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For calendar year 2015, or tax year beginning 01-01-2015 , and ending 12-31-2015

Name of foundation THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC		A Employer identification number 20-0396160	
Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address) 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100		Room/suite 	
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code MIDLAND, TX 79701		B Telephone number (see instructions) (432) 683-5203	
G Check all that apply ☐ Initial return ☐ Initial return of a former public charity ☐ Final return ☐ Amended return ☐ Address change ☐ Name change		C If exemption application is pending, check here ☐ D 1. Foreign organizations, check here ☐ 2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation ☐ E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here ☐ F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here ☐	
H Check type of organization ☒ Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation ☐ Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust ☐ Other taxable private foundation			
I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col (c), line 16) ▶ \$ 2,063,650		J Accounting method ☒ Cash ☐ Accrual ☐ Other (specify) _____ (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis)	

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses <i>(The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see instructions))</i>		Revenue and expenses per books (a)	Net investment income (b)	Adjusted net income (c)	Disbursements for charitable purposes (d) (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc , received (attach schedule)	171,436			
	2 Check ▶ ☐ if the foundation is not required to attach Sch B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments	41,338	41,338	41,338	
	4 Dividends and interest from securities	5,854	5,854	5,854	
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss) _____				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10 _____	253,380			
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a _____ 1,198,299				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)		253,380		
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances _____				
Operating and Administrative Expenses	b Less Cost of goods sold				
	c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)				
	11 Other income (attach schedule)	-101,507	-11,557	-101,507	
	12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11	370,501	289,015	-54,315	
	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc	0	0	0	0
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees (attach schedule).				
	b Accounting fees (attach schedule).	4,625	0	0	0
	c Other professional fees (attach schedule)	10,286	0	0	0
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes (attach schedule) (see instructions)				
	19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings.				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses (attach schedule).	11,001	0	0	0
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23	25,912	0	0	0
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid	130,063			130,063
	26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25	155,975	0	0	130,063
	27 Subtract line 26 from line 12				
	a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements	214,526			
	b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)		289,015		
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)				0	

Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions)	Beginning of year	End of year	
			(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing	321,425	576,811	576,811
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments			
	3	Accounts receivable ▶ _____ Less allowance for doubtful accounts ▶ _____			
	4	Pledges receivable ▶ _____ Less allowance for doubtful accounts ▶ _____			
	5	Grants receivable			
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see instructions).			
	7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule) ▶ _____ Less allowance for doubtful accounts ▶ _____			
	8	Inventories for sale or use			
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges			
	10a	Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)			
	b	Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)	960,082	1,076,591	1,076,591
	c	Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)			
	11	Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶ _____ Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶ _____			
	12	Investments—mortgage loans			
	13	Investments—other (attach schedule)	396,537	410,248	410,248
	14	Land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶ _____ Less accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶ _____			
15	Other assets (describe ▶ _____)				
16	Total assets(to be completed by all filers—see the instructions Also, see page 1, item I)		1,678,044	2,063,650	2,063,650
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses			
	18	Grants payable			
	19	Deferred revenue			
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons			
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule).			
	22	Other liabilities (describe ▶ _____)	0	171,080	
	23	Total liabilities(add lines 17 through 22)	0	171,080	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Foundations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☐ and complete lines 24 through 26 and lines 30 and 31.				
	24	Unrestricted			
	25	Temporarily restricted			
	26	Permanently restricted			
	Foundations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ ☒ and complete lines 27 through 31.				
	27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds	0	0	
	28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg , and equipment fund	0	0	
	29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds	1,678,044	1,892,570	
	30	Total net assets or fund balances(see instructions)	1,678,044	1,892,570	
	31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances(see instructions)	1,678,044	2,063,650	

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances		
1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1,678,044
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	214,526
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶ _____	0
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	1,892,570
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶ _____	0
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	1,892,570

Part IV

Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (e g , real estate, (a) 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)		How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation (b)	Date acquired (c) (mo , day, yr)	Date sold (d) (mo , day, yr)
1 a	FIDELITY 657 084093		2015-01-01	2015-12-31
b	FIDELITY 657 084093		2015-01-01	2015-12-31
c	FIDELITY 657 084093		2015-01-01	2015-12-31
d	K-1'S SECTION 1231		2015-01-01	2015-12-31
e				

(e) Gross sales price	Depreciation allowed (f) (or allowable)	Cost or other basis (g) plus expense of sale	Gain or (loss) (h) (e) plus (f) minus (g)
a 956,443		936,765	19,678
b 6,013		8,154	-2,141
c 24			24
d 235,819			235,819
e			

Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69			Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col (h)) (l)
(i) F M V as of 12/31/69	Adjusted basis (j) as of 12/31/69	Excess of col (i) (k) over col (j), if any	
a			19,678
b			-2,141
c			24
d			235,819
e			

2	Capital gain net income or (net capital loss)	{ If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 }	2	253,380
3	Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6) If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c) (see instructions) If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8		3	19,678

Part V

Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income)
If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank

Was the foundation liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If "Yes," the foundation does not qualify under section 4940(e) Do not complete this part

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year, see instructions before making any entries

(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col (b) divided by col (c))
2014	149,245	1,074,260	0 138928
2013	89,742	1,837,128	0 048849
2012	0	1,003,970	0 000000
2011	2,500	1,262,007	0 001981
2010	48,700	1,325,123	0 036751

2	Total of line 1, column (d).	2	0 226509
3	Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years	3	0 045302
4	Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2015 from Part X, line 5.	4	49,925
5	Multiply line 4 by line 3.	5	2,262
6	Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b).	6	2,890
7	Add lines 5 and 6.	7	5,152
8	Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4.	8	130,063

If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate See
the Part VI instructions

Part VII

Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see page 18 of the instructions)

1a Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here ☐ and enter "N/A" on line 1 Date of ruling or determination letter _____ (attach copy of letter if necessary—see instructions)			
b Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here ☒ and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b		1	2,890
c All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col (b)			
2 Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)		2	0
3 Add lines 1 and 2.		3	2,890
4 Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only. Others enter -0-)		4	0
5 Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-		5	2,890
6 Credits/Payments			
a 2015 estimated tax payments and 2014 overpayment credited to 2015	6a 1,647		
b Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b		
c Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868).	6c		
d Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d		
7 Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d.		7	1,647
8 Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here ☐ if Form 2220 is attached.		8	
9 Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed ▶		9	1,243
10 Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid ▶		10	
11 Enter the amount of line 10 to be Credited to 2015 estimated tax ▶ Refunded ▶		11	

Part VII-A

Statements Regarding Activities

1a During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?	1a	Yes	No
b Did it spend more than \$100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes (see Instructions for definition)? <i>If the answer is "Yes" to 1a or 1b, attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities</i>	1b		No
c Did the foundation file Form 1120-POL for this year?	1c		No
d Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year (1) On the foundation ▶ \$ _____ 0 (2) On foundation managers ▶ \$ _____ 0			
e Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers ▶ \$ _____ 0			
2 Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? <i>If "Yes," attach a detailed description of the activities</i>	2		No
3 Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? <i>If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes</i>	3		No
4a Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?	4a		No
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year?	4b		
5 Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? <i>If "Yes," attach the statement required by General Instruction T</i>	5		No
6 Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	6		No
7 Did the foundation have at least \$5,000 in assets at any time during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Part II, col (c), and Part XV</i>	7	Yes	
8a Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered (see instructions) ▶ TX _____			
b If the answer is "Yes" to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by General Instruction G? <i>If "No," attach explanation</i> .	8b	Yes	
9 Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2015 or the taxable year beginning in 2015 (see instructions for Part XIV)? <i>If "Yes," complete Part XIV</i>	9		No
10 Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," attach a schedule listing their names and addresses</i>	10		No

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities (continued)

11	At any time during the year, did the foundation, directly or indirectly, own a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," attach schedule (see instructions).	11		No
12	Did the foundation make a distribution to a donor advised fund over which the foundation or a disqualified person had advisory privileges? If "Yes," attach statement (see instructions)	12		No
13	Did the foundation comply with the public inspection requirements for its annual returns and exemption application? Website address ► <u>N/A</u>	13	Yes	
14	The books are in care of ► <u>C TODD SPARKS</u> Telephone no ► <u>(432) 683-5203</u> Located at ► <u>800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND TX</u> ZIP+4 ► <u>79701</u>			
15	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here ► ☐ and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year ► 15			
16	At any time during calendar year 2015, did the foundation have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country?	16	Yes	No
See instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) If "Yes", enter the name of the foreign country ►				

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.			Yes	No
1a	During the year did the foundation (either directly or indirectly)			
	(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
	(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
	(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
	(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
	(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
	(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception. Check "No" if the foundation agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days). ☐ Yes ☒ No			
b	If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)–(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)? 1b			
	Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here. ► ☐			
c	Did the foundation engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2015? 1c			No
2	Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the foundation was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5))			
a	At the end of tax year 2015, did the foundation have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2015? ☐ Yes ☒ No If "Yes," list the years ► 20____, 20____, 20____, 20____			
b	Are there any years listed in 2a for which the foundation is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement—see instructions). 2b			
c	If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here ► 20____, 20____, 20____, 20____			
3a	Did the foundation hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
b	If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2015 as a result of (1) any purchase by the foundation or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969, (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest, or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (<i>Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the foundation had excess business holdings in 2015</i>). 3b			
4a	Did the foundation invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?	4a		No
b	Did the foundation make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2015?	4b		No

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required (Continued)

5a During the year did the foundation pay or incur any amount to (1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))? ☐ Yes ☒ No (2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955), or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive? ☐ Yes ☒ No (3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes? ☐ Yes ☒ No (4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 4945(d)(4)(A)? (see instructions). ☐ Yes ☒ No (5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)–(5), did any of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance (see instructions)? 5b Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance check here. ▶			
c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the foundation claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant? ☐ Yes ☐ No <i>If "Yes," attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945–5(d)</i>			
6a Did the foundation, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
b Did the foundation, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract? 6b <i>If "Yes" to 6b, file Form 8870</i>			No
7a At any time during the tax year, was the foundation a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? ☐ Yes ☒ No			
b If yes, did the foundation receive any proceeds or have any net income attributable to the transaction? 7b			

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors**1 List all officers, directors, trustees, foundation managers and their compensation (see instructions).**

(a) Name and address	Title, and average hours per week (b) devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	Expense account, (e) other allowances
DON L SPARKS 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	PRESIDENT 2 00	0	0	0
W JEFFREY SPARKS 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	VICE PRESIDENT 2 00	0	0	0
C TODD SPARKS 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	SECRETARY 2 00	0	0	0
KEVIN D SPARKS 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	TREASURER 2 00	0	0	0

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	Title, and average hours per week (b) devoted to position	(c) Compensation	Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation (d)	Expense account, (e) other allowances
NONE				

Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000. ▶	0
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Part VIII

Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors (continued)

3 Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services (see instructions). If none, enter "NONE".

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services. 0

Part IX-A

Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.

	Expenses
1	
2	
3	
4	

Part IX-B

Summary of Program-Related Investments (see instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2	Amount
1	
2	
All other program-related investments. See instructions.	
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3	0

Part X Minimum Investment Return

(All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc , purposes		
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities.	1a	37,292
b	Average of monthly cash balances.	1b	13,393
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see instructions).	1c	0
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c).	1d	50,685
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation).	1e	0
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets.	2	0
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d.	3	50,685
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities Enter 1 1/2% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions).	4	760
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3 Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	49,925
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5.	6	2,496

Part XI Distributable Amount(see instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations check here ☐ and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6.	1	2,496
2a	Tax on investment income for 2015 from Part VI, line 5.	2a	2,890
b	Income tax for 2015 (This does not include the tax from Part VI).	2b	
c	Add lines 2a and 2b.	2c	2,890
3	Distributable amount before adjustments Subtract line 2c from line 1.	3	0
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions.	4	0
5	Add lines 3 and 4.	5	0
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions).	6	0
7	Distributable amount as adjusted Subtract line 6 from line 5 Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1.	7	0

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc , purposes		
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc —total from Part I, column (d), line 26.	1a	130,063
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B.	1b	0
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc , purposes.	2	
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the		
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required).	3a	
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule).	3b	
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b Enter here and on Part V, line 8, and Part XIII, line 4	4	130,063
5	Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b (see instructions).	5	2,890
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4.	6	127,173

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years

Part XIII

Undistributed Income (see instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2014	(c) 2014	(d) 2015
1 Distributable amount for 2015 from Part XI, line 7				0
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2015				
a Enter amount for 2014 only.			0	
b Total for prior years 20____, 20____, 20____		0		
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2015				
a From 2010.				
b From 2011.				
c From 2012.				
d From 2013.				
e From 2014.				90,457
f Total of lines 3a through e.	90,457			
4 Qualifying distributions for 2015 from Part XII, line 4 ▶ \$ 130,063				
a Applied to 2014, but not more than line 2a			0	
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see instructions).		0		
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see instructions).	0			
d Applied to 2015 distributable amount.				0
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus	130,063			
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2015 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a))	0			0
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e Subtract line 5	220,520			
b Prior years' undistributed income Subtract line 4b from line 2b.		0		
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed.		0		
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b Taxable amount—see instructions		0		
e Undistributed income for 2014 Subtract line 4a from line 2a Taxable amount—see instructions			0	
f Undistributed income for 2016 Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1 This amount must be distributed in 2015.				0
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3) (Election may be required - see instructions).	0			
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2010 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see instructions). . .	0			
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2016. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a.	220,520			
10 Analysis of line 9				
a Excess from 2011. . . .				
b Excess from 2012. . . .				
c Excess from 2013. . . .				
d Excess from 2014. . . .				90,457
e Excess from 2015. . . .				130,063

Part XIV

b Check box to indicate whether the organiza

Tax year	Prior 3 years			(e) Total
(a) 2015	(b) 2014	(c) 2013	(d) 2012	

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Part XV

1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:

a List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000) (See section 507(d)(2))

b List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here ☐ if the foundation only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the foundation makes gifts, grants, etc. (see instructions) to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d.

a The name, address, and telephone number or e-mail address of the person to whom applications should be addressed

C TODD SPARKS
800 N MARIENFELD STE 100
MIDLAND, TX 79701
(432) 683-5203

b The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include
PRESCRIBED FORMS

c Any submission deadlines
90 DAYS PRIOR TO REQUESTED FUNDING DATE

d	Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors	NONE
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Part XV

Supplementary Information(continued)

3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment

Recipient	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
Name and address (home or business)				
a Paid during the year CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM K-1 INVESTMENTS 800 N MARIENFELD SUITE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701		501(C)(3)	CONTRIBUTION MADE THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH AMCAP WOODLAKE, LLC	63
CITIZENS FOR SELF GOVERNANCE 106 E 6TH ST STE 900 AUSTIN, TX 78701	N/A	501(C)(3)	TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROGRAM	5,000
MANOR PARK 5212 SINCLAIR AVE MIDLAND, TX 78707	N/A	501(C)(3)	TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROGRAM	25,000
TEXAS PUBLIC POLICY 900 CONGRESS AVE STE 400 AUSTIN, TX 78701	N/A	501(C)(3)	TO ASSIST AND SUPPORT THE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS OF THE FOUNDATION	100,000
Total			3a	130,063
b Approved for future payment				
Total			3b	0

Enter gross amounts unless otherwise indicated

Part XVI-B Relationship of Activities to the Accomplishment of Exempt Purposes

Form **990-PF** (2015)

1. Did the organization directly or indirectly engage in any of the following with any other organization described in section 501(c) of the Code (other than section 501(c)(3) organizations) or in section 527, relating to political organizations?

a Transfers from the reporting foundation to a noncharitable exempt organization of			
(1) Cash.	1a(1)		No
(2) Other assets.	1a(2)		No
b Other transactions			
(1) Sales of assets to a noncharitable exempt organization.	1b(1)		No
(2) Purchases of assets from a noncharitable exempt organization.	1b(2)		No
(3) Rental of facilities, equipment, or other assets.	1b(3)		No
(4) Reimbursement arrangements.	1b(4)		No
(5) Loans or loan guarantees.	1b(5)		No
(6) Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations.	1b(6)		No
c Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, other assets, or paid employees.	1c		No

d If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," complete the following schedule. Column **(b)** should always show the fair market value of the goods, other assets, or services given by the reporting foundation. If the foundation received less than fair market value in any transaction or sharing arrangement, show in column **(d)** the value of the goods, other assets, or services received.

[illegible]

2a Is the foundation directly or indirectly affiliated with, or related to, one or more tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c) of the Code (other than section 501(c)(3)) or in section 527? ☐ Yes
☒ No

b If "Yes," complete the following schedule

(a) Name of organization	(b) Type of organization	(c) Description of relationship

**Sign
Here**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

* * * * *

2016-11-08

* * * * *

Signature of officer or trustee

Date

Title

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown below

(see instr)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

(see instr)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

**Paid
Preparer
Use
Only**

Print/Type preparer's name ANDREW E ARMSTRONG CPA	Preparer's Signature	Date	Check if self-employed ☐	PTIN P00008159
Firm's name ☐ ARMSTRONG BACKUS & CO LLP			Firm's EIN ☐	75-1496876
Firm's address ☐ PO BOX 3487 MIDLAND, TX 79702			Phone no ☐	(432) 682-6258

Form 990PF Part XVI-A Line 11 - Other revenue:

Enter gross amounts unless otherwise indicated	Unrelated business income		Excluded by section 512, 513, or 514		(e) Related or exempt function income (See the instructions)
11 Other revenue	(a) Business code	(b) Amount	(c) Exclusion code	(d) Amount	
a AMCAP ACQUISITIONS	900003	-520	16	4,230	
b AMCAP LEE PARK, LLC			16	-12,117	
c AMCAP LEE PARK, LLC	900003	-109	01		
d AMCAP TELECOM PARTNERS	900003	-78,603	01		
e AMCAP WOODLAKE, LLC	900003	56,055	01		
f FRACTURED LLC		-305	01		
g HAD ENOUGH LLC		1	01		
h MASS ENERGY, LLC		-22,143	01		
i SPARKCAP, LLC	900003	-48,556	01		

TY 2015 Accounting Fees Schedule**Name:** THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC**EIN:** 20-0396160

Category	Amount	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income	Disbursements for Charitable Purposes
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL FEES	4,625	0	0	0

TY 2015 Investments Corporate Stock Schedule**Name:** THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC**EIN:** 20-0396160

Name of Stock	End of Year Book Value	End of Year Fair Market Value
BROKERAGE - FIDELITY 4085	308,297	308,297
BROKERAGE - FIDELITY 4093	447,814	447,814
BROKERAGE - FIDELITY 166	100,000	100,000
ROYALTY TRUST - HUGOTON	10,875	10,875
ROYALTY TRUST - SAN JUAN	9,600	9,600
SECURITIES - TRIUMPH SAVINGS BANK PREFERRED	200,005	200,005

TY 2015 Investments - Other Schedule**Name:** THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC**EIN:** 20-0396160

Category/ Item	Listed at Cost or FMV	Book Value	End of Year Fair Market Value
K-1 - AMCAP LEE PARK, LLC	AT COST	42,841	42,841
K-1 - AMCAP TELECOM PARTNERS	FMV	0	0
K-1 - AMCAP WOODLAKE, LLC	AT COST	92,022	92,022
K-1 - FRACTURED LLC	AT COST	9,695	9,695
K-1 - HAD ENOUGH LLC	AT COST	100,001	100,001
K-1 - MASS ENERGY, LLC	AT COST	159,384	159,384
K-1 - SPARKCAP, LLC	AT COST	0	0
OTHER ASSETS	FMV	6,305	6,305

TY 2015 Other Expenses Schedule**Name:** THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC**EIN:** 20-0396160

Description	Revenue and Expenses per Books	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income	Disbursements for Charitable Purposes
OTHER EXPENSES	11,001	0	0	0

TY 2015 Other Income Schedule**Name:** THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC**EIN:** 20-0396160

Description	Revenue And Expenses Per Books	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income
RI - TX - NET	560	560	560
AMCAP ACQUISITIONS	3,710		3,710
AMCAP LEE PARK, LLC	-12,117	-12,117	-12,117
AMCAP LEE PARK, LLC	-109		-109
AMCAP TELECOM PARTNERS	-78,603		-78,603
AMCAP WOODLAKE, LLC	56,055		56,055
FRACTURED LLC	-305		-305
HAD ENOUGH LLC	1		1
MASS ENERGY, LLC	-22,143		-22,143
SPARKCAP, LLC	-48,556		-48,556

TY 2015 Other Liabilities Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC

EIN: 20-0396160

Description	Beginning of Year - Book Value	End of Year - Book Value
OTHER PAYABLE	0	171,080

TY 2015 Other Professional Fees Schedule

Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC

EIN: 20-0396160

Category	Amount	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income	Disbursements for Charitable Purposes
ADVISORY FEES	10,286	0	0	0

Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Schedule of Contributors ▶ Attach to Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF ▶ Information about Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF) and its instructions is at www.irs.gov/form990	OMB No 1545-0047 2015
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Name of the organization THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC	Employer identification number 20-0396160
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Organization type (check one)

Filers of: Form 990 or 990-EZ Form 990-PF	Section: ☐ 501(c)() (enter number) organization ☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust not treated as a private foundation ☐ 527 political organization ☒ 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation ☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation ☐ 501(c)(3) taxable private foundation
--	---

Check if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.
Note. Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.

General Rule

- ☒ For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or other property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions.

Special Rules

- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33¹/₃% support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of **(1)** \$5,000 or **(2)** 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II.
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Do not complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year. ▶ \$ _____

Caution. An organization that is not covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules does not file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990, or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it does not meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF).

Name of organization THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC	Employer identification number 20-0396160
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Part I **Contributors** (see Instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
—	See Additional Data Table 	\$ 	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
—	 	\$ 	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
—	 	\$ 	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
—	 	\$ 	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
—	 	\$ 	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
—	 	\$ 	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☐ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)

Name of organization THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC	Employer identification number 20-0396160
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Part II

Noncash Property (see Instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
_____	See Additional Data Table	\$ _____	_____
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
_____		\$ _____	_____
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
_____		\$ _____	_____
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
_____		\$ _____	_____
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
_____		\$ _____	_____
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
_____		\$ _____	_____

Name of organization THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC	Employer identification number 20-0396160
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Part III Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$1,000 or less for the year. (Enter this information once. See instructions.) ► \$ _____

Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-			
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	--		
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-			
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	--		
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-			
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	--		
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-			
	(e) Transfer of gift		
	Transferee's name, address, and ZIP 4		Relationship of transferor to transferee
	--		

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 20-0396160
Name: THE SPARKS FOUNDATION INC

Form 990 Schedule B, Part I - Contributors (see Instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1	C TODD SPARKS FLP 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	\$ 16,326	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
2	KEVIN D SPARKS FLP 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	\$ 8,163	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
3	W JEFFREY SPARKS 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	\$ 8,163	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
4	DISCOVERY OPERATING 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	\$ 8,163	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
5	JKTS 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	\$ 40,820	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
6	DON AND GWYN SPARKS FLP 800 N MARIENFELD STE 100 MIDLAND, TX 79701	\$ 48,984	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)

Form 990 Schedule B, Part I - Contributors (see Instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
7	FT VENTURES PO BOX 6170 MIDLAND, TX 79711	\$ 8,163	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
8	HORACE LINTHICUM BOX 94 MIDLAND, TX 76930	\$ 8,163	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
9	PLATT PARTNERS 16110 CHATEAU AVE AUSTIN, TX 78731	\$ 8,163	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)
10	WA AND DARLENE BATEMAN LIVING TRUST 3613 JORDAN AVE MIDLAND, TX 79707	\$ 16,328	Person ☐ Payroll ☐ Noncash ☒ (Complete Part II for noncash contribution)

Form 990 Schedule B, Part II - Noncash Property (see Instructions) Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (see instructions)	(d) Date received
<u>1</u>	0000375 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 16,326</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>2</u>	0000375 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 8,163</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>3</u>	0000375 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 8,163</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>4</u>	0000375 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 8,163</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>5</u>	0001875 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 40,820</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>6</u>	000225 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 48,984</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>7</u>	0000375 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 8,163</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>8</u>	0000375 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 8,163</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>9</u>	0000375 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 8,163</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>
<u>10</u>	000075 ORRI HOWARD COUNTY TEXAS	<u>\$ 16,328</u>	<u>2015-03-01</u>