

# 2025

# Annual Report



**BLAZE  
FOUNDATION**

## *Letter from the Chair*



As Chair of the Blaze Credit Union Foundation, I am proud to reflect on the meaningful impact we achieved together in 2025—a year defined by generosity, stewardship, and an unwavering commitment to community well-being.

At the heart of our work is a simple but powerful mission: to passionately provide resources that enhance the overall wellness of our communities. In 2025, that mission translated into more than \$363,000 in charitable giving that supporting individuals, educators, and organizations across the communities we serve.

Through the generosity of Blaze Credit Union, our employees, corporate partners, and donors, the Foundation funded \$160,250 in Community Impact Grants, helping nonprofit partners address critical needs. We awarded \$100,000 in student scholarships, opening doors for 40 students to pursue their educational goals. We invested \$82,500 in teacher grants, equipping classrooms with resources that directly benefit students. In addition, \$20,580 went to support financial literacy efforts, reinforcing our commitment to long-term financial wellbeing.

Fundraising and donations remained strong throughout the year, with total revenue of nearly \$370,000, including significant support from our annual curling event, Blaze Credit Union, Visa, and Blaze employees. Importantly, the vast majority of Foundation resources—more than 86% of total expenses—were directed back into programs that serve our communities, reflecting our responsibility to be thoughtful stewards of every dollar entrusted to us.

This impact would not be possible without the support from our community. The Foundation is supported by a deeply engaged, working Board that brings time, expertise, and passion to this mission, along with strong partnership from Blaze Credit Union leadership and employees. Their collaboration amplifies our reach and ensures that our efforts are aligned, impactful, and sustainable.

As we look ahead, the Foundation remains focused on strengthening governance, refining our strategic direction, and creating additional opportunities for employees, members, and partners to actively engage in this work. Whether through volunteering, advocacy, or financial support, collective involvement continues to be a powerful force for positive change.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you to everyone who supported the Blaze Credit Union Foundation in 2025. Your generosity makes a tangible difference in the lives of individuals, families, and communities across Minnesota. It is an honor to serve as Chair, and I look forward to the continued impact we will create together.

With gratitude,  
Christine Cordell  
Chair, Blaze Credit Union Foundation

Blaze Foundation is an independent 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to helping people be strong, financially stable and healthy.

For more than 90 years, Blaze Credit Union® has strengthened the financial lives of our members and served its communities through financial support and volunteerism. The Foundation aims to build on that tradition through scholarships, grants, and financial empowerment programming.

## OUR MISSION

Passionately providing resources to enhance the overall wellness of the community.



*Top: Lindsay Whalen with the team from Visa at the 2025 Curling Event Fundraiser. Above Right: The winners of the event from Allied Solutions/Securion Financial.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Christine Cordell**  
Chair

**Tina Jones**  
Vice Chair

**Josh Chacon**  
Treasurer

**Dan Stoltz**  
Advisor

**Lisa Lehman**  
Director

**Stephanie Johnson**  
Director

**Tom Pechman**  
Director

# Fundraising & Donations

Raised more than \$150,000 at our 8th Annual Foundation Fundraising Event. 100% of profits raised from the event will benefit financial wellbeing and life skill development for underserved youth. Grants will be awarded in 2026.

## 2025 CHARITABLE DONATIONS

\$160,250	Community Impact Grants
\$100,000	Student Scholarships
\$20,580	Financial Literacy Efforts
\$82,500	Teacher Grants

**\$363,330 Total**



Clockwise from top: Rahma Mohammed from Johnson High School, Mason Dehn from Princeton High School and Ellery Blacker from Owatonna High School

The Blaze Foundation has continued its longstanding commitment to support the educational aspirations of students in the communities it serves by awarding \$100,000 in scholarships to 40 deserving individuals in 2025.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2025

### Assets

Cash	\$ 185,560
Total Assets	\$ 185,560

### Liabilities & Net Assets

Net Assets	
Restricted	\$ 0
Unrestricted	\$ 185,560
Total Net Assets	\$ 185,560
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 185,560

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

January–December 2025

### Revenue

Donations	
Blaze Credit Union	\$ 100,000
Visa	\$ 75,000
Blaze Associates	\$ 10,397
Misc Contributions	\$ 24,693
Total Donation Revenue	\$ 210,090
Fundraising Revenue	\$ 159,470
Total Revenue	\$ 369,560

### Expenses

Program Expense	
School Support	\$ 182,500
Community	\$ 180,830
Total Program Expense	\$ 363,330
Operating Expense	
Fundraising Expense	\$ 23,984
Management & General	\$ 34,442
Total Operating Expense	\$ 58,427
Total Expenses	\$ 421,757
Change in Net Assets	\$ (52,197)

Beginning Net Assets	\$ 237,757
Ending Net Assets	\$ 185,560