navigate an increasingly digital world with confidence.”

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’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.