

READY TO HELP

Community Impact Report | 2020



A SPECIAL MESSAGE

We are privileged to serve 823 communities across an eight-state footprint. Giving back to those communities is part of our history, our culture, and will hopefully be our legacy. I am proud of our teams who responded to the unexpected demands of COVID-19, including an unprecedented philanthropic response to help support our customers in need. We are proud to share this summary of our community impact activities in 2020, an extraordinary year.

Our charitable giving in 2020 totaled \$5.6 million and was directed at the important work of local nonprofits, chambers and economic development organizations who supported our neighbors as they were impacted by COVID. Shortly after businesses were closed and many families started to quarantine at home, we coordinated a \$375,000 response from

our Black Hills Corp. Foundation and all our state utilities to address urgent basic needs (like food insecurity) through more than 110 organizations in our communities. Then, in late July 2020, the Black Hills Corp. Foundation dedicated the remainder of their 2020 funds for energy assistance for families experiencing hardship due to COVID-19.

Black Hills Energy has a proud legacy of service that is guided by our values and our deep commitment to the customers and communities we serve. We are ready to build an energy future that will help our communities grow and thrive while we work to be the best in everything we do.

— Linn Evans, President and CEO





2020 COMMUNITY IMPACT



2020 COMPANY-WIDE COMMUNITY IMPACT



Even with the unique challenges caused by COVID-19, we continued to share our energy with the communities we serve through charitable giving, outreach and employee volunteerism.



\$1.38 BIL
**DIRECT ECONOMIC
IMPACT**

Serving 1.3 million natural gas and electric utility customers in 823 communities across eight states, our direct economic impact in 2020 totaled \$1.38 billion. This included charitable giving, compensation for more than 3,000 employees, franchise fees, payments to suppliers, and property, sales and use taxes paid to our communities.



\$5.6 MIL
**CHARITABLE
GIVING**

Our charitable giving included contributions and sponsorships for nonprofits, chambers and economic development organizations, United Way, energy assistance, in-kind donations, and investments in trees.



\$2.3 MIL
**CONTRIBUTIONS
& SPONSORSHIPS**

Nearly \$2.3 million invested by our state utilities and the Black Hills Corp. Foundation in the great work of hundreds of worthy local organizations and nonprofits.



\$1.3 MIL
**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

Aided local organizations and Chambers of Commerce working to support businesses impacted by COVID-19.



\$813,000
**ENERGY
ASSISTANCE**

Responding to increased needs due to the impact of COVID, our energy assistance program, Black Hills Cares, helped more than 2,500 families in need.



\$780,000
**UNITED WAY
PLEDGES**

Employees gave almost \$628,000, plus a 25% match from Black Hills Corp. Foundation to benefit nearly 50 United Way organizations across eight states.



\$263,000
**IN-KIND OR
OTHER DONATIONS**

Supported our communities with basic needs during unprecedented emergencies, including challenges presented by COVID-19. We also stepped up in unique ways, like hanging holiday lights, trimming trees and repairing flag poles.



\$113,000
**STEWARDSHIP
THROUGH TREES**

Invested \$113,000 in planting more than 1,850 trees which will grow to filter nearly 10 million gallons of storm water and avoid almost three million pounds of pollutants. Additionally, the Black Hills Corp. Foundation committed \$20,000 to replace trees destroyed by the Iowa derecho.



32,500+
**CUSTOMERS IMPROVED
THEIR ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

More than 32,500 customers participated in energy efficiency programs and benefited from energy savings.



632+
VOLUNTEERS

At least 632 employees shared their energy with over 1,000 community organizations.



520
**PUBLIC SAFETY
PERSONNEL TRAINED**

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, hosted emergency response and public awareness trainings for almost 520 first responders and excavators serving our communities.

Learn more about our community impact in each state and view our 2020 Community Impact Video at blackhillsenergy.com/community-impact

CHARITABLE IMPACT BY STATE

Each of our state utilities budget for donations and sponsorships to address their local community engagement goals. We want to see our local communities thrive so we work hard to be engaged, responsible partners in embracing the uniqueness each of our communities contributes to improving the quality of life for all. Local leaders, relying on their community affairs professionals and other members of their management teams, determine how best to use these

dollars. This generosity in our hometowns aligns with our giving priorities:

- **Strong communities**
- **Helping people**
- **Education and workforce**
- **Energy and environment**

If a local funding request meets the criteria for consideration by our corporate foundation, our state community affairs managers submit select projects for a quarterly review process by the Black Hills Corp. Foundation.



The table below summarizes our charitable giving in 2020, including the distribution of foundation and state utility funds for charitable purposes, as well as employee giving to United Way and support provided through Black Hills Energy's energy assistance program, Black Hills Cares. This collective charitable impact in 2020 totals over \$5.6 million, which demonstrates our readiness to impact the communities we serve through our corporate citizenship programs.

	Foundation*	State Operating Funds	Employee United Way Giving (Pd in 2020)	BH Cares	Total
Arkansas	\$ 59,000	\$ 137,000	\$ 68,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 344,000
Colorado	\$ 60,000	\$ 862,000	\$ 88,000	\$ 154,000	\$ 1,164,000
Iowa	\$ 34,000	\$ 410,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 535,000
Kansas	\$ 14,000	\$ 209,000	\$ 26,000	\$ 129,000	\$ 378,000
Nebraska	\$ 74,000	\$ 629,000	\$ 119,000	\$ 179,000	\$ 1,001,000
South Dakota	\$ 83,000	\$ 1,232,000	\$ 240,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 1,645,000
Wyoming	\$ 69,000	\$ 265,000	\$ 74,000	\$ 101,000	\$ 509,000
Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000
Total Charitable Impact	\$ 393,000 *	\$ 3,744,000	\$ 628,000	\$ 813,000	\$ 5,578,000

*Black Hills Corp. Foundation donated an additional \$223,500 to Black Hills Cares for COVID-19 relief efforts.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



While Main Street businesses struggled to react to the challenges of the pandemic, we supported the work of chambers and economic development organizations that worked feverishly to support our small businesses to keep their doors open and even thrive. In 2020, we invested \$1.3 million to aid local organizations and chambers of commerce working to support businesses impacted by COVID-19.

One example of our response included helping a community respond early in the pandemic. First

responders in our communities needed hand sanitizer to stay safe, but it was not easy to find. Our Nebraska teammate, Todd King, is also the Wood River Fire Chief. He knew we had to do something to help. Todd worked with Pacha Soaps in nearby Hastings, Nebraska to get 60 gallons of commercial grade hand sanitizer and assisted the Central Nebraska Health Department, Hall County Sheriff Department and local fire departments to share the hand sanitizer with area first responders.



SUPPORT FOR UNITED WAY

Black Hills Energy has a long history of partnership with United Way, dating back to the 1940s. United Way continues to be our corporate charity of choice, because of their strong connection with local needs and solid processes for vetting and supporting the charitable organizations most effective in serving those needs.

Over 1,300 employees pledged a gift of at least their “fair share,” which is one hour of pay per month. During 2020 we shared over \$780,000 — including a 25 percent match by the Black Hills Corp. Foundation — to assist almost 50 United Ways across the Black Hills Energy footprint. Those United Ways include:

Arkansas

- United Way Fort Smith
- United Way Greater Blytheville
- United Way Northwest Arkansas
- United Way of Boone County

Colorado

- Pikes Peak United Way
- Pueblo County United Way
- United Way of Weld County
- United Way of Garfield County
- United Way of Mesa County
- United Way of Southwest Colorado
- United Way of Larimer County
- United Way of Eagle River Valley
- Mile High United Way

Iowa

- United Way of Central Iowa
- United Way of Dubuque Area Tri-States
- United Way of Jasper County
- United Way of East Central Iowa
- United Way of Winneshiek County

Kansas

- United Way of Dodge City
- United Way of Franklin County
- United Way of Douglas County
- Finney County United Way
- United Way of the Plains
- Seward County United Way
- United Way of Greater Kansas City



Montana

- United Way of Yellowstone County

Nebraska

- United Way of Columbus NE
- Gage County United Way
- United Way of Lincoln & Lancaster County
- Norfolk Area United Way
- Cornhusker United Way
- United Way of York
- United Way of the Midlands
- United Way of South Central Nebraska
- United Way of Western Nebraska
- Lexington Area United Way
- United Way of the Kearney Area
- Mid Plains United Way

South Dakota

- United Way of Northern Hills
- United Way of Southern Hills
- United Way of Sturgis
- United Way of the Black Hills

Wyoming

- United Way of Albany County
- United Fund of Weston County
- United Way of Laramie County
- United Way of Natrona County
- United Way of Carbon County
- United Way of Southwest Wyoming



BLACK HILLS CARES

Our energy assistance program, Black Hills Cares, helped more than 2,500 families in need last year. We match employee and customers gifts dollar for dollar. In the past 13 years, Black Hills Cares has provided more than \$6.5 million in customer, employee and company donations to those in need, and \$813,000 was contributed in 2020. We partner with two dozen nonprofits throughout our service territories to distribute these funds to families needing financial assistance. Our partners who distribute Black Hills Cares funds for energy assistance include:

AR	Salvation Army - Hearts Warming Homes
CO	Energy Outreach Colorado
IA	New Opportunities Inc. Hawkeye Area Community Action Program Matura Action Corp. Mid-Iowa Community Action North Iowa Community Action Organization Northeast Iowa Community Action Corp. Operation New View Operation Threshold IMPACT Community Action Program Upper Des Moines Opportunity Inc. West Central Community Action Agency
KS	The Salvation Army - Heatshare Warm Hearts of Douglas County
NE	The Salvation Army - Heatshare
SD	Christian Life Center, Compassion Cupboard Custer Ministerial Association Church Response (energy bill assistance) Hot Springs Ministerial Assoc. Newcastle Ministerial Assoc. Salvation Army of the Black Hills Sturgis Alliance of Churches Newell - Vale - Nisland Ministerial Assoc.
WY	Energy Share of Wyoming





Here's a story from our partners at Energy Outreach Colorado, sharing how Black Hills Cares truly impacted one of our neighbors.

Angelina is a single mother living with her two children in a mobile home built in 1964 in Palmer Lake, Colorado. She lives on a fixed income, with just enough money each month to get by, but nothing more. Her home energy systems needed repair for a long time, but she could not afford that expense. Angelina called Black Hills Energy to see if they could help, but when the technician arrived, he found that both her furnace and water heater had gas leaks, and the furnace had a cracked heat exchanger. For the safety of the family, he had no choice but to disconnect the appliances due to safety concerns, leaving the family without heat or hot water. The technician referred Angelina to Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC), the organization that distributes dollars from Black Hills Cares and other funds. Help was dispatched immediately.

It was determined that the home's electric service was insufficient to support a new high efficiency natural gas furnace, so Black Hills Cares helped fund an electric service upgrade to protect the new equipment. A new natural gas furnace and water heater were installed along with duct insulation and air sealing, at no cost to the household. Angelina is just one of our neighbors who we were ready to help when times were tough.

Warming Hearts in Douglas County, Kansas

Black Hills Cares has enjoyed a long-standing partnership with Warm Hearts of Douglas County. When COVID-19 impacted Lawrence, Kansas, the two organizations worked together to figure out how to make an even bigger impact.

By redefining their giving parameters, Warm Hearts of Douglas County was able to double the number of people supported and helped Black Hills Energy reach more than 700 families with emergency utility assistance in Kansas. In partnership with the fundraising efforts by Warm Hearts of Douglas County, nearly \$140,000 was raised last year to help people with the energy that keeps their homes livable.



LEGACY COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The Black Hills Corp. Foundation provides financial support to charitable organizations within our service territories to strengthen the communities we serve. Since inception in 2001, the Foundation has granted more than \$6.5 million to almost 500 organizations.

Black Hills Energy primarily uses the Foundation to support larger capital or legacy projects in communities, but the Foundation also provides a 25 percent match to employee pledges to United Way and manages the donations to our Black Hills Cares energy assistance program. But, 2020 was an unprecedented year, which required unprecedented action. Our Foundation responded.

In April, we coordinated a \$375,000 response from both our corporate foundation and all state utility budgets to address urgent basic needs (like food

insecurity) through more than 110 organizations throughout our communities. Then, in late July 2020, the Black Hills Corp. Foundation dedicated the remainder of their 2020 funds for energy assistance for families experiencing hardship due to COVID-19.

Combined with the United Way contributions and other matching gifts in 2020, the Foundation dispersed grants totaling more than \$616,000, included over \$223,000 to our two dozen Black Hills Cares distributing partners.

A summary of traditional grants made by the Foundation in 2020 follows:

CO	Renovation of Historic Rail Depot - Ft. Sedgwick	Julesburg	\$21,800
	New Facility - Black Canyon Boys & Girls Club	Montrose	\$22,500
IA	Replacement of Trees Destroyed in derecho - Trees Forever	Various	\$20,000
	Art Therapy Room - Riverview Center	Dubuque	\$20,000
NE	Early Childhood & Development Center - Boone Beginnings	Albion	\$23,000
	Completion of Child Development Center - Stick Street Kids	Hickory	\$22,000
SD	Restoration of Historic Theater - Homestake Opera House	Lead	\$10,000

2020 Foundation Directors

Linn R. Evans, President and CEO
Rich Kinzley, Chief Financial Officer
Marne Jones, Vice President - Regulatory & Finance
Shirley Welte, Vice President - Iowa Gas
Mark Stege, Vice President - Wyoming Gas & Electric
Vance Crocker, Vice President - Colorado Electric
Susan Bailey, Vice President - Colorado Gas
Wes Ashton, Vice President - Customer Service
Todd Jacobs, Vice President - Natural Gas Utilities
Nick Gardner, Vice President - Electric Utilities
Kevin Jarosz, Vice President - Nebraska Gas
Marc Eyre, Vice President - South Dakota Electric

2020 Foundation Officers

President - Val Simpson, Senior Manager - Community Affairs
Vice President - Jaf Karim, Director - Government Affairs
Treasurer - Josh Wosepka, Manager - Regulatory & Finance

FOUNDATION INVESTMENTS

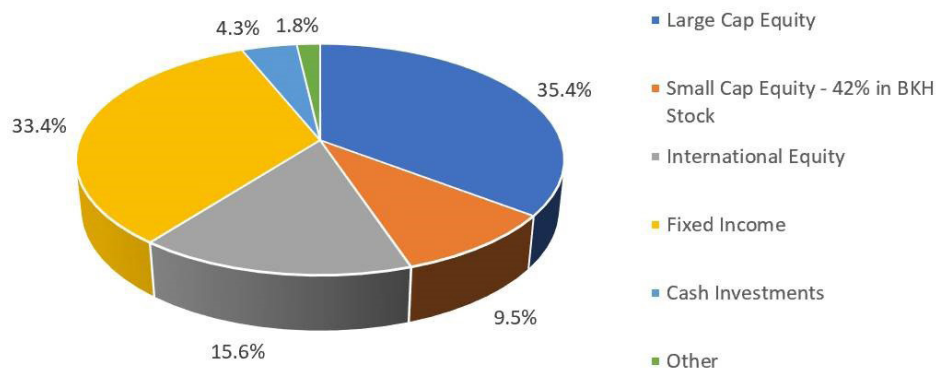
Beginning Balance (Jan. 1, 2020)	\$6,175,754
2020 Approved Grants Distributed -	
Match of Employee United Way Contributions	(151,780)
COVID-19 Relief	(350,500)
Other	(52,750)
Distribution of Previously Approved Grants	(61,000)
Contribution by BHC Based on Earnings Model	337,730
BH Cares - Receipts	244,891
BH Cares - Disbursements	(310,021)
Gains/ (Losses) on Investments	400,625
Ending Balance (Dec. 31, 2020)	<u>\$6,232,949</u>

Foundation Portfolio Composition (as of Dec. 31, 2020)

Large Cap Equity	\$2,204,469	34%
Small Cap Equity - 42% in BKH Stock	591,469	9.5%
International Equity	974,556	15.6%
Fixed Income	2,081,542	33.4%
Cash Investments	267,752	4.3%
Other	113,160	1.8%
Total	<u>\$6,232,949</u>	<u>100%</u>

The Foundation's total asset value was flat compared to 2019 due to appreciation in the value of investments during 2020, as well as an earnings contribution to the Foundation from Black Hills Energy of approximately \$340,000 offset by grants and disbursements made during the year. This contribution to the Foundation is based on the annual EPS funding model dependent on the earnings of the Black Hills Energy during 2020. Composition of the Foundation's portfolio of assets are shown below.

Foundation Portfolio Composition
as of Dec. 31, 2020



SCHOLARSHIPS

To inspire the next generation of energy field leaders, we work through the foundations at colleges and technical institutes in each of our states to award scholarships to students studying specific fields that align with our workforce needs. In 2020, nearly 40 students throughout our states were awarded scholarships to continue their field of study.

Applications for these scholarships are available through each school's foundation or scholarship office and deadlines vary. The student or student's parent or guardian typically must be a Black Hills Energy customer.

We currently have scholarships awarded through relationships with the following schools:

- IA Northeast Iowa Community College
Marshalltown Community College
- KS Barton County Community College
University of Kansas
Seward County Community College
Wichita State Technical College
- NE Metropolitan Community College
Southeast Community College
Northeast Community College
Central Community College
Western Nebraska Community College
University of Nebraska Lincoln
- SD South Dakota School of Mines & Technology
Mitchell Technical Institute
South Dakota State University
University of South Dakota
Black Hills State University
Oglala Lakota College
- WY Laramie County Community College



South Dakota School of Mines and Technology recently shared a quote of a scholarship recipient:

"By receiving a scholarship my financial burden has been lightened, allowing me to focus more on the most important aspect of school – learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals, just as you have helped me."

STEWARDSHIP THROUGH TREES

We are dedicated to raising knowledge and awareness about the positive impact trees have on our homes, communities and environment. In 2020, we invested almost \$93,000 to plant more than 1,850 trees which will grow to save energy by blocking the hot summer sun and cold winter winds, as well as filter nearly 10 million gallons of storm water and avoid or sequester over 3 million pounds of carbon dioxide.



Trees Forever planting hope project

What started out as a peaceful August morning in Iowa quickly turned into a day of destruction as a storm, known as a derecho, swept across the state. As the storm moved west to east, it picked up intensity reaching 140 mph winds, similar to a category four hurricane in some parts of the state. The devastating loss of trees in communities became evident as residents began dealing with the aftermath of the storm and assessing damage.

Black Hills Energy understands the importance of trees in its communities. A well-placed tree helps customers save money on energy bills and is an energy efficient solution. Partnering with Trees Forever since 1992, they have planted 82,129 trees through the Black Hills Energy service territory. “Engaging with the communities we serve, where our employees and their families, live, work and play is important to us at Black Hills Energy,” said Shirly Welte, vice president of gas operations, Iowa. “Partnering with Trees Forever to help our communities with local tree planting projects leaves a legacy impact on our communities.”

After the derecho, it was only natural that Black Hills Energy would reach out to Trees Forever to find out how to best assist communities that had a devastating tree loss. The Black Hills Energy Iowa operations team provided a \$20,000 donation and Black Hills Corp. Foundation matched that amount for a total contribution of \$40,000 to the Trees Forever Planting Hope project over the next two years. “We are thrilled that Black Hills Energy is providing multi-year funding for derecho recovery,” remarked Shannon Ramsay, Trees Forever executive director. “Trees Forever is committed to helping communities of all sizes with the replanting and care of trees. By replanting, we are planting hope for the future!”

Trees Forever has a long history of working with communities and rural landowners to get trees in the ground. Their staff possesses deep expertise in arboriculture (tree health), landscape architecture, environmental science and community engagement.



Tree devastation in Newton, IA on Aug. 12, 2020

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

We have all kinds of programs to help save money and energy. During 2020, over 32,500 customers participated in Black Hills Energy-sponsored energy efficiency programs for their homes. Learn more about our energy efficiency programs, how to lower energy costs, make homes or businesses more comfortable and how to reduce energy use at blackhillsenergy.com/efficiency-and-savings.



VOLUNTEERING OUR ENERGY

A community is woven together by the strengths and gifts that its residents share with each other to make their hometown a great place. Much of that great work is done by unsung heroes who volunteer countless hours to help those in need or roll up their sleeves to do the hard work that needs done to make our communities welcoming.

For Black Hills Energy, it's hard to find a value with more important attributes than what volunteerism exhibits. Company-wide in 2020, more than 630 employees shared their energy with more than 1,000 organizations doing important work to keep our communities strong. If there was ever a year that nonprofits needed a helping hand, it was 2020.



ARKANSAS VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Phil Keplinger, a senior maintenance technician in our Mountain Home office, was recognized as Arkansas' employee volunteer of the year and has been with Black Hills Energy for 31 years.

In addition to his work responsibilities, Phil finds time to volunteer with the Boy Scouts. He began his work with the scouts when his son began participating, and continued as a scout leader for many years. Now, he works to help keep the Boy Scouts' local camp updated by remodeling and maintaining the facilities and helping out where he can with other projects. He also participates with his coworkers in the weekly backpack food program, packing food to be distributed to local children and with the holiday meal delivery. Phil can always be counted on to lend a hand to anyone in need, from helping friends move, build a fence or remodel a kitchen - he's ready and willing to chip in.



Phil seen here supporting the backpack food program.

NEBRASKA VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Nebraska's volunteers of the year were Bert Flores, operations support specialist from Scottsbluff and Carrie Mausbach, operations support specialist in Columbus.

Flores was recognized for her participation in community events in both Scottsbluff and Alliance. During the past year, she has completed Leadership Scottsbluff and served on committees for Oregon Trail Days, Bands on Broadway, and Mainstreet Scottsbluff. She is also on the United Way board of directors and has led many other efforts to give back to communities in the region.

Mausbach was recognized for serving in key roles and volunteering for Big Pals Little Pals, United Way of Columbus, Youth for Christ, Drive for Five and other Chamber of Commerce events throughout the region, Columbus Big Give, Columbus Days, Keep Columbus Clean, Salvation Army and many other events and organizations. "Both of these winners find joy in giving back and bring that joy to others by getting us all involved," shared Kevin Jarosz, vice president of operations in Nebraska. "The generous energy they bring to our team makes us better every day."

As a part of the award, Flores and Mausbach were each given \$500 to donate to the organization of their choice. Flores selected Skipper's Cupboard and Mausbach donated to the Senior Citizens Center of Columbus.



Picture on left is of Carrie handing out Christmas goodies to her community and the picture on the right is Bert and teammates buying gifts for families in need.

ENERGY IN ACTION

While COVID-19 dictated that we get creative in how we served our communities, our teams remained active in giving back.

Blue Jeans Go Green

Black Hills Energy Ambassadors across all our states collected almost two tons of denim this fall to send to Blue Jeans Go Green™ a trademark of Cotton Incorporated. This program collects denim (made from cotton) so that it can be recycled back to its natural fiber state and transformed into something new, like insulation!

Timing of the fall project coincided with America Recycles Day on Nov. 15, encouraging employees and communities to make a difference by stacking their denim and sharing it on Instagram.

Recycled insulation is available through application for Habitat for Humanity affiliates or civic buildings with a licensed architect, contractor or builder through the Blue Jeans Go Green™ UltraTouch™ Denim Insulation Grant Program.



Celebrating National Fire Safety and Prevention month in Nebraska

To thank local fire departments across the state, Nebraska Ambassadors celebrated National Fire Safety and Prevention Month by donating cases of water to 100 volunteer departments and gave \$1,000 to four departments. As a part of the project, one department in each operations region received a \$1,000 grant, half to purchase smoke and smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to be given to residents and half to the project of the department's choosing. This year's recipients were volunteer fire departments in Sidney, Overton, Atkinson and Bennett.



Photo: Training exercise with local fire department in Nebraska.

Black Hills Energy to the rescue in Arkansas

When the Rogers Arkansas Fire Department was notified they couldn't utilize the gas training facility at a neighboring fire department due to COVID-19, they knew just who to call. Gas training was required for their class of new recruits to graduate, and they contacted Black Hills Energy for help.

Members of the Rogers, Arkansas, operations team fabricated a gas training prop which was donated to the fire department. The donation allows the fire department to train their firefighters on site. Plans for additional props for a more expansive gas training area and future training opportunities with Black Hills Energy are in the works.



KOLN Can Care-A-Van in Nebraska

For the past eight years, Black Hills Energy has partnered with KOLN to sponsor the Can Care-A-Van, a statewide food drive. In one week, members of the Black Hills Energy team volunteered their time and collected canned goods in 12 different communities, filling the local food pantries for the coming season.



Sutton, NE Care-a-Van food drive.

3,000 heaters donated in a time of need

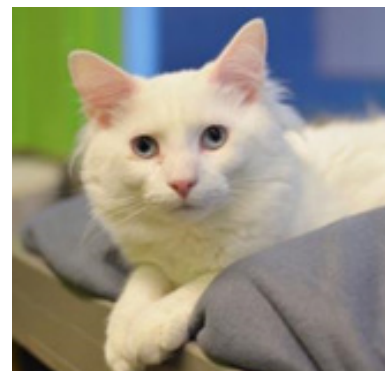
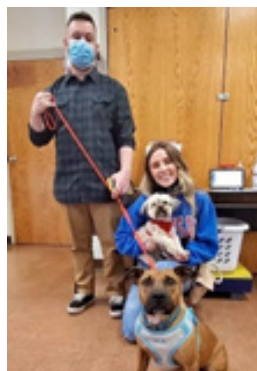
In late December, a natural gas outage in Aspen, Colorado, disrupted service to almost 3,000 customers. Black Hills Energy employees from across Colorado, as well as Wyoming, Nebraska and Kansas, responded to the call for help in the effort to restore service as quickly and safely as possible. With personnel from neighboring utilities pitching in, close to 200 technicians arrived in Aspen to relight customers. But, with a lengthy process to

bring gas back to every impacted customer, and temperatures dipping below zero, Black Hills Energy knew there was more we could do. Employees worked quickly to secure a large supply of space heaters and arrange for their transport to Aspen. Once they arrived, Black Hills Energy partnered with the city of Aspen to distribute nearly 3,000 heaters to anyone who needed one. Families were able to keep safe and warm as technicians worked diligently to restore service throughout the town.



Ready for Furever

Employees in South Dakota chose The Humane Society of the Black Hills as the charity to benefit from their annual Angel Tree effort. Employees purchased pet-photo ornaments to decorate a holiday tree and raised \$7,000 through a bake sale, silent auction and gift wrapping events. The funds were used by the humane society throughout 2020 to help families with their adoption fees for more than 40 cats and dogs, finding them a 'Furever home.'



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

"Black Hills Energy is a true community asset. Through partnerships and sponsorships to nonprofits and various other organizations, Black Hills Energy exemplifies a philanthropic company with a 'positive energy'. Their contribution to the growth and development of the City is unmatched and will continue to make a positive impact."

– Mayor Steve Allender, City of Rapid City

In 2020, Black Hills Energy received several major recognitions for its community impact efforts in South Dakota.

In conjunction with National Philanthropy Day, the South Dakota Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals recognized Black Hills Energy with the 2020 Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation award. This award recognized our commitment to improving the lives of those in the communities we serve.

"We are humbled to be named South Dakota's Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation for 2020. Giving back is very much part of our 136-year history, as well as our culture, here at Black Hills Energy," said Linn Evans during his acceptance of the award on behalf of the Black Hills Energy family.

In 2020 alone, we shared more than \$1.6 million to improving the lives of many in the Black Hills area. These funds support a variety of needs, including community brick and mortar projects and the work of charitable and economic development

Black Hills Energy ambassador in Kansas wins Firefighter of the Year

Outside of his responsibilities as a technician and Ambassador for Black Hills Energy, Eric Smallbridge stays busy in his hometown of Liberal, Kansas. A veteran, coach and supporter of many local efforts in the community, Eric is also an active volunteer for the Liberal Fire Department. In 2020, Eric was recognized as co-volunteer firefighter of the year for his outstanding service. Black Hills Energy is lucky to have his professional approach and willingness to lead in all he does.

organizations, to name a few. Black Hills Energy was one of the first corporations in the Rapid City area to address the needs created by COVID-19, donating over \$375,000 to provide immediate relief.

Other key ways we support our South Dakota communities include financial support and management for Black Hills Cares, an energy assistance program for our neighbors experiencing financial hardship, with more than \$800,000 being raised in 2020. Through our Energy Saving Trees Program, more than 1,200 seedlings have been distributed to South Dakota customers since 2014. And, the 2020 United Way campaign raised over \$300,000 for United Way of the Black Hills.



Members of the South Dakota Community Giving Review Team gathered in the truck barn at South Dakota Electric to receive the 2020 Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation award.



MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

