Northland Foundation awards 45 grants totaling $526,240 in the first quarter of 2018

Grants to support child care expansion and aging services organizations highlighted

The Northland Foundation awarded 45 grants between January 1 and March 31, 2018 totaling $526,240. Funding supported programming that nurtures children, youth, and families; strengthens individual and community wellbeing including reducing poverty and its impacts; enhances the lives of older adults and their caregivers; and promotes thriving communities in the seven counties of northeastern Minnesota.

Three grants totaling $53,400 were made to child care centers located in Barnum, Grand Marais, and Hibbing. Funding for these grants was provided by the State of Minnesota, with the support of the Northland Foundation, to expand the availability of child care.

Another $181,100 was awarded through the Northland Foundation’s Rural Aging Initiative, for capacity building in 10 community-based organizations that serve older adults and their family caregivers in our rural region.

“It has long been a focus of the Northland Foundation to support the ‘bookends of life’ – the youngest and oldest members of our communities,” stated Tony Sertich, President. “We are thankful for the funding partners whose contributions make these grants possible, and the organizations in our region doing the on-the-ground work.”

Following are all grants awarded between January 1 and March 31, 2018.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES GRANTS

Little B's Learning Center, Barnum
For child care program expansion with funding provided by the State of Minnesota and the support of the Northland Foundation.

Cook County Community YMCA, Grand Marais
For child care program expansion with funding provided by the State of Minnesota and the support of the Northland Foundation.

Kiddy Karousel Child Care Center, Hibbing
For child care program expansion with funding provided by the State of Minnesota and the support of the Northland Foundation.

Ely Public Schools - ISD #696, Ely
To provide information and support for children entering Kindergarten and their families.
Little Eagles Childcare, Inc., Tower  
$1,500
In support of child care in Tower.

Hibbing Public Schools - ISD #701, Hibbing  
$4,500
To support large muscle development programming for young children.

American Indian Community Housing Organization, Duluth  
$25,000
To support culturally rooted programming for American Indian youth.

Hibbing Public Schools - ISD #701, Hibbing  
$20,000
To provide summer academic enrichment programming for at-risk youth.

Ely Folk School, Inc., Ely  
$10,000
To support engagement of area youth in building a birch bark canoe.

US FIRST, Duluth  
$2,500
In support of the 2018 regional robotics competition in Northeast Minnesota.

Minnesota Discovery Center, Chisholm  
$1,000
Support for the Iron Range Science and Engineering Festival to educate students about STEM careers.

Chisholm School District - ISD #695, Chisholm  
$5,000
To expand and enhance STEM programming in the Chisholm schools.

St. Louis River Quest, Duluth  
$750
Support for environmental education programming for Duluth area schools.

REACH Mentoring Program, Cloquet  
$15,000
To support the expansion of peer support programming to youth in Carlton County schools.

GND Development Alliance, Duluth  
$10,000
To support community enrichment programming in the Gary-New Duluth neighborhood.

Greenway Public Schools - ISD #316, Marble  
$5,000
To support efforts that promote positive behaviors in the Greenway High School.

Mino Miikana Cultural and Wellness Center, Duluth  
$10,000
To provide enrichment programming to Native American youth in the Duluth area.

INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING GRANTS

Fathers Rise Together, Duluth  
$5,000
To provide a business planning workshop to support entrepreneurs of color.
Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative, Cloquet  $1,000
To support a mentoring day for high school students with disabilities to discuss careers, post-secondary education, independent living skills, and community participation.

Citizens for Backus, International Falls  $2,500
To complete a housing study for Koochiching County to help address the affordable-housing shortage.

Western Lake Superior Habitat for Humanity, Duluth  $15,000
To support organizational capacity building to enhance the creation of affordable housing and operation of a social enterprise.

One Roof Community Housing, Duluth  $42,500
To support the development and preservation of affordable housing in St. Louis, Carlton, and Cook counties.

Grace House of Itasca County, Grand Rapids  $5,000
To provide services to people experiencing homelessness in Itasca County.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Duluth  $20,000
To support street outreach programming for youth who are at risk or experiencing homelessness.

Advocates for Family Peace, Grand Rapids  $5,000
To update and improve communication materials to better serve victims of domestic violence.

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia  $18,000
To address transportation needs in rural areas.

RURAL AGING INITIATIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS

The following grants were awarded through the Northland Foundation's Rural Aging Initiative to help older adults and caregivers live well in their homes and communities.

Aging Services Organizations, Northeastern Minnesota  $181,100
To support capacity-building activities for aging services organizations.

- Minnesota Citizens Federation Northeast, Duluth  $25,000
- Arrowhead Parish Nurse Association, Duluth  $10,000
- Range Respite Project, Inc, Virginia  $13,100
- Northwoods Partners, Ely  $20,000
- North Shore Area Partners, Silver Bay  $25,000
- Koochiching Aging Options, International Falls  $13,000
Floodwood Services and Training, Inc., Floodwood $25,000
ElderCircle, Grand Rapids $23,000
Age Well Arrowhead, Inc., Duluth $25,000
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia $25,000

CAPACITY BUILDING

North House Folk School, Grand Marais $20,000
To provide increased staff capacity to support organizational expansion.

Entrepreneur Fund, Eveleth $3,500
To provide support for strategic planning.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY VITALITY GRANTS

Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce, Hibbing $489
Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

Laurentian Chamber of Commerce, Virginia $168
Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, Grand Rapids $270
Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce, Duluth $433
Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

APEX, Duluth $15,000
To support economic development efforts in Duluth and the surrounding area.

Arrowhead Manufacturers & Fabricators Association Educational Trust, Elbow Lake $350
Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

Grantmakers for Effective Organizations, Washington $1,280
To support annual membership to GEO, which focuses on helping grantmakers improve their philanthropy practices.