



TOGETHER,  
**WE CAN MAKE**  
AN IMPACT

# DEAR SUPPORTERS OF DRA

Thank you for your continued support of DRA. It is much appreciated!

We are pleased to share that DRA continues to benefit from strong community leaders committed to the mission, vision and values of our organization. This level of involvement and commitment offers a tremendous benefit to our organization, so we are very thankful to everyone who works diligently on behalf of DRA.

2023 marked another year of successes related to our efforts. Not only do we continue to provide direct benefit to the City of Dubuque, but many other communities and organizations throughout the tri-state area as well. In short, the positive impacts of DRA are undeniable and proof of this is in the numbers.

For example, DRA awarded more than \$1.2 million to 54 organizations in the tri-state region for Core Grant and Mission Grant funding requests in 2023. In addition, as a part of our annual distribution agreement, we also contributed \$8,325,509 to the City of Dubuque and \$227,107 to Dubuque County.

The above results are symbolic of the ongoing support DRA offers to countless organizations. Since 1985, we have contributed much-needed funding to more than 1,500 organizations in the tri-state area, and this is on top of the more than \$241 million DRA has given back to the City of Dubuque. Bottom line, we are proud of our role as a community resource – one that serves as a leading catalyst to enhance the quality of life and financial well-being for the entire tri-state community. None of this would be possible without the support of Boyd Gaming and Diamond Jo Dubuque who contributed approximately \$3.5 million to the DRA in 2023.

We are also proud of the \$1 billion-plus in local economic impact for which DRA has been responsible since its founding. A lot of exciting, new things are on the horizon, but giving back to Dubuque and other area communities remains an important part of what we are all about.

Proactively contributing to and/or partnering with other organizations is our priority, especially when we can have a positive impact on projects and initiatives that focus on capacity-building and growth. When this happens, we know we are doing something that benefits the entire community.

Thank you for your support of DRA and gaming in Dubuque, and we look forward to working with you to make our community a better place to live, work and play!



**Mike Donohue**  
Board Chair



**Alex Dixon**  
President & Chief  
Executive Officer,  
Q Casino + Resort  
& DRA



**Wendy Runde**  
VP & General Manager,  
Diamond Jo Casino

## OUR MISSION

The DRA, through its gaming and entertainment facilities, provides for social, economic and community betterment and lessens the burden of Dubuque city and area government, while contributing to the growth and viability of Dubuque area tourism.

## OUR VISION

The DRA is a dynamic community resource, acting as a catalyst to enhance the quality of life and financial well-being for the tri-state community.

## OUR VALUES

Community, Growth, Impactful, Equity, Integrity, Vision







## **ABOUT THE DRA**

Founded in 1985, the DRA is a non-profit organization in Dubuque, Iowa, led by a professional staff and a volunteer board of 21 directors.

Originally, our focus was on the greyhound racing, which sparked economic development in the region. Years later, gaming and entertainment were added to co-exist with the greyhounds.

Today, we hold the license for casino-gaming operations of Q Casino + Resort, and we are the co-licensee and Qualified Sponsoring Organization (QSO) for the Diamond Jo Casino, which is owned by Boyd Gaming.

The DRA has made over \$1 billion in economic impact since inception.

## **WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

The DRA is unique because we are one of only two gaming organizations in the country established and run for the benefit of a local government entity. In fact, since our founding we have contributed more than \$241 million back to the City of Dubuque.

Our business model is simple. We distribute 100% of our winnings after expenses, which includes the 4.5% of adjusted gross receipts we receive monthly from the Diamond Jo Casino. A third of the money goes to area charities, a third goes to the City of Dubuque, and a third goes toward efforts to develop and enhance amenities on the city-owned Schmitt Island. Simply put, this money supports organizations and projects that have a direct impact on improving the lives of people in the Dubuque area!

# OUR LEADERSHIP



## DRA STAFF



**Alex Dixon**  
President & Chief  
Executive Officer,  
Q Casino + Resort  
& DRA

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



**Mandy Miller**  
Manager of Strategic  
Philanthropy

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Together, we can make an impact.

# OUR LEADERSHIP



**DRA STAFF**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



**Mike Donohue**  
Board Chair

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Lori Thielen** 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice Chair

**Tyson Leyendecker** 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

**Kay Takes** Secretary

**Rick Dickinson** Treasurer

**Kevin Lynch** Past Chair

**Emily McCready** Member at Large

**Gary Dolphin** Member at Large

**Mike Van Milligen** City Manager

Together, we can make an impact.

# OUR LEADERSHIP



## DRA STAFF

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Mayor Brad Cavanagh**  
**County Rep. Harley Pothoff**  
**Councilman Danny Sprank**  
**Councilman Ric Jones**  
**Barb O’Hea**  
**Dr. Herbert Riedel**  
**Harold Knutsen**  
**Kay Takes**  
**Mike FitzPatrick**  
**Paula Wolfe**  
**Ron Herrig**  
**Nicole Gantz**  
**Jan Powers**

Together, we can make an impact.

## OUR IMPACT

**\$1,124,835,531**

**\$1 BILLION+ ECONOMIC IMPACT SINCE 1985.**

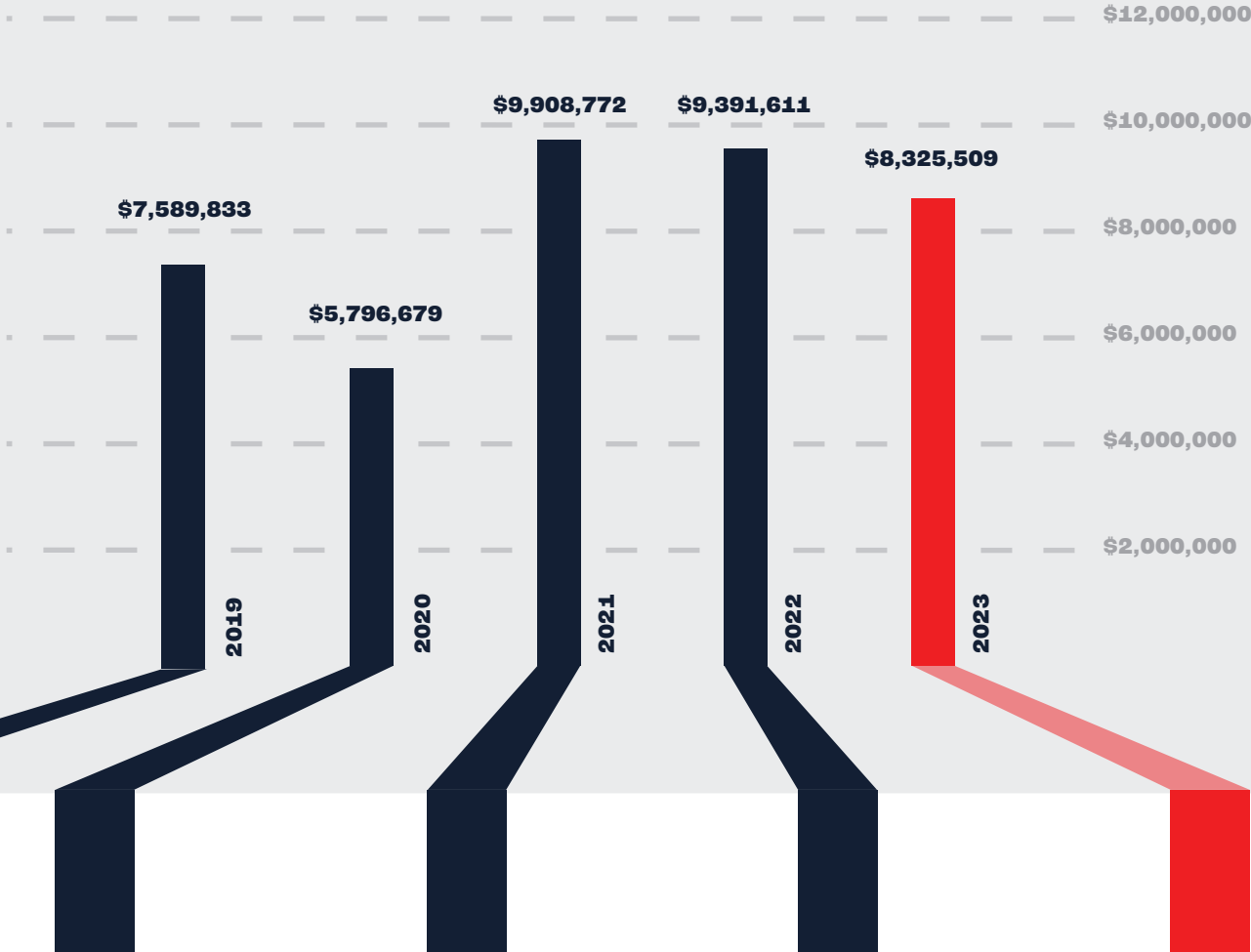
Profits from the casino's go to the City of Dubuque and area charitable organizations, and gaming taxes provide revenue for the City, County and State.



# CITY OF DUBUQUE DISTRIBUTIONS

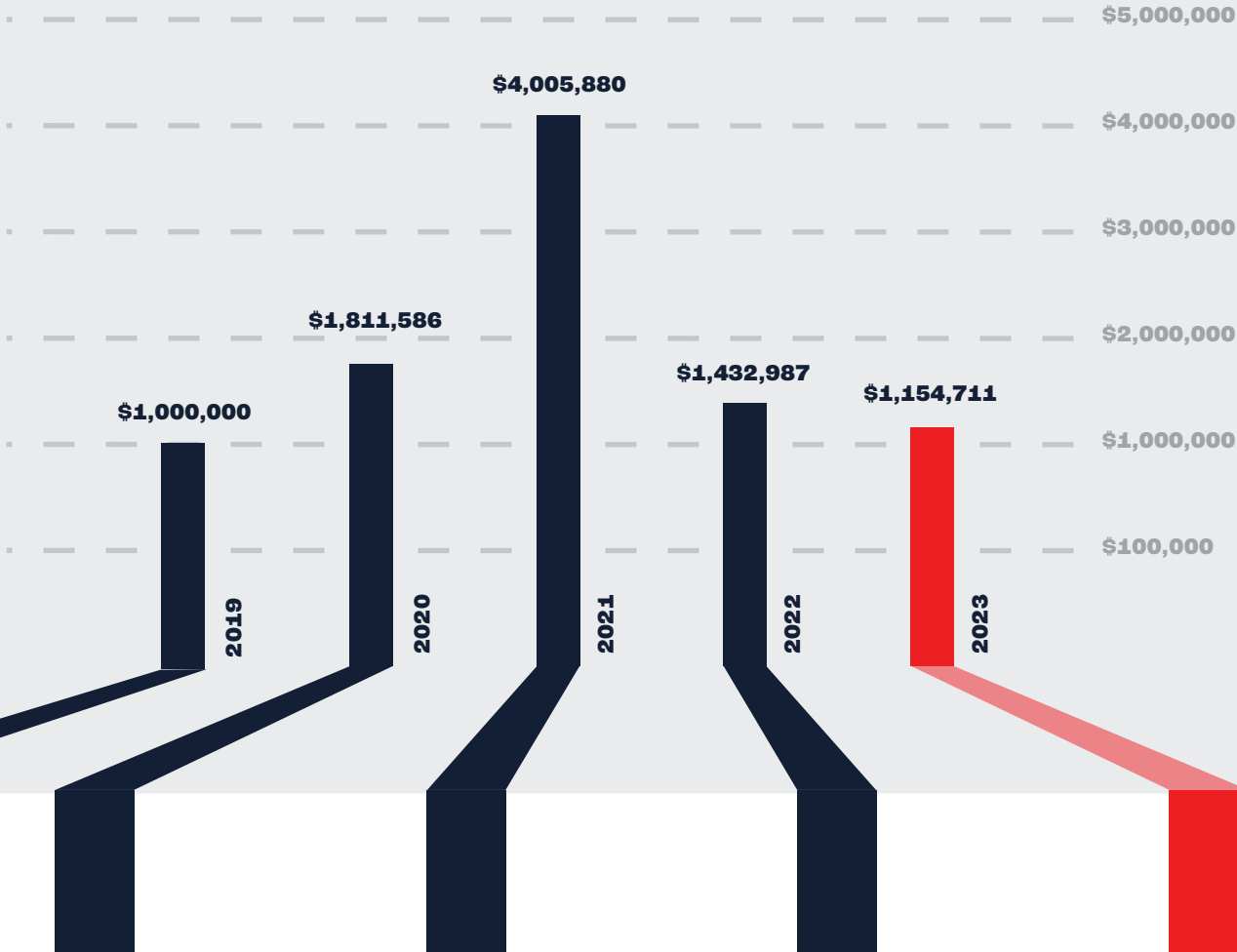
\*INCLUDES TAXES, MONTHLY RENT/ DISTRIBUTIONS, & ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION

**\$241,024,493 since 1985**



# CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

**\$65,270,487 since 1985**



# 2023 CORE GRANT RECIPIENTS

ORGANIZATION	PROJECT	GRANT
Andrew Volunteer Firemen Inc.	Acquisition of Funds for the Purchase of Seating for Andrew Fire Department	\$7,583
Camp Albrecht Acres of The Midwest	Staff Recruitment Incentives	\$10,000
Cascade Ambulance Service	Cascade Ambulance Service Sustainability Study	\$16,264
Centralia-Peosta Fire Department	Sound System Installation and Portable Tables	\$16,153.16
City of Maquoketa	Maquoketa Central Square Site Preparation	\$25,000
City of Preston	Preston Iowa: Main Street Square	\$15,000
Colts Youth Organization	Colts Audio System Advancements	\$10,000
Community Solutions of Eastern Iowa (CSEI)	CSEI Strategic Fundraising Plan	\$10,000
Creative Adventure Lab	Walk-in Ceramics Program Expansion	\$20,000
Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce	Dubuque Area Chamber Young Professionals and YP Mentorship Program	\$50,000
Dubuque Area Labor-Management Council	Retaining our Youth in the Tri-States	\$20,000
Dubuque Area Youth Baseball and Softball Club	Dubuque PONY League Baseball Storage Container and Pitchers Mounds	\$4,700
Dubuque Areas Labor Harvest	Food Giveaways, Hot Breakfasts, and Grocery Delivery Program	\$10,000
Dubuque Arts Council	Dubuque Arts Council Capacity Building	\$15,000
Dubuque Black Men Coalition	Dubuque Black Men Coalition Community Outreach Program	\$5,000
Dubuque Chorale Inc	Songfest23	\$9,285



## GRANT RECIPIENTS

### PLATTEVILLE INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND

"The outpouring of support for the Platteville Inclusive Playground has been incredible. It is through the combined generosity of our donors – all of whom believed in our mission to create a safe and welcoming place where people of all ages and abilities can play, learn and grow together – that brought this amazing playground to life. We are so grateful to be a DRA grant recipient and excited to see people from all over coming to explore and enjoy the playground. We want each visitor to feel welcome and valued, as this brings us together as a community and celebrates the vast benefits of play."

- Christina Burr  
Co-Leader





# 2023 CORE GRANT RECIPIENTS

ORGANIZATION	PROJECT	GRANT
Dubuque Community School District	Dubuque Community Schools Strategic Initiative Fund	\$125,000
Dubuque County Basketball Academy	DCBA Cares - Using Basketball As a Vehicle for Success in Life	\$25,000
Dubuque Dream Center	Keeping the Dream Alive	\$15,000
Dubuque Esports League	Leveling Up Tomorrow's Game-Changers	\$10,000
Dubuque Jaycees	3rd of July Fireworks and Air Show	\$20,000
Dubuque Symphony Orchestra	Celebrating 65 Years of the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra	\$25,000
Dubuque Youth Football & Cheer	2023 Expansion	\$10,000
DuRide	Growing, Sustaining, Improving	\$5,000
Dyersville Rural Community Food Pantry	Improving Communication and Community Outreach to Stamp Out Hunger	\$30,000
Finley Health Foundation	Senior Student Promise Program	\$15,000
Four Mounds Foundation	Fund Development and Marketing - Four Mounds Site Expansion	\$25,000
Friends of Jackson County Conservation	Hurstville Interpretive Center Cave & Woodland Educational Display	\$25,000
Friends of St. Mary's	Destination Enhancement and Marketing of Steeple Square	\$50,000
Friends of the Belmont Mound State Park	Playground Improvement Project	\$15,000
Galena Center for the Arts, Inc.	Galena Center for the Arts Junior Advisory Board	\$4,220
Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois	New Cabin at Camp Little Cloud	\$25,000



## GRANT RECIPIENTS

### VETERANS FREEDOM CENTER

"More than 500 individuals attended the Memorial Day Parade and ceremony on Schmitt Island, and it had a major impact on the community because it allowed us to honor the men and women who have served our great nation and give them the respect for their service."

- **Randy Rennison**  
Executive Director  
Dubuque County Veterans Affairs

# CREATIVE ADVENTURE LAB

"Thanks to the generous \$20,000 grant from the DRA, our ceramics studio has seen a remarkable 400% ROI, bringing in an extra \$80,000 in program revenue this year. These funds directly contribute to our low/moderate income scholarship program, discounted field trip rates, and ongoing free Sunday admission initiative!"

- **Jordan DeGree**





# 2023 CORE GRANT RECIPIENTS

ORGANIZATION	PROJECT	GRANT
Holy Family Catholic Schools	Student Impact Fund Growth	\$20,000
Junior Achievement of the Heartland	JA Program Expansion in the Dubuque Community School District	\$10,000
MercyOne Dubuque Foundation	Growing Our Health Care Workforce	\$15,000
Miracle League of Dubuque	Seating for All	\$25,000
Multicultural Family Center	MFC Marketing, Rebranding and Reimagining	\$15,000
Northeast Iowa Community College Foundation	Supporting Students, Supporting Success	\$25,000
Northeast Iowa School of Music	Driftless Region Youth Music Festival	\$10,000
Opening Doors	On My Own ~ Permanent Supportive Housing	\$10,000
Prosperity Eastern Iowa	Field of Opportunities Implementation	\$50,000
Rising Star Theatre Company	RSTC New Education Program	\$10,000
Saint 4 Life Foundation	Dubuque Ice Arena Control Room Equipment Project	\$50,000
Shake Rag Alley Inc.	Strategic Support for the Historic Preservation of Shake Rag Alley's Coach House	\$10,000
Special Olympics Iowa	Special Olympics Iowa Winter Games	\$20,000
St. Vincent de Paul Dubuque, Iowa	Back2Work Workforce Training Program	\$35,000
The Driver Opera House Restoration Inc	Marketing for the Driver Opera House 2023-2024 Season via Memberships and Events	\$14,000

# 2023 CORE GRANT RECIPIENTS

ORGANIZATION	PROJECT	GRANT
The Fountain of Youth Program	I.C.A.R.E Transportation	\$25,000
UW-Platteville Foundation Inc	Attracting, Recruiting, and Retaining Diverse Populations to the Tri-States	\$25,000
Veterans Freedom Center	Trailer and Tools Request	\$10,000
Veterans Freedom Center	Memorial Day Parade	\$10,872
Voices Productions	Voices Studios Launch	\$20,000

# 2023 MISSION GRANT RECIPIENTS

ORGANIZATION	PROJECT	GRANT
Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque	Community Grant Writer/Development Officer	\$75,000.00
Travel Dubuque	Dubuque/Orlando Trade Mission	\$50,000.00
United Way of Dubuque Area Tri-States	Community Impact on Poverty	\$75,000.00



**WE CAN.**

