

North Yellowstone Education Foundation



ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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www.GardinerNYEF.org

PO BOX 166
Gardiner, MT 59030

DEAR FRIENDS & DONORS

Strategic Highlights

In 2025, the North Yellowstone Education Foundation advanced a focused strategy to strengthen Gardiner School by investing in both urgent needs and long-term priorities. The Foundation funded 19 Connect! Grant requests, investing \$118,000 in classroom, facility, and student-support projects; added three new two-bedroom, two-bath units for school staff; remodeled a studio into a one-bedroom unit; raised \$8,281 at Brewfest to support mental health resources for the 2025-2026 school year. Together, these efforts reflect NYEF's commitment to building a stronger, more sustainable school community for students, educators, and families.

Financial Highlights

In 2025, we raised \$106,500 in grants and \$292,370 in donations.

Operating Highlights

In addition to achieving our goals in our three focus areas, NYEF pivoted to assist with Gardiner School's track and field fencing project, helping to raise \$92,400 in collaboration with Gardiner School and the Gardiner Bruin Booster Club. Seven organizations donated to make this project happen. We want to thank Gardiner Resort Tax, Park County Community Foundation, Vital Ground, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Bear Creek Council, Bear Aware Gardiner, and the Cinnabar Foundation. Check out our YouTube video to learn more about how this project has had a positive impact on our school, our community, and Yellowstone Visitors.



Our Mission

“Working with the community to build sustainable support and enhance innovative educational opportunities for students, teachers, and community members in partnership with Gardiner Public Schools.”

Looking Ahead

The Gardiner School demonstrates remarkable resilience and hope as it navigates through financial challenges. NYEF is steadfast in its commitment to partnering with the school to nurture the well-being of our students and staff. With the addition of new housing in 2025, we have 8 units ready to welcome new staff members. Addressing mental health is our next vital focus, and collaboration with Rural Resilience continues to identify therapists dedicated to supporting our students. Data from 2024 reveals that our 8th-12th grade students are reporting higher levels of depressive symptoms compared to their peers across Park County, underscoring the importance of our efforts. NYEF will persist in its impactful partnerships with Rural Resilience, Live Well 49, Park County Coalition, and Park County Early Childhood Coalition to create a stronger, healthier community. In many ways, Gardiner School flourishes—our students are actively engaged in a vibrant range of activities, from sports and drama to FFA, showcasing their talents and passions. NYEF remains committed to seeking innovative grants and resources to empower our students and inspire their brightest futures.



Jessica Warren
Board Chairperson



Gardiner School's New Track & Field Fence

PROGRAM SUMMARIES

Connect! Grant

During the 2024-2025 school year, NYEF proudly received 20 Connect! Grant applications, funding 19 requests with an investment of \$118,910 in transformative projects that enriched student learning and improved school facilities. Notably funded projects included new lights and sound for the cafetorium and a secure fence around the football field, illustrating NYEF's unwavering commitment to empowering educators and school leaders in turning their visions into reality.

- 19 Classroom Grants awarded for the 2024-2025 school year. 3 awarded for fall 25-26.
- 1189 students program interactions, 145 teachers, 480 parents, and 586 others for 2400 Connect! Grant interactions.



Grants 2025	Amount Funded	Grants 2025	Amount Funded
7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens	\$339	Maintaining Momentum	\$500
8th Grade Winter Ecology Program	\$4,000	New Library Books	\$446
Wilson Reading Intervention	\$1080	NoteVember Knockout	\$200
Activity Cards	\$500	Middle School Band Festival	\$1,000
Community Garden	\$3,000	Ripple Training for Teachers	\$4696
Cozy & Calm New Year	\$1231	Shane Center Drama Education	\$1795
Drivers Education	\$2177	Sound/Stage Gardine School Cafetorium	\$72,000
Fence	\$17,500	Support for Agricultural Education courses	\$1000
School Musical Footloose	\$2000	WorldQuest	\$1800
Healthy Bruin Air	\$3647		



Mental Health

NYEF continued to champion students and community well-being through impactful mental health initiatives. The Foundation funded a \$10,000 Connect! Grant request from Rural Resilience to support a behavioralist, who meets individually with students, teachers and families, to collaboratively teach and solve behavioral issues. We also sponsored Brewfest raising \$8,281 for our mental health initiatives. These efforts embody our belief that student success flourishes not just through academic opportunity, but through access to care, stability, and support.

- 47 students served, 43 teachers, 14 parents, 15 others for 119 total served.



**Note: students, teachers, parents, and others are counted each time they participate in a NYEF Connect! Grant. Connect! Grants are represented by the school year in this report.*

Staff Housing Initiative

Gardiner School Staff housing remained a cornerstone of our mission in 2025, as NYEF worked tirelessly to make Gardiner a sustainable home for school employees. First, we remodeled a studio apartment into a welcoming one-bedroom unit and added a washer and dryer—thanks to the generous support from Park County Community Foundation and Livingston Flooring. NYEF continued to take significant steps forward by developing new teacher housing on school property, which now includes three two-bedroom, two-bath loft units. Our original 1908 housing unit received a new roof for the three-unit teacher house, exemplifying our dedication to maintaining safe and affordable housing for the school staff. As a result, six Gardiner School employees now

thrive in subsidized housing supported by the foundation, and we are ready to welcome more.

Remodeled kitchen



Bedroom addition to studio apt



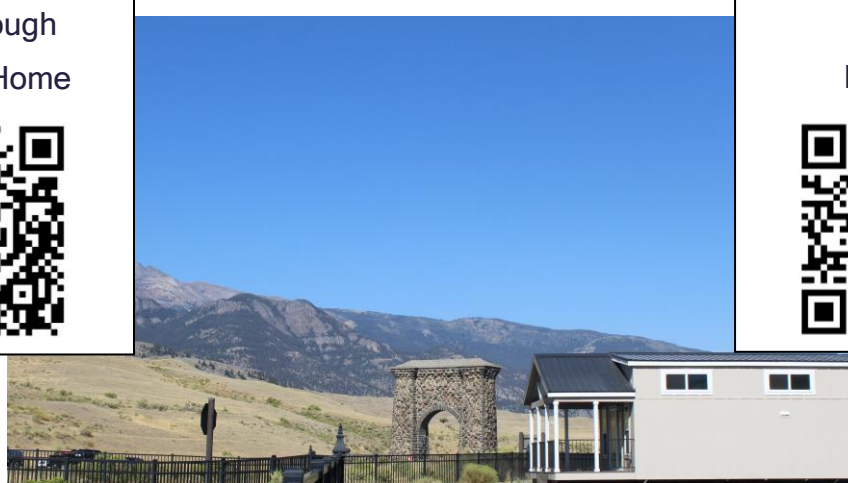
Delivery Day



Walk Through
New Tiny Home



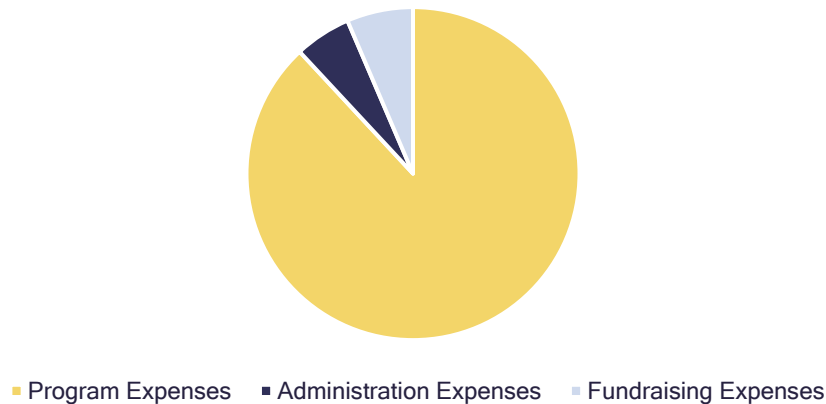
Teacher
Interview



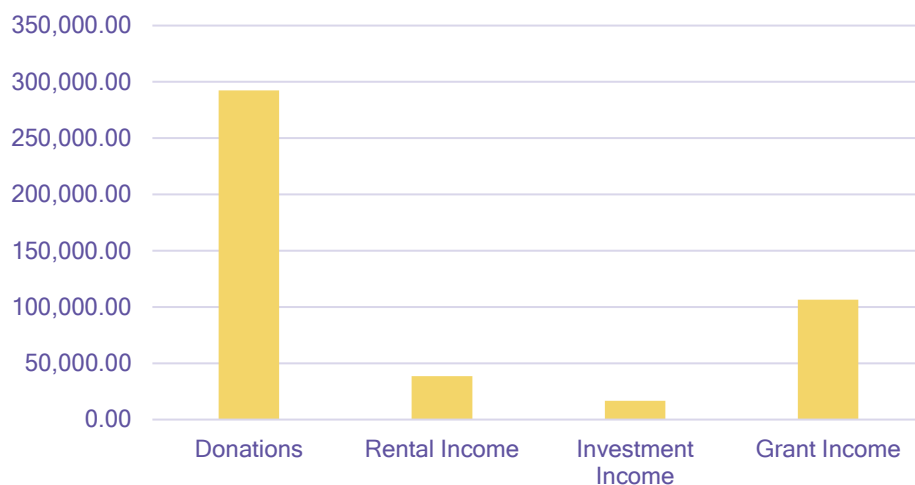
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Total Raised in 2025 \$454,232

Distribution of Expenses



Fundraising Methods



North Yellowstone Education Foundation
Statement of Financial Position
As of Dec 31, 2025

	Total		Total
Assets		Liabilities and Equity	
Current Assets		Liabilities	
Bank Accounts		Current Liabilities	
Checking	62,779.42	Accounts Payable	
3 month CD	100,934.93	2000 Accounts Payable (A/P)	125.28
Money Market	23,986.88	Total for Accounts Payable	\$125.28
SAV BUS	201,799.16	Other Current Liabilities	
Total for Bank Accounts	\$389,500.39	2100 YE Liabilities	\$0.00
Accounts Receivable		Total for Other Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$0.00	Total for Current Liabilities	\$125.28
Total for Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	Long-term Liabilities	
Other Current Assets		2200 Nicoles Loan	\$0.00
1300 Undeposited Funds	\$0.00	Total for Long-term Liabilities	\$0.00
Total for Other Current Assets	\$0.00	Total for Liabilities	\$125.28
Total for Current Assets	\$389,500.39	Equity	
Fixed Assets		Retained Earnings	1,595,571.55
1600 B&B	1,034,663.32	Net Revenue	126,735.88
1610 B&B Improvements	274,909.00	Total for Equity	\$1,722,307.43
1615 B&B Land	95,850.00	Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$1,722,432.71
Accumulated Depreciation	-67,890.00		
Total for 1600 B&B	\$1,337,532.32		
Total for Fixed Assets	\$1,337,532.32		
Other Assets			
1500 Retainer-Attorney	\$0.00		
1800 LPLC Bridge Loan	\$0.00		
1900 Security Deposits	-4,600.00		
Total for Other Assets	-\$4,600.00		
Total for Assets	\$1,722,432.71		

Accrual Basis Tuesday, June 16, 2026 10:10 PM GMTZ

"NYEF has made things possible for Gardiner Schools that we would never have dreamed of providing without their help. Those gifts include Connect! Grants for innovative units of study and field trips, funding for a mental health therapist and behavioralist, a sustainable, community-involved garden program in partnership with Farm to School, and unparalleled support for grant writing and networking on behalf of the school for various other projects. In addition to all of this, NYEF has been able to pay for and provide eight fantastic housing opportunities for our teachers and staff who need it."

Dr. Sheri Modderman Superintendent
Gardiner Public Schools



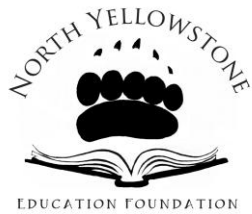
Community Book Drive for literacy month

Takeaways

Affordable housing for school staff helps us meet the needs of our school. By working together, we can create meaningful improvements for both the school and the community. Fencing the field has also made it a safer, cleaner space for walking, dog play, and sports.

In 2026, we expect 15-20 Connect! Grant requests. Additionally, we are also working together to raise funds for track improvements, a new high jump pit mat, an updated crow's nest and concession stand, and new gym bleachers.

NYEF's partnership with Rural Resilience plays a vital role in supporting students' mental health. We expect to have a therapist on staff and are pleased to host a counselor intern for the 2026-2027 school year.



PO Box 166
Gardiner, MT 59030

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Laura Chastain, Director

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(6) Remodel photos by Laura Chastain, Tiny
House crossing Bridge by TJ Perryman,
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(9) Donated Literacy Month Books by
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