



Foundation Annual Report

2022-2023



DAKOTA COUNTY
TECHNICAL COLLEGE



InverHills
Community College

MEMBERS OF MINNESOTA STATE

Message from Foundation Leaders

Dear Partners,

We want to express our sincere gratitude for your generous support. Your commitment to our missions has made a profound impact on the lives of countless students, faculty, and staff.

We are thrilled to present our annual report, showcasing the impactful outcomes we have achieved together.

With your help we exceeded fundraising goals and provided financial assistance to more students, enabling them to pursue their dreams and transform their lives through education.

This year we proudly launched our Annual Corporate Sponsor program and were encouraged by the positive response. We are truly grateful to organizations that engaged in this partnership to further support our colleges, students, and programs and we look forward to welcoming additional partners this year!

Thanks to the generous contributions from our donors, DCTC's foundation awarded over \$235,000 in innovation and enhancement grants. These grants support various DCTC programs, with new tools and current industry equipment as well other enhancements to provide improved educational experiences.

Furthermore, our alumni mentorship program at Inver Hills flourished in its inaugural year. Students had the opportunity to be mentored by professionals from various industries, benefiting from their wisdom, guidance, and invaluable insights. Participation in this program played a vital role in shaping the future leaders of our society, and for that, we are profoundly grateful for all volunteer mentors.

As we embark on the upcoming academic year, we remain committed to working in partnership with you to create an environment of opportunity, education, and growth for all students. We kindly request your continued support to help sustain and expand the impact we can make together.

On behalf of DCTC and Inver Hills Foundations, thank you for your invaluable support. Together, we are building a brighter future, one student at a time.

With gratitude,

Kim Shaff,
Executive Director &
Community Relations

Stephen Engel,
DCTC Board Chair

Jake Sedlacek,
Inver Hills Board Chair



As a first-generation student, one of my main concerns was student loans and trying to make sure I put myself in as little debt as possible. This scholarship ***gives me the peace of mind of knowing that a big part of my tuition for the spring semester is paid for.*** I am proud to be a student here and I feel as though I made the best decision for myself and my future by choosing to go here to continue my education after high school.

- Lexi S., Hertogs Family Educational Foundation Scholarship



A Special Thank You to the Colleges' Top Donors

DCTC

Raymond "Butch" Ames	Caterpillar Foundation
Kopp Family Foundation	Luther Automotive Group
Dakota Electric Association	SCTE Foundation
Ziegler CAT	Xcel Energy Foundation

Inver Hills

Kopp Family Foundation	Xcel Energy
Dakota Electric Association	Collins Aerospace
Hertogs Family Education Foundation	Cheryl Frank
Tom J. Klas	David Weigel

A full list of the colleges' donors can be found on [pages 8-11](#).

Support Student Success

Your donation to the Dakota County Technical College or Inver Hills Community College Foundation transforms lives, ensures college is accessible for all students, and helps to make dreams come true.

Support scholarships, emergency grants, a program that touched your life, create a named scholarship in honor of a loved one or mentor, or establish a permanent scholarship endowment.

To contribute, scan the QR codes below:



dctc.edu/give



inverhills.edu/give

For Assistance, Please Contact:

DCTC, foundation@dctc.edu
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As a father, husband, and man of Native descent. This scholarship is going to **allow me and my family an opportunity that many of my culture do not or can not pursue**. By going to college and getting my degree, **my children are seeing the importance of education**.

- S.T., George H Boomer Sr Scholarship



Your scholarship has given me the opportunity to focus more on my studies instead of working every day to keep up on bills. This semester I am continuing my progress of becoming an electrical engineer, and taking 18 credits at Inver Hills. It's going to be quite difficult, but **with the help of your scholarship I'll be able to put all of my focus and energy into making this scholarship worthwhile for the both of us**. I am going to succeed in my classes not only for myself, but to make you recognize just how important and valuable these scholarships are for students like me.

- Owen M., Doug Differt STEM (D3M) Endowed Scholarship



Your scholarship has **opened the door to pursue a truly satisfying career of service and the prospect of a brighter future will play a key role in shaping me into a successful person** in future. Donors like you make life brighter for us. I cannot express my gratitude enough, and I want you to know that your generous support will help me achieve my dreams.

- Sarah K., Carl Eastvold Scholarship

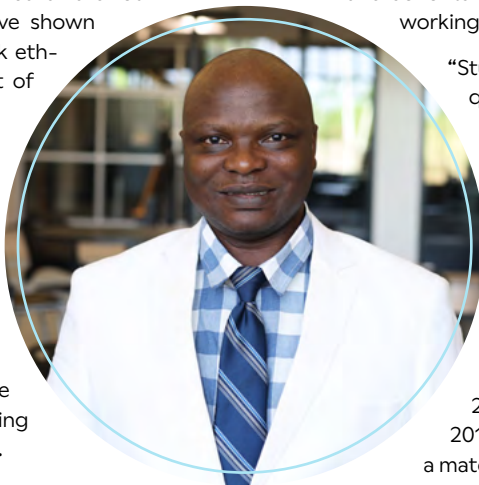


Alumnus Spotlight

Ayuba Dansoho, a 2017 graduate, is Dakota County Technical College's 2023 Outstanding Alumnus of the Year. The annual award recognizes individuals who have shown exceptional leadership, work ethic, and dedication as a part of the DCTC community.

Ayuba focused on business courses at DCTC, earning a Technical Management A.A.S., Multicultural Quality Management diploma, and two certificates, Quality Improvement certificate and Supervisory Leadership. He excelled academically, making the President's List six times.

An exceptionally engaged student, Ayuba served on the college's Strategic Enrollment Management Committee and as the Student Senate campus liaison. He was a student ambassador and Feed My Starving Children volunteer. He participated in the Multicultural Student Leadership Association (MSLA), Campus Lions Club, American Marketing Association (AMA), TRIO Student Support Services (SSS), and Business Professionals of America (BPA).



Ayuba Dansoho

Ayuba encourages all students to participate in clubs and organizations, noting the advantages and benefits of staying involved and working together on campus.

"Students should ask questions, think critically, brainstorm, create vital ideas, love one another, and collaborate," he said.

Ayuba played two seasons as a full-back on the Blue Knights NJCAA men's soccer team, 2015-2016 and 2016-2017. The fun of winning a match, the relationships he established with his teammates and coaches, and staying in shape are what he enjoyed most about the experience.

Ayuba continues to volunteer for various DCTC events, including orientations, Ready, Set, Go!, and alumni panels. He mentors current students and actively recruits new students to attend DCTC. He regularly brings prospective students

to campus, introducing them to people and helping them start the admissions process.

"I want them to educate themselves," he said, explaining what motivates him to assist potential future students. "Alumni should go above and beyond to support the college."

Ayuba's ongoing volunteer work includes helping orphanage homes in Africa and other missionary organizations. "I send relief materials and support their education, health, and different needs within my financial capacity," he said.

Born in Kaduna, a major industrial hub in north-central Nigeria, Ayuba graduated from Supreme International College in 2002 and moved to the U.S. in February 2016.

Today, Ayuba works at as a quality cell operator at TCLAD Inc., a global leader in thermal management solutions in the electronics sector. He mentors and trains new employees in several production and packaging areas, emphasizing efficiency, quality, and work ethics.

Ayuba's future education plans include studying business administration centered on operation and technology management, or OTM. He is looking forward to a career as an information security analyst.

New Graduate Spotlight

Ashley Sarne earned her Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) in Software Development at DCTC. Ashley was an exceptionally engaged student at DCTC. She served as the college's lead student ambassador. She was also a member of the Student Senate and president of the newly formed IT Club.

Ashley served as a student speaker at last spring's DCTC Commencement Ceremony, where she was recognized as a 2023 Dave Schroeder Outstanding Student. During her time at DCTC, she was awarded five scholarships, a Kopp Family Foundation Scholarship, a Student Life Scholarship, a Tony Werner Scholarship, a Workforce Development Scholarship (WFDS), and a American Association of University Women (AAUW) Hastings (MN) Branch Scholarship.

"The scholarships I received were the stepping-stones to success during my educational journey at DCTC," Ashley said. "Not having to worry about college fees gave me more time to focus on my studies, discover my strengths in Software Development and Design, help my family financially, and grow as a leader while participating in the Student Ambassador program."

Ashley added that if she were not fortunate enough to receive scholarships, her college experience would have been different.

"I might have missed out on fully immersing myself in the vibrant tapestry of college life and the valuable opportunities for personal development, including taking on leadership roles in clubs and serving as a lead student ambassador," she said. "The demands of working extensive hours to cover tuition and other expenses could have impeded my ability to participate actively in these enriching activities. Balancing an increased workload alongside my studies would likely have posed a considerable challenge, particularly during periods of heavy academic demands."

Ashley plans on pursuing her career goal to become a UX/UI designer and developer. She

also plans on starting her creative studio called 'Janelle Studios' that provides services, such as graphic and web design, to help small businesses craft and elevate their brand.



Ashely Sarne

She is originally from Quezon City, the most populous city in the Philippines and located just northeast of Manila, the nation's capital. She moved to Minnesota with her mom in 2018.

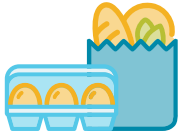
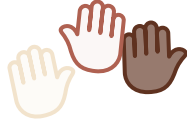
Ashley greatly appreciates how her scholarship dollars have allowed her to pursue her goals. "To those who generously contribute to the college in support of students, your actions are truly a blessing," she said. "Scholarships serve as a transformative force, especially for me, empowering students to

become the architects of positive change for the future. Thank you for being a beacon of hope and opportunity."



3297
STUDENTS
ENROLLED

32%
ARE STUDENTS
OF COLOR



10,149 NUMBER
OF TIMES
STUDENTS VISITED
THE **FOOD PANTRY**



LARGEST PROGRAMS

Automotive Technician
Electrical Construction
& Maintenance
Individualized Studies
Practical Nursing
Veterinary Technician



TOP FIVE CITIES OF STUDENT RESIDENCE

Apple Valley • Farmington • Lakeville
Inver Grove Heights • Rosemount

\$384,505
AWARDED IN
SCHOLARSHIPS
& ASSISTANCE



29%
OF STUDENTS HAVE
FINANCIAL NEED &
ARE PELL ELIGIBLE



The decision to further my education at the age of 45 with a family to support was not an easy one, **but with help from generous donations such as yours, it makes situations like mine possible.**

- Daniel S., Dakota Electric Scholarship



DCTC Foundation Financials

Revenue

Contributions & Grants	\$1,030,181
Investment Income	\$301,478
Equipment In-Kind	\$312,261
College In-Kind	\$151,521

Total Revenue \$1,795,441

Expenses

Scholarships/Assistance	\$384,505
Programs	\$53,149
Equipment	\$449,729
Administrative (Includes College In-Kind)	\$171,336

Total Expenses \$1,058,719

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Alumnus Spotlight

Joe Leko, 52, was elected sheriff of Dakota County in November 2022. Twenty-eight years earlier, Joe graduated from Inver Hills Community College with an Associate of Science (A.S.) in Law Enforcement.

Joe looks back on his time at Inver Hills as inspirational. His favorite memory is how his classmates shared his excitement about entering a top-choice career field.

"There was a lot of energy," he recalled. "Law enforcement is incredibly challenging, but in my humble opinion, it's the most noble and rewarding job there is. We have a great opportunity to influence change."

Joe went on to earn a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. His career trajectory shifted in 1997 when he accepted a seasonal job as a water patrol officer with the Dakota County

Sheriff's Office. That same year, he was hired as a deputy. After gaining experience in various areas, including patrol duties, drug, and gang investigation, he was promoted to sergeant in 2006. He took on the role of Dakota County Drug Task Force commander in 2009.

On his journey to becoming sheriff of Minnesota's third most populous county, Joe served on SWAT for 11 years. After getting promoted to captain in 2011, he supervised the Patrol Division and the Detention Services Division.

Joe Leko

Joe accrued the knowledge and insights he needed for the top job at the Sheriff's Office by serving as Sheriff Tim Leslie's chief deputy for eight years.

In 2014, Joe advanced his professional education by earning a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Public Safety and Law Enforcement Leadership from the University of St. Thomas. He graduated from the FBI National Academy at Quantico, Virginia, in 2016, an achievement open to less than 1 percent of law enforcement personnel across the U.S.

Joe is giving back to Inver Hills by serving as a mentor in the college's Alumni Career Ready Mentorship Program. Career mentors call on their experience and expertise to give their mentees an insider's view of their chosen career paths, delivering guidance, tips, and advice that can make a huge difference. Mentees benefit from the invaluable opportunity to fast-forward their personal and professional growth.

"I have had several mentors in my life that provided encouragement, challenged my perspectives, and helped me become the person I am today," Joe said. "My greatest joy is seeing others succeed. I want to pay it forward."



New Graduate Spotlight

Ryn Lois Funtilon, 26, earned her Psychology Transfer Pathway Associate of Arts (A.A.) at Inver Hills Community College. Ryn graduated in May 2023. She served as a student speaker at the Inver Hills Commencement Ceremony at Aldrich Arena in Maplewood, Minnesota.

The theme of Ryn's speech was padayon, a word in her native language that means "to keep moving forward despite adversities."

Ryn is looking forward to pursuing a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Psychology with a minor in Addictions at Bemidji State University. Her goal is to become a marriage and family therapist.

She participated in Phi Theta Kappa at Inver Hills and received five scholarships, Dakota Electric, Kopp Family, Alumni Endowed, Alumni, and Building Better Futures. She made the Dean's List in 2021 and 2022.

"I am incredibly grateful to my instructors who inspired and encouraged me," Ryn said. "I had the opportunity to meet some of them during graduation, and I was overwhelmed with emotion because I was an online student, and they

recognized me by my name. I got to hug them and tell them I appreciated their support while I was in their classes."

Scholarships made a major difference in Ryn's college experience. She received financial aid, but those funds were not enough for her to buy the books and tools she needed for her classes.

"The scholarships I received from the Inver Hills Foundation lessened my problems, allowing me to work less and focus on my studies," she said. "If I had not received scholarships for most of my time at Inver Hills, I wouldn't have been able to do my best work in class and achieve a high academic honor. Financial worries can take a toll on a person's well-being. I would have had to work more hours to pay for

my classes, which would have made me physically and mentally exhausted."

Originally from Iloilo City, Philippines, Ryn graduated from Central Philippine University, Class of 2013. She lived in England with her family from 2013 to 2018. She attended Walsall College, a further education college in Walsall, West Midlands.

Ryn expressed her gratitude to the donors who contribute to the Inver Hills Foundation. "Your support meant you believed in us as people—our dreams, our goals, and our aspirations in life. You are a part of our success, so thank you for being a steppingstone to our better future. May God bless you abundantly, as you have blessed many others with your generosity."

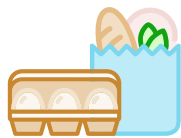


Ryn Lois Funtilon



4,496
STUDENTS
ENROLLED

41%
ARE STUDENTS
OF COLOR



6,884 NUMBER
OF TIMES
STUDENTS VISITED
THE **FOOD PANTRY**
OR **LUNCH BOX**



LARGEST PROGRAMS

Business Pathway
Liberal Arts
Nursing
Prospective Nursing
Psychology



TOP FIVE CITIES OF STUDENT RESIDENCE

Apple Valley • Cottage Grove • Farmington
Inver Grove Heights • Rosemount

\$248,850
AWARDED IN
SCHOLARSHIPS
& ASSISTANCE



26%
OF STUDENTS HAVE
FINANCIAL NEED &
ARE PELL ELIGIBLE



All summer I have worked six to seven days a week worrying about how I will afford college on top of my other living expenses and your generous scholarship will be extremely beneficial to me. ***I may now focus more on my studies as I have fewer financial worries as a full-time student.***

- Nicole D., Xcel Energy STEM Scholarship



Inver Hills Foundation Financials

Revenue

Contributions & Grants	\$447,843
Investment Income	\$17,755
Equipment In-Kind	\$500
College In-Kind	\$181,497

Total Revenue \$647,595

Expenses

Scholarships/Assistance	\$248,850
Programs	\$10,762
Equipment	\$500
Administrative (Includes College In-Kind)	\$211,573

Total Expenses \$471,685

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 Scholarship
 Ziegler/CAT Endowed
 Scholarship

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