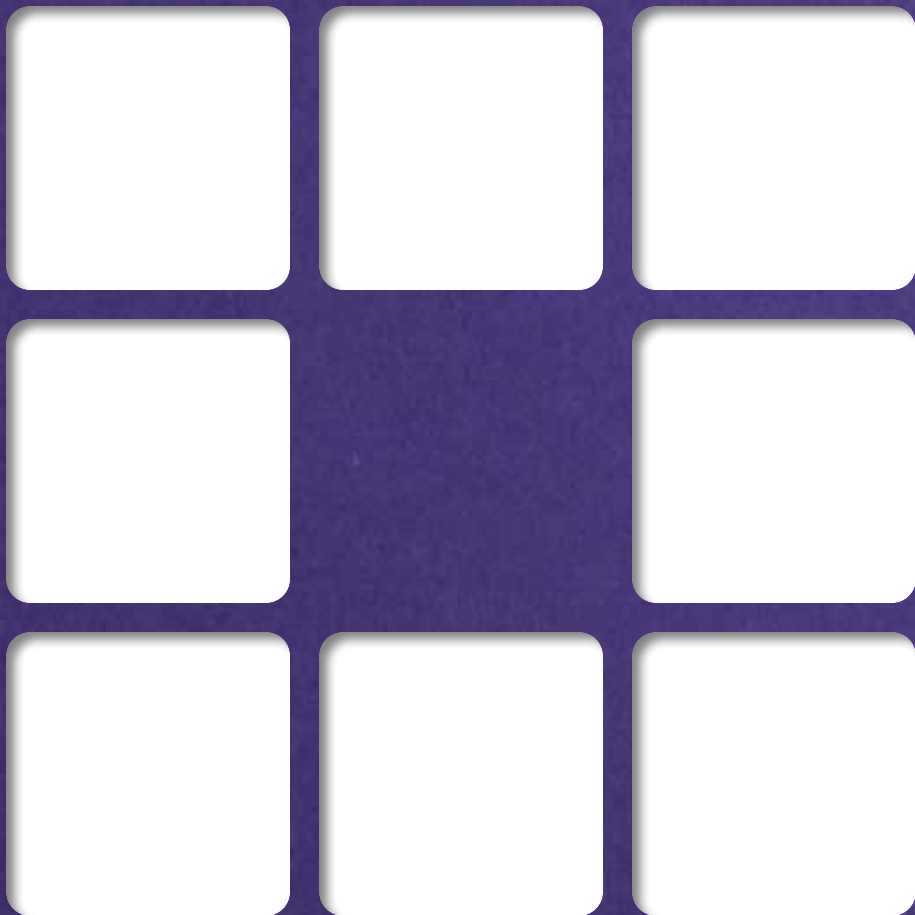




ANNUAL REPORT 2023







A NOTE FROM TOM

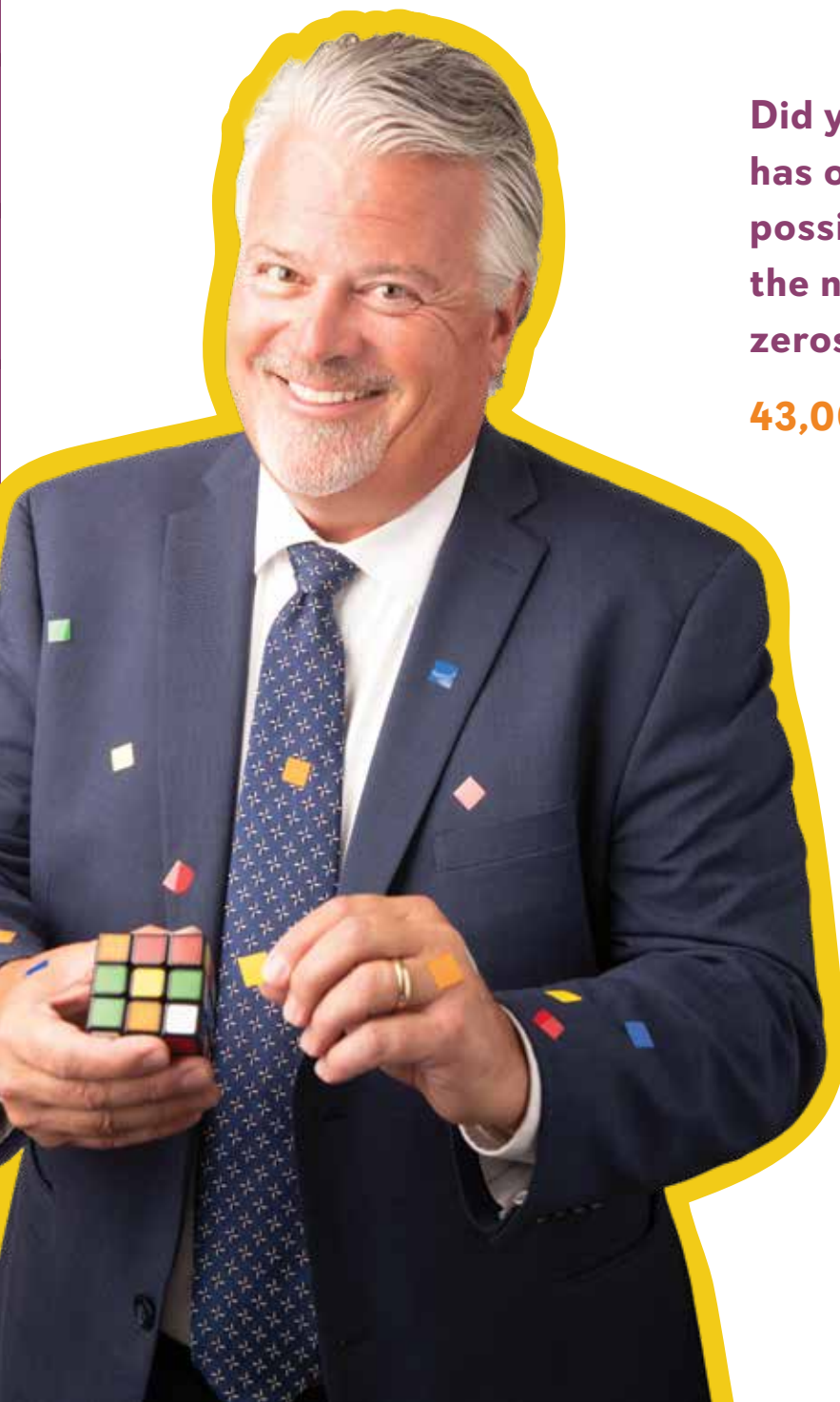
In the early days of my career, I had the opportunity to learn the principles and values Mr. Dekko used to build and grow his company and, eventually, his foundation. At the heart of it all was Mr. Dekko's unwavering commitment to solving problems. He believed a manager's role was to discover and solve problems and implement change in order to reach organizational goals.

That's why, more than 40 years after he created the Dekko Foundation, one important question stands firmly at the center of our work.

What problem are you working to solve?

In the pages that follow, we'll share some of the things we've learned about problem solving and highlight a few of the creative solutions that came about in 2023. And what better way to discuss solving problems and creating solutions than with a simple, six-sided toy that has captivated children and adults for nearly 50 years. The Rubik's Cube!





Did you know the Rubik's Cube has over 43 quintillion different possible configurations? That's the number 43 followed by 18 zeros if you're counting.

43,000,000,000,000,000,000.

To be clear, we don't recommend you identify a quintillion or even a million different solutions to the problem you're working to solve, but the willingness to see more than one solution or to view things in a different way might just help you get that last piece to slide into place. And if all else fails, you might have to take the stickers off and get creative!

TOM LEEDY
President

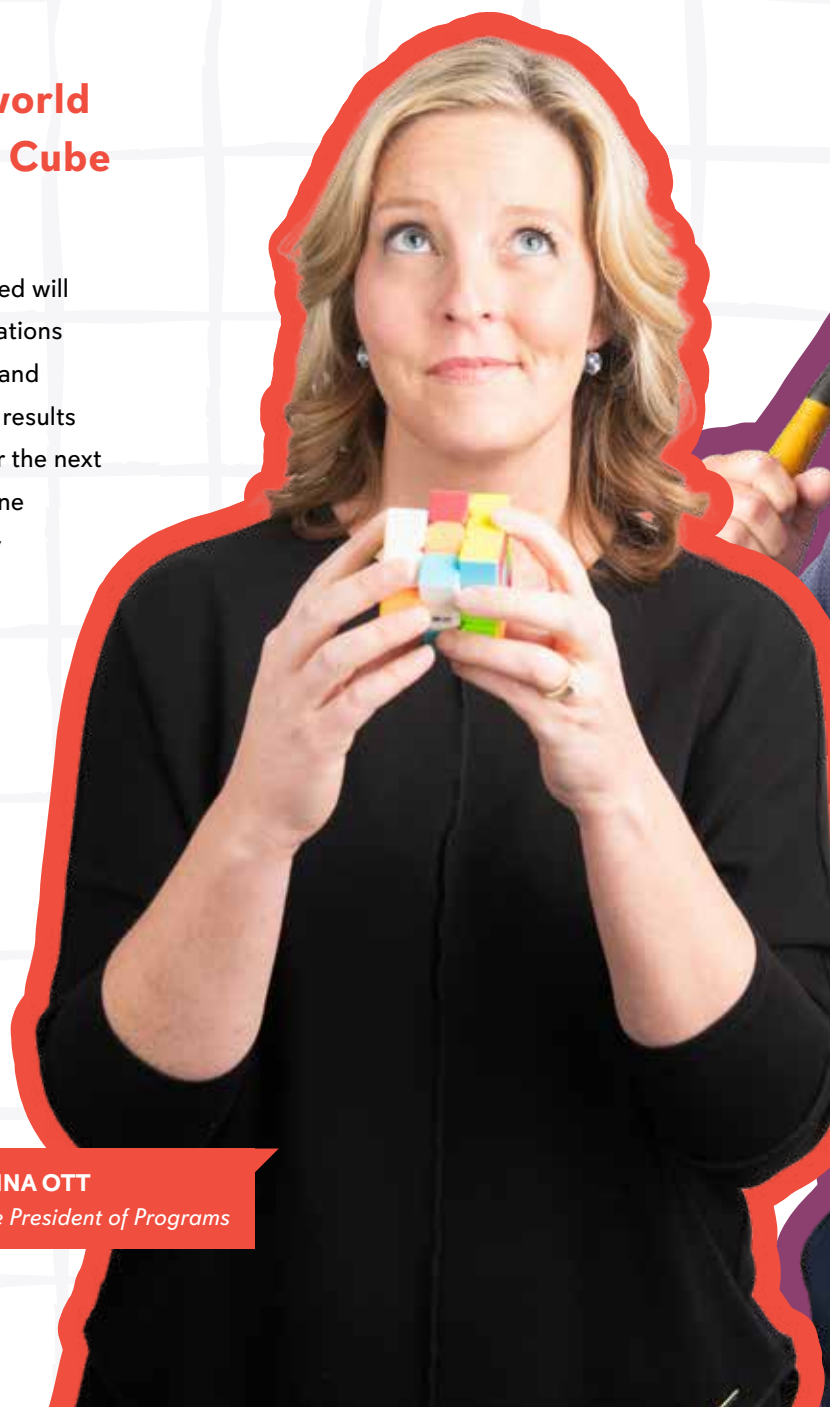
In 2023, Max Park set the world record for solving a Rubik's Cube in just 3.13 seconds.

When it comes to problem solving, we know speed will vary. In 2023, we invested in a variety of organizations working to solve problems on behalf of children and young people. Some of them started to produce results after just one day. Others will focus on results for the next several years, like the Spirit of Athens in Limestone County, Alabama, where a renovated community market space will benefit the community well into the future.

- *Speed cubes have different tension mechanisms and rounded corners to speed up the movement of the puzzle.*

JENNA OTT

Vice President of Programs





When Ernő Rubik invented the Rubik's Cube in 1974, he didn't know exactly how to solve it.

Have you ever faced a problem you weren't sure you could solve? Maybe there are children in your county without access to a public library. Or perhaps a donor sent you that load of sand you needed, but the truck is on the wrong side of the playground fence. Or construction costs increased 25% from the start of your capital campaign and your best donors are tapped out.

These are substantial, and what Mr. Dekko would've called complex problems. But before you throw up your hands in frustration, try breaking things down into smaller, more manageable pieces. When you break down a complex problem, it gets easier to solve.

Come on, don't pretend you never took that thing apart to rearrange the pieces.

- *Mathematicians say if you take a Rubik's Cube apart and put it back together, there's only a one in twelve chance it can be restored to six solid-color sides.*

GREG MATNEY
Construction Consultant

Aside from the standard six-sided solution, one of the easiest patterns to achieve with a Rubik's Cube is the checkerboard.

Identifying patterns is one way to get to the root cause of an issue. Leaders at Central Noble School Corporation in Noble County, Indiana, noticed a pattern as younger students began falling further behind in their classes. But teachers realized if they carved out extra time for one-on-one support, the students improved. To solve the problem, they engaged high school students as tutors and found time during and after school for children to get the extra academic support they needed to catch up to their peers and set new patterns of success.

ABBY LINDSEY
Program Officer



Like any hobby, Rubik's Cubes come with jargon, slang, and speed-cuber lingo. A term we like is “look ahead.”

“Look ahead” is common advice for anyone who wants to get faster at solving the puzzle. It means to always keep your eye on the next piece you'll need to move, even while you are actively solving a different part of the puzzle. We like this heads-up approach because it's a good reminder to always be thinking about what comes next.

In 2023, leaders at Camp Crosley in Kosciusko County, Indiana, brought us their solution for creating a more engaging summer camp environment. Even with a strong, effective camp program already in place, these leaders recognized the need for continuous improvement. The results will take several years to come to fruition, but the team is committed to preparing for the needs and preferences of future campers while current programs are in full swing.

PAYTON HUNLEY

Grants & Program Associate

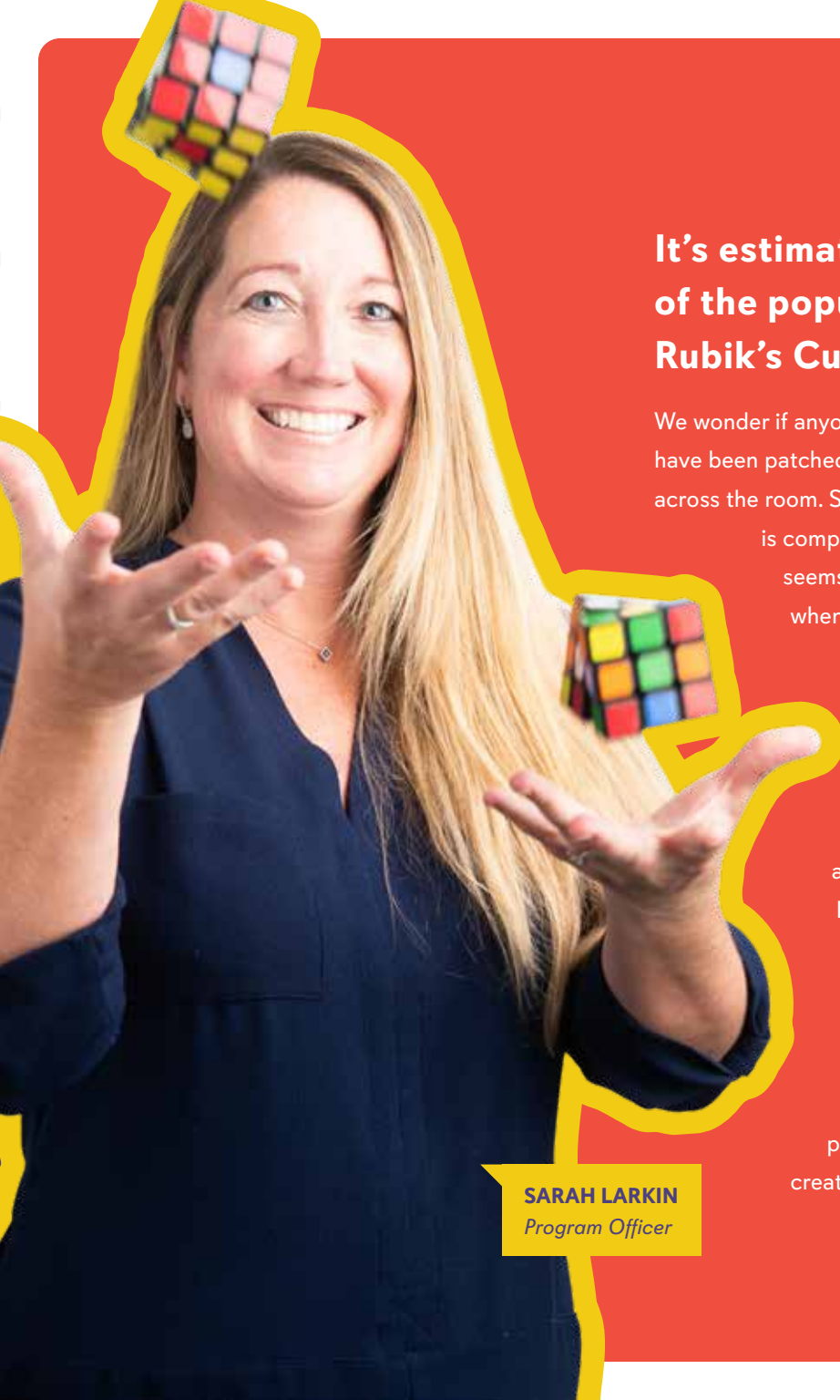


Six simple colors mark the puzzle’s “solved” state because it’s the simplest way for everyone to know the goal is met.

When young people experience Living History Days at Stone’s Trace in Noble County, Indiana, they are immersed in the life of early American pioneers. From the period-appropriate costumes and hands-on activities like candle making, to the smell of food cooked in kettles over open fires, there is no question the goal is to allow each guest to step into the past. When you can clearly demonstrate what you’re trying to achieve, it’s easier for others to understand your vision.

ROBIN MCCORMICK
Controller





It's estimated that less than 6% of the population can solve the Rubik's Cube on their own.

We wonder if anyone has studied the number of holes that have been patched in walls after a Rubik's Cube was hurled across the room. Speaking of frustration, we know your work is complicated, and sometimes throwing something seems like exactly the right solution, especially when you've worked so hard to make sure everything lines up *just right*. But keep in mind, there is often more than one solution to the problem you're working to solve.

For young people, the process of trial and error can produce some of the best learning. We invest in Youth Pods every year so teens can try their hands at formal philanthropy and learn from the twists and turns that occur along the way. Because they're naturally open-minded and wired for novelty, young people make excellent problem solvers. Communities benefit from creative solutions through Youth Pods every year.

SARAH LARKIN
Program Officer

The Rubik's Cube was originally called the Magic Cube.

We know from experience that the art of problem solving doesn't feel very magical at times. But just like the toy that has piqued the interest of children and adults across the globe for generations, maybe you just have to give it a new name...or at least see it from a new perspective.

Maybe it's a puzzle.

Perhaps it's a challenge,
a conundrum, or an issue.

Or there's our personal
favorite: an opportunity!

BARRY ROCHFORD

Strategic Communication Officer

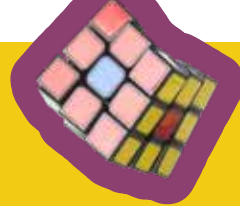


HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT

We welcome grant proposals for ideas, projects, and organizations that help young people develop the skills, knowledge, and character needed for economic freedom in the future. We take proposals every day of the year, so don't worry about missing any deadlines. Simply give us about 90 days to review your request, and we will have an answer back from our Board.

If you're new to our organization or just want to kick around some ideas before you apply, our team is happy to talk with you.

Give us a call at 260-347-1278 or email us at dekko@dekkofoundation.org.



■ *For more information about our Board's funding priorities and geographic areas of interest, please visit our website at dekkofoundation.org.*

2023 GRANTS AWARDED

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here’s what we’re tracking to see how young people step forward:
Ada-Borup-West School District	Industrial Arts	Ada, MN	\$22,000	High school students gaining on-the-job skills that will lead to viable careers in the future.
Ada-Borup-West School District	Potter's Wheels	Ada, MN	\$7,000	Students increasing their knowledge of pottery, problem solving, and careers in the arts.
Apple Tree Center	Operating Support	Kendallville, IN	\$50,000	Young people building their 40 Developmental Assets through positive interactions with caring adults.
Athens Arts League	Athens City Sunrise Park and Splash Pad	Athens, AL	\$250,000	Young people and families learning, growing, and connecting with others in the community.
Athens Bible School	iReady Assessment Support	Athens, AL	\$6,231	Faculty and staff working more effectively together to address students' learning needs and enhance classroom environments.
Athens-Limestone County Tourism	Superhero Day	Athens , AL	\$4,000	Young people and families experiencing a local event that causes them to build strong bonds with their community.
Athens-Limestone Public Library Foundation	"COOL" Van (Library Vehicle)	Athens, AL	\$15,500	Young people growing in their love of reading through simpler access to public library materials.
BABE of Whitley County, Inc.	Basic Operating Expenses	Columbia City, IN	\$5,000	Parents deepening their understanding of healthy youth development and strengthening their connections to other parents in the community.
Baker Youth Club	Administrative Staff Enhancement	Warsaw, IN	\$90,000	The organization strengthening its sustainability to support program needs.
Central Noble Community School Corporation	ICU Afterschool Tutoring	Albion, IN	\$13,500	Students increasing their academic performance and confidence while building meaningful relationships with high school mentors.
Central Noble Community School Corporation	Multi-Tiered System of Support Program Coordinator	Albion, IN	\$137,360	Young people increasing their confidence and academic success through individualized care and support from teachers.

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here's what we're tracking to see how young people step forward:
Chariton Community School District	STEAM Education Program	Chariton, IA	\$14,475	Students developing critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.
Children First Center	Expanding Children First Services	Auburn, IN	\$40,000	Parents increasing their ability to respond to their children's needs in ways that align with their healthy development.
City of Kendallville	Disc Golf Course Upgrade	Kendallville, IN	\$11,000	Young people participating in a healthy recreational activity and developing skills.
City of Kendallville	Kendallville Skatepark	Kendallville, IN	\$75,000	Young people practicing skills, building resiliency, and seeing what they can accomplish.
City of Murray	Mustang Concession Restroom Facility	Murray, IA	\$75,000	Young people building meaningful connections with their community.
Clarke County Conservation Board	County Conservation Education Center	Osceola, IA	\$100,000	Young people gaining an appreciation for the natural environment and taking part in programs and events.
Cole Center Family YMCA	Camp Wethonkitha Support	Kendallville, IN	\$20,000	Young people gaining new skills and confidence in a fun and safe summer learning environment.
Cole Center Family YMCA	Maintaining Pool Areas	Kendallville, IN	\$400,000	Young people increasing their confidence, coordination, and other swimming skills.
Community Foundation of DeKalb County	Outdoor Theater Renovations	Auburn, IN	\$250,000	Increasing the variety and scope of performing arts and cultural opportunities for community members in DeKalb County.
Community Foundation of DeKalb County	Auburn-Waterloo Trail Endowment Fund	Auburn, IN	\$25,000	Families connecting to their community and engaging in activities that promote overall well-being.
Community Foundation of DeKalb County	VOICES Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Auburn, IN	\$18,000	Members of Voices of Philanthropy deepening their understanding of nonprofit boards and practicing formal philanthropy.
Community Foundation of DeKalb County	VOICES Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Auburn, IN	\$22,000	Members of Voices of Philanthropy deepening their understanding of nonprofit boards and practicing formal philanthropy.

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here's what we're tracking to see how young people step forward:
Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines	CCOPS Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Des Moines, IA	\$25,000	Members of CCOPS learning to engage others in community events and practicing formal philanthropy.
Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines	ROCCS Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Des Moines, IA	\$25,000	Members of ROCCS practicing formal philanthropy and hosting teambuilding workshops.
Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines	HELP Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Des Moines, IA	\$28,400	Members of HELP practicing formal philanthropy and encouraging peer engagement in community service.
Community Foundation of Noble County	PULSE Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Ligonier, IN	\$16,000	Members of PULSE learning leadership through event planning, public speaking, and fund development work while also engaging other teens in philanthropy.
Community Foundation of Whitley County	HANDS Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Columbia City, IN	\$19,000	Members of HANDS learning philanthropic skills and knowledge by practicing grantmaking and volunteering.
Community Learning Center, Inc.	Second and Third Floor Renovations	Kendallville, IN	\$4,000,000	The center building its robotics and industrial automation programs so that young people can get industry-recognized certifications and be better prepared for future careers.
Community Learning Center, Inc.	Operating Support	Kendallville, IN	\$500,000	Young people developing new skills and talents through programs in culinary arts, health and wellness, performing arts, workforce development, and performing arts.
DeKalb County Central United School District	Country Meadow Playground Project	Waterloo, IN	\$32,095	Elementary students developing positive character traits and having increased opportunities for healthy play.
Early Childhood Alliance	Building Quality Early Education	Fort Wayne, IN	\$37,524	Early learning centers using the Shared Services Network to elevate the effectiveness of their organizations and support them as they increase the quality of their learning environments.
East Noble School Corporation	Choir Lighting System	Kendallville, IN	\$9,725	High school students increasing their knowledge of the technical side of fine arts productions.
Fellowship of Christian Athletes	Banquet Matching Fund	Roanoke, IN	\$40,000	Increasing the financial stability of the organization so that more young athletes benefit from character and positive youth development.

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here's what we're tracking to see how young people step forward:
FIRST in Alabama	Increasing FIRST Robotics Access in Limestone County	Meridianville, AL	\$20,000	Students gaining problem-solving and collaborative skills while developing meaningful relationships with caring adults.
Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society, Inc.	Indiana Rail Camp	Fort Wayne, IN	\$10,000	High school students increasing their knowledge of technical careers.
Fort Wayne Zoological Society	Zoomobile Program Support	Fort Wayne, IN	\$67,794	Elementary students increasing their problem-solving and critical-thinking skills.
Foundation for Art and Music in Education	FAME Arts Education Initiatives	Fort Wayne, IN	\$5,000	Young people exploring opportunities to engage in the arts.
Freedom Academy, Inc.	Tutoring Program	Kendallville, IN	\$160,000	Students increasing their academic performance and confidence while building meaningful relationships with caring adults.
Freedom Academy, Inc.	Marketing & Operations	Kendallville, IN	\$250,000	Students increasing their employability skills and confidence in knowing what comes next after high school.
Garrett-Keyser-Butler Community School District	Teaching Aligned Developmental Adolescence (TADA)	Garrett, IN	\$30,000	High school teachers growing in their understanding of adolescent development so that classrooms are well-prepared environments for learning.
Gary Cares	SHOCK & AWE Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Gary, MN	\$42,000	Members of SHOCK & AWE practicing formal philanthropy and creating meaningful connections among nonprofit organizations in their community.
Gary Cares	SHOCK & AWE Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Gary, MN	\$40,000	Members of SHOCK & AWE practicing formal philanthropy and creating meaningful connections among nonprofit organizations in their community.
Goshen College	Wolf Lake Nature Preschool	Goshen, IN	\$35,000	Preschoolers growing in their cognitive, social-emotional, and physical development.
Harold W. McMillen Center for Health Education	Parking Lot Expansion	Fort Wayne, IN	\$20,000	The organization growing its capacity to best meet the needs of the students it serves.
Harold W. McMillen Center for Health Education	Youth Preventive Health Education	Fort Wayne, IN	\$30,000	Students increasing their knowledge and understanding of relevant health topics and responsible decision making.

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here's what we're tracking to see how young people step forward:
Historic Forks of the Wabash	HVAC and Digital Sign	Huntington, IN	\$7,500	Young people learning the history of Native Americans and commerce in the region in hands-on and engaging ways.
Image of Hope Ranch, Inc.	Journey to Fulfillment	Auburn, IN	\$15,000	Young people gaining employment, life, and leadership skills so they are ready to be contributing members of the community.
Indiana Troopers Youth Services	Indiana State Police Summer Youth Camp	Indianapolis, IN	\$3,000	High school students experiencing careers in law enforcement while building meaningful relationships with caring adults.
Indiana Youth Institute, Inc.	Working Together for Kids	Indianapolis, IN	\$60,000	Staff in youth-serving organizations deepening their understanding of adolescent development.
Joe's Kids, Inc.	Child Sponsorships for Services	Warsaw, IN	\$25,000	The organization strengthening its financial stability and its ability to serve young people.
Joe's Kids, Inc.	Building Capacity: New Facility	Warsaw, IN	\$75,000	The organization building its capacity to provide developmentally aligned services to young people.
Junior Achievement of Northern Indiana	JA JobSpark and JA JobSpark Virtual 2022-23	Fort Wayne, IN	\$25,000	Middle school students having hands-on experiences with a variety of careers available in the region.
Kosciusko Community YMCA, Inc.	YMCA Sports Complex - Urban Soccer Fields	Warsaw, IN	\$50,000	Young people increasing their physical fitness and developing positive character traits.
Kosciusko County Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Inc.	Meeting Providers' Immediate Needs	Warsaw, IN	\$12,800	Early learning educators providing developmentally aligned materials and experiences for young children.
Kosciusko County Community Foundation, Inc.	KEYS Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Warsaw, IN	\$33,500	KEYS members deepening their understanding of formal philanthropy, fund development, and nonprofit organizations in Kosciusko County.
Kosciusko County Community Foundation, Inc.	KEYS Youth Philanthropy Operating Support	Warsaw, IN	\$25,000	KEYS members deepening their understanding of formal philanthropy, fund development, and nonprofit organizations in Kosciusko County.
LaGrange County 4-H Club Association	Post-Pandemic Support	LaGrange, IN	\$40,000	Young people learning responsibility and building community through 4-H and youth development.
LaGrange First Church of God	Early Learning Operational Support for 2023	LaGrange, IN	\$42,000	Young people engaging in self-guided learning and meaningful work.

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here's what we're tracking to see how young people step forward:
Lakeland School Corporation	Dental Careers Academy	LaGrange, IN	\$100,000	High school students exploring future careers and building employability skills.
Lakewood Park Christian School	Music Technology Elective	Auburn, IN	\$7,200	Students growing their appreciation for music and building sound recording skills.
Learn to Read Council of Athens & Limestone County, Inc.	Youth Literacy 2023-2025	Athens, AL	\$22,000	Students increasing their proficiency in reading, writing, and math.
Leon Chamber of Commerce	Little River Community Playground	Leon, IA	\$75,000	Children increasing their physical and sensory development through play.
Leon United Methodist Church	Troop Trip to Philmont	Leon, IA	\$4,500	Scouts developing independence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.
Limestone County Schools	Liberty Learning Foundation Programs for Elkmont	Athens, AL	\$2,650	Elementary students understanding civics, character, and financial literacy.
Limestone County Schools	Tanner Elementary Metals, Soldering & Woodworking	Athens, AL	\$10,000	Elementary students engaging in complex problem solving and developing critical-thinking skills through hands-on learning.
Limestone County Schools	Courtyard Revitalization	Athens, AL	\$10,000	Students building meaningful connections with educators and peers.
Limestone County Schools	Simulated Job Site Trainer	Athens, AL	\$100,000	High school students earning industry-recognized certifications and building work-force ready skills and knowledge.
Lost Sparrows, Inc.	Lost Sparrows Trauma Conference	Winona Lake, IN	\$20,000	Young people learning and growing past their trauma through the intentional support of caring adults.
Lucas County Agricultural Extension District	Southern Iowa STEAM Academy	Chariton, IA	\$7,000	Educators learning to think and teach in ways that spark curiosity and bring science to life for their elementary students.
Lucas County Health Center	Adult & Infant CPR Manikins	Chariton, IA	\$2,831	Young people developing proficiency in basic life-saving techniques.

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here's what we're tracking to see how young people step forward:
Murray Community School District	Library: Rebuilding, Revitalizing, Renewing	Murray, IA	\$25,000	Students gaining knowledge and pursuing interests through updated library materials.
Noble Trails, Inc.	Noble Trails Endowment Fund	Rome City, IN	\$150,000	The organization increasing its ability to provide healthy, recreational activities that build quality of place and promote family time.
Oak Farm School, Inc	Operating Support	Avilla, IN	\$2,325,000	The school's increasing enrollment and financial independence.
Oak Farm School, Inc	High School Expansion and Green Farm House Renovation	Avilla, IN	\$7,816,355	The school's increasing enrollment and financial independence.
Prairie Heights Community School Corporation	Digital Arts: Media Course	LaGrange, IN	\$30,000	Students increasing their knowledge of future careers and gaining employability skills.
Ringgold County Fair Association	Ringgold County Building Project	Mount Ayr, IA	\$100,000	Young people growing their knowledge of nutrition, finance, and farm business management.
Ruth Stultz Nursery School	Ruth Stultz Air Conditioning	Ligonier, IN	\$11,008	Preschoolers growing in their cognitive, social-emotional, and physical development.
Shore Church, Inc.	Early Learning Expansion Project	Shipshewana, IN	\$28,000	The school's growing capacity to serve the needs of young people.
Smith-Green Community Schools	Auditorium Lighting Upgrades	Churubusco, IN	\$75,000	Young people gaining problem-solving skills and practicing creativity while building meaningful relationships with caring adults.
Southern Iowa STEAM Academy	Building the Foundation	Chariton, IA	\$10,000	Elementary students developing critical-thinking and problem-solving skills.
Spirit of Athens Alabama, Inc.	Children's Education Farmer's Market	Athens, AL	\$9,000	Children engaging with local farmers and strengthening their understanding of healthy eating.
St. Mary Catholic School	Roof Replacement and Update	Avilla, IN	\$50,000	The school developing operational efficiencies that support children's learning.
Stone's Trace Historical Society	Living History Education	Kimmel, IN	\$12,000	Students experiencing the richness of local history that deepens their connection to the community.

Organization	Project Title	City	Amount	Together, here's what we're tracking to see how young people step forward:
The Center for Whitley County Youth, Inc.	Operating Support for Three Sites	Columbia City, IN	\$300,000	Young people gaining more of the 40 Developmental Assets through healthy relationships with caring adults.
The Village Early Childhood Center	New Flooring for Building	Osceola, IA	\$25,000	Young people learning in environments prepared to meet their physical needs.
Town of North Webster	North Webster Connector Trail	North Webster, IN	\$150,000	Young people building independence and creating meaningful connections with their community.
Trine University	Trine Health Professions	Angola, IN	\$650,000	Young people deepening their knowledge of health careers and earning industry-recognized certifications.
Warsaw Evangelical Presbyterian Church	Presby Nature Class 2023	Warsaw, IN	\$7,500	Young people increasing their adaptability to challenges and demonstrating creative problem-solving skills.
Wawasee Community Schools	Lead Learners	Syracuse, IN	\$35,000	Educators increasing their knowledge and understanding of child and adolescent development.
Wayne Center District No 7 Historical Site, Inc.	Save the Schoolhouse	Kendallville, IN	\$32,000	Students experiencing local history and building a connection to their ancestry and community.
West Noble School Corporation	Family Fun Culture Night!	Ligonier, IN	\$3,000	Elementary students developing meaningful connections with their school and community.
YMCA of Muncie/ Camp Crosley	Camp Crosley Renovations	Muncie, IN	\$1,000,000	The camp providing environments that meet the developmental needs of young people.
YMCA of Steuben County	Sheets Family Park	Angola, IN	\$250,000	Young people and their families pursuing healthy lifestyles through the organization's programs.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

OPINION

We have audited the modified cash basis financial statements of Dekko Foundation, Inc. (Foundation), which comprise the statements of financial position – modified cash basis as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of activities and functional expenses – modified cash basis for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Dekko Foundation, Inc. as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements” section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Foundation, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

EMPHASIS OF MATTER – BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Foundation’s ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that these financial statements are available to be issued.

AUDITOR’S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation’s internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Foundation’s ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

FORVIS, LLP

Fort Wayne, Indiana | November 16, 2023

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

August 31, 2023 and 2022 Modified Cash Basis

ASSETS	2023	2022
Cash and cash equivalents	\$6,691,088	\$3,173,848
Investments, at cost	\$205,506,114	\$209,969,863
Note receivable, net	\$2,750,000	\$3,250,000
Property and equipment, net	\$715,228	\$693,792
TOTAL ASSETS	\$215,662,430	\$217,087,503
LIABILITIES		
Payroll tax withholdings	\$6,609	\$2,102
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	\$215,655,821	\$217,085,401
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$215,662,430	\$217,087,503

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

Years Ended August 31, 2023 and 2022 Modified Cash Basis

	2023		2022	
RECEIPTS	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
Contributions	\$319,903	2.72%	\$394,129	1.50%
Interest and dividend income	\$4,699,688	39.92%	\$3,026,007	11.51%
Net realized gains on investments	\$6,741,773	57.27%	\$22,864,090	86.98%
Other	\$11,152	0.09%	\$3,390	0.01%
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$11,772,516	100.00%	\$26,287,616	100.00%
DISBURSEMENTS & EXPENSES				
Grants	\$10,687,267	80.94%	\$12,663,209	86.96%
Administrative	\$1,036,136	7.85%	\$878,790	6.03%
Library	\$503	0.01%	\$373	0.01%
Depreciation	\$52,154	0.40%	\$51,904	0.36%
Utilities	\$24,141	0.18%	\$22,400	0.15%

DISBURSEMENTS & EXPENSES (CONTINUED)	2023		2022	
	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL
Office supplies	\$2,672	0.02%	\$3,137	0.02%
Equipment	\$1,627	0.01%	\$4,769	0.03%
Rent	\$66,492	0.50%	\$63,552	0.44%
Repair and maintenance	\$89,224	0.68%	\$86,430	0.59%
Dues and membership	\$26,772	0.20%	\$28,701	0.20%
Training	\$48,654	0.37%	\$30,668	0.21%
Travel	\$61,613	0.47%	\$41,847	0.29%
Postage	\$2,517	0.02%	\$1,714	0.01%
Insurance	\$32,061	0.24%	\$32,573	0.22%
Professional fees	\$497,847	3.77%	\$469,502	3.22%
Federal excise tax and unrelated business income tax	\$465,382	3.53%	\$78,319	0.54%
Other	\$107,034	0.81%	\$105,179	0.72%
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS & EXPENSES	\$13,202,096	100.00%	\$14,563,067	100.00%
CHANGE IN ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	\$(1,429,580)		\$11,724,549	
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$217,085,401		\$205,360,852	
NET ASSETS WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS, END OF YEAR	\$215,655,821		\$217,085,401	

STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

Years Ended August 31, 2023 and 2022 Modified Cash Basis

	2023			2022		
	PROGRAM SERVICES	MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	TOTAL	PROGRAM SERVICES	MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	TOTAL
Grants	\$10,687,267	—	\$10,687,267	\$12,663,209	—	\$12,663,209
Administrative	\$538,791	\$497,345	\$1,036,136	\$452,965	\$425,824	\$878,789
Library	\$262	\$241	\$503	\$194	\$179	\$373
Depreciation	\$27,120	\$25,034	\$52,154	\$26,990	\$24,914	\$51,904
Utilities	\$12,553	\$11,588	\$24,141	\$11,648	\$10,752	\$22,400
Office supplies	\$1,410	\$1,262	\$2,672	\$1,631	\$1,506	\$3,137
Equipment	\$846	\$781	\$1,627	\$2,480	\$2,289	\$4,769
Repair and maintenance	\$34,576	\$31,916	\$66,492	\$44,944	\$41,486	\$86,430
Rent	\$46,397	\$42,827	\$89,224	\$33,047	\$30,505	\$63,552
Dues and membership	\$13,921	\$12,851	\$26,772	\$14,925	\$13,776	\$28,701
Training	\$47,379	\$1,275	\$48,654	\$27,210	\$3,458	\$30,668
Travel	\$46,236	\$15,377	\$61,613	\$28,684	\$13,164	\$41,848
Postage	\$1,730	\$787	\$2,517	\$944	\$770	\$1,714
Insurance	\$16,672	\$15,389	\$32,061	\$16,938	\$15,635	\$32,573
Professional fees	\$482,680	\$15,167	\$497,847	\$447,587	\$21,915	\$469,502
Federal excise tax and unrelated business income tax	—	\$465,382	\$465,382	—	\$78,319	\$78,319
Other	\$70,705	\$36,329	\$107,034	\$52,347	\$52,832	\$105,179
	\$12,028,545	\$1,173,551	\$13,202,096	\$13,825,743	\$737,324	\$14,563,067

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
August 31, 2023 and 2022 Modified Cash Basis

NOTE 1: NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND SUMMARY
OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Dekko Foundation, Inc. (Foundation) was incorporated as a not-for-profit foundation in 1981, under the laws of the state of Indiana. The mission of the Foundation is to foster economic freedom through education in the areas where its founder, Mr. Chester E. Dekko, had an interest. For that reason, the Foundation focuses its grant making in portions of Alabama, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, and Minnesota. Primary sources of revenue for the Foundation are estate contributions and investment income. Mr. Dekko's intent for his foundation was to give young people the opportunity for high-quality experiences that would lay the groundwork for the development of financial independence. To carry out that mission, the Dekko Foundation makes grants to not-for-profit organizations that promote developmentally appropriate experiences. The Foundation also invests in the capacity of youth and community development organizations to sustain and elevate their work.

USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the Foundation's modified cash basis of accounting requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of receipts and disbursements and other changes in net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting which differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of

America (GAAP) as follows:

- Cash paid to charitable organizations and vendors is expensed when paid, not when the grant is approved or when the obligation is incurred as required by GAAP
- Investments are recorded at cost, not fair value, and investment income is recorded when received, not when earned, as required by GAAP. In addition, certain disclosures are not provided regarding the nature of certain investments, as required by GAAP

NET ASSET CLASSIFICATIONS

The following class of net assets is maintained:

Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions – The net assets without donor restrictions class includes general assets and liabilities of the Foundation. The net assets without donor restrictions of the Foundation may be used at the discretion of management to support the Foundation's purposes and operations.

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The Foundation considers all liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. At August 31, 2023 and 2022, cash equivalents consisted primarily of money market accounts with brokers. At August 31, 2023, the Foundation's cash accounts exceeded federally insured limits by approximately \$7,506,000.

NOTES RECEIVABLE

Notes receivable are stated at the outstanding principal amount, net of allowance for uncollectible notes. The Foundation provides an allowance for uncollectible notes, which is based upon a review of outstanding receivables, historical collection information, and existing economic conditions (none at August 31, 2023 and 2022). Outstanding

notes pay interest based on the terms of the respective note agreements. A note receivable is considered delinquent when the debtor has missed three or more payments.

INVESTMENTS

Marketable securities and other investments are recorded at cost or, if donated, at the fair value at the date of gift. Other investments are comprised of nonmarketable securities, such as private partnerships and limited liability corporations. Investment gains and losses are recognized upon realization using the specific-identification method.

INCOME TAXES

The Foundation is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and a similar provision of state law. The Foundation is considered to be a private foundation under Section 509(a) of the Code. The Foundation is subject to excise tax on investment income. In addition, the Internal Revenue Service requires that certain minimum distributions be made in accordance with a specified formula.

The Foundation files tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction. With a few exceptions, the Foundation is no longer subject to U.S. federal examinations by tax authorities for years before 2020.

PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Expenditures for property and equipment and items, which substantially increase the useful lives of existing assets, are capitalized at cost. The Foundation provides for depreciation on the straightline method at rates designed to depreciate the costs of assets over estimated useful lives as follows:

- Furnishings and equipment: 5-7 Years
- Buildings and improvements: 15-31 Years

NOTE 2: INVESTMENTS

The Foundation's investments are as follows:

	2023		2022	
	COST	FAIR VALUE	COST	FAIR VALUE
U.S. Government and U.S. Government agency securities	\$28,392,354	\$27,850,103	\$24,959,601	\$24,823,904
Equities	\$134,528,078	\$165,173,119	\$140,042,551	\$162,358,421
Corporate and municipal bonds	\$6,821,874	\$6,434,108	\$9,328,018	\$8,914,984
Nonmarketable securities	\$35,763,808	\$55,111,405	\$35,639,693	\$51,794,896
TOTAL	\$205,506,114	\$254,568,735	\$209,969,863	\$247,892,205

The fair value is based on quoted prices in active markets, if available. In the absence of readily determinable fair values, the fair value of alternative investments is based on the net asset value of the fund either provided by the investment's fund manager or general partner or estimated by management based on audited financial statements received from the respective investment's fund manager or general partner. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the notes to the financial statements.

NONMARKETABLE INVESTMENTS

The fair value of nonmarketable investments have been estimated using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient. This category includes investments in private equity funds that pursue multiple strategies and investment options to maximize return while diversifying risks and reducing volatility. The nature of these investments is that distributions are received through liquidation of the underlying assets of the fund in accordance with the planned life cycle of the fund and its investment strategy. The amount of unfunded capital commitments is approximately \$9,007,000 and \$11,219,000 at August 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

NOTE 3: PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

The Foundation's property and equipment are as follows:

	2023	2022
Buildings and improvements	\$988,692	\$988,692
Furnishings and equipment	\$388,085	\$402,485
Construction in progress	\$73,590	-
Accumulated depreciation	\$(735,139)	\$(697,385)
TOTAL	\$715,228	\$693,792

NOTE 4: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Foundation maintains a 403(b) defined-contribution plan for the benefit of substantially all of its employees, which allows for both employee and employer contributions. The Foundation's contribution consists of a discretionary contribution of 10% of eligible compensation, and a matching contribution of 100% of employee contributions, up to 5% of eligible employee compensation. The Foundation's contribution to the plan was \$100,073 and \$90,896 for 2023 and 2022, respectively.

NOTE 5: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During 2023 and 2022, a portion of the Foundation's investments were managed by an investment advisor who is a related party of the Foundation in the amount (cost basis) of \$47,623,508 and \$47,071,707 as of August 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The investment advisory fee (which was paid to the brokerage firm, not the related party advisory firm) was \$246,506 and \$285,666 for the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

NOTE 6: LIQUIDITY AND AVAILABILITY

Financial assets available for general expenditure, that is, without donor or other restrictions limiting their use, within one year of August 31, 2023 and 2022, comprise the following:

	2023	2022
Cash	\$6,691,088	\$3,173,848
Investments	\$197,599,958	\$201,575,132
Financial assets available to meet cash needs for general expenditures within one year	\$204,291,046	\$204,748,980

While the Foundation does not anticipate liquidity concerns, the Foundation does have a highly involved board of directors who monitors liquidity throughout the year. The Foundation's primary expenses are grant disbursements that are decided upon by the board of directors. If liquidity concerns were to appear, the Board of Directors would be able to limit disbursements on an as needed basis and maintain sufficient levels of liquidity.

Cash is monitored daily and a monthly review is performed at the management level.

NOTE 7: OPERATING LEASE

The Foundation leases a building under an operating lease arrangement. The lease expires in December 2025. Rental expense for this lease included in the statement of activities for the years ended August 31, 2023 and 2022, was \$66,492 and \$63,552, respectively. Future minimum lease payments required under the operating lease with remaining terms in excess of one year as of August 31, 2023, are as follows:

2024	2025	2026	TOTAL
\$63,552	\$63,552	\$21,184	\$148,288

NOTE 8: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated through November 16, 2023, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

A LEGACY OF PROBLEM SOLVING SUCCESS

Our founder, Mr. Chester E. Dekko, was a problem solver at heart. Back in the 1950s, he and his business partner solved a particular problem — devising a more efficient method of wiring new refrigerators — which launched a successful company that grew rapidly over the years. A student of leadership and business, Mr. Dekko never stopped learning. In fact, he even wrote his own theory of problem solving and used it to train all of his managers.

■ *“Resolve to perform what you ought — perform without fail what you resolve.”*

Mr. Chester E. Dekko



In 1981, he started the Dekko Foundation with a mission of fostering economic freedom through education. Since then, we've awarded more than \$284 million in grants to youth-serving organizations in the communities where he once had business or personal interests. All of our grants have one thing in common: supporting children and young people in building the skills, knowledge, and character they'll need for economic freedom in the future.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

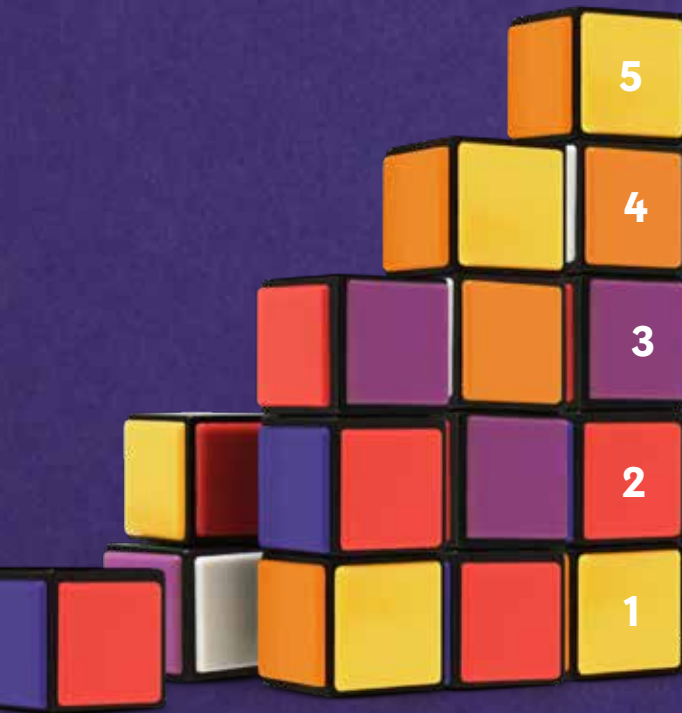
Erica Dekko
C. E. Dekko
Phil Salsbery

STAFF

Tom Leedy <i>President</i>	Jenna Ott <i>Vice President of Programs</i>
Robin McCormick <i>Controller</i>	Kimberly Schroeder <i>Engagement Director</i>
Greg Matney <i>Construction Consultant</i>	Abby Lindsey <i>Program Officer</i>
Barry Rochford <i>Strategic Communication Officer</i>	Sarah Larkin <i>Program Officer</i>
	Payton Hunley <i>Grants & Program Associate</i>

ACHIEVING ECONOMIC FREEDOM

HERE'S HOW WE
THINK IT WORKS.



Young adults have the economic freedom they need to be philanthropic and to nurture the next generation.

Young people enter adulthood with a plan for how they can take their own steps toward economic freedom.

Children and young people step forward by gaining the skills, knowledge, and character they need from experiences offered by caring adults.

Wanting children to thrive, adults step back to seek information about children's development and the experiences they need to grow.

Adults — parents, educators, and community members — care deeply about children and young people and their future livelihood and happiness.