

Twenty Years of Grantmaking, and More

In 1985, upon the sale of Milwaukee's successful Allen-Bradley Company, more than \$290 million was devoted to the establishment, as an independent institution, of The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation. This report marks the 20th year of grantmaking by that institution, which has since given away far in excess of that original endowment amount. During those 20 years, in fact, the Bradley Foundation has granted an average of around \$28 million in awards per year, with about 41% of its grants going to organizations in Milwaukee and Wisconsin.

Of all this, the Foundation is naturally quite proud.

Abetted now by 20 years of experience — with humane leadership, a growing reputation for effective strategic philanthropy, and a responsibly managed corpus — the Bradley Foundation is poised to continue effectuating its donors' intent throughout the rest of this new millennium and beyond. Looking forward to the future, as the entrepreneurial Bradley brothers most certainly would have done, the Foundation is mindful of the challenges and opportunities presented by its role among America's philanthropies.

And we are humbled by those challenges and opportunities.

For this, though, we are prepared. The Bradley Foundation is consciously seeking to lead by example — in its ongoing analyses of the general policy and cultural contexts within which it works, in its consideration of particular grantmaking options to further the donors' intent, and in its assessments of whether those options it pursues are actually attaining their goals and objectives. The Foundation, moreover, is also actively seeking to encourage and work with other funders that are pursuing many of the same goals and aims to which Lynde and Harry Bradley philanthropically dedicated the wealth generated by their company.