Northland Foundation awards 69 grants totaling $544,099 July through September 2017 including $304,899 in Rural Aging Initiative funding

In the third quarter of 2017, the Northland Foundation approved $544,099 in grant awards to nonprofit organizations, schools, and community groups serving northeastern Minnesota. These grants were made within the Foundation’s priorities of Children, Youth, and Families; Opportunities for Self-Reliance; Capacity Building, and Community Vitality. Self-Reliance encompasses diverse interest areas, including support for the region’s older adults, especially those living in poverty.

The Foundation is currently undertaking the second, three-year phase of its Rural Aging Initiative (RAI). There were three categories of RAI grants awarded: grants to a group of aging services organizations in the region that area also receiving training and technical assistance; $ support for intergenerational and other programming that helps older adults live well; and $55,000 in Aging Innovations Jump Start grants to bolster creative ideas related to older adults and their caregivers.

All Northland Foundation grants awarded July 1 through September 30, 2017 are as follows.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES GRANTS

School Districts, Northeast Minnesota $18,000
Prekindergarten through 3rd Grade grants offered to school districts and Reservation School teams that attended the 2017 Early Childhood Summit in support of planning and activities to strengthen the early learning continuum.

- Esko Public Schools - ISD #099, Esko $1,000
- Eveleth-Gilbert Public Schools - #2154, Eveleth $1,000
- Invest Early, Grand Rapids $4,000
- Barnum Schools - ISD #091, Barnum $1,000
- Hibbing Public Schools - ISD #701, Hibbing $1,000
- Virginia School District #706, Virginia $1,000
- Hermantown Schools - ISD #700, Hermantown $1,000
- Proctor Public Schools - ISD #704, Proctor $1,000
- Lake Superior School District - ISD #381, Two Harbors $1,000
- ISD #2142, St Louis County Schools, Virginia $1,000
- Duluth Public Schools Academy, Duluth $1,000
- Cook County Schools - ISD #166, Grand Marais $1,000
- Cloquet Public Schools - ISD #094, Cloquet $1,000
- Silver Bay Early Childhood Coalition, Silver Bay $1,000
- Moose Lake Schools - ISD #097, Moose Lake $1,000

Duluth Early Childhood Family Education, Duluth $5,000
To provide support to first time parents who have mental health and chemical dependency issues.

**Start Early Funders Coalition, Minneapolis**
To strengthen the early childhood system and improve outcomes for young children in Minnesota.

**McGregor Schools - ISD #004, McGregor**
To support out of school time enrichment programming for McGregor students.

**Cloquet Public Schools - ISD #094, Cloquet**
To support efforts to create a positive and supportive climate at the new Cloquet Middle School.

**Aitkin County Environmental Services, Aitkin**
To support environmental education opportunities to 6th graders in Aitkin County.

**Cloquet Public Schools - ISD #094, Cloquet**
To support efforts to create a positive and supportive climate at the new Cloquet Middle School.

**Aitkin County Environmental Services, Aitkin**
To support environmental education opportunities to 6th graders in Aitkin County.

**Cook County Schools - ISD #166, Grand Marais**
To support programming that expands students’ access to knowledge of diverse cultures.

**Polinsky Medical Rehabilitation Center, Duluth**
To provide programming promoting secure attachment between parents and young children to families with children who have special needs.

**SELF-RELIANCE GRANTS**

**North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity, Virginia**
To increase supportive services to Habitat partner families.

**Center City Housing Corporation, Duluth**
To support enrichment programming for homeless children.

**Second Harvest North Central Food Bank, Grand Rapids**
To support efforts to reduce childhood hunger in Itasca and Aitkin counties.

**Arc Northland, Duluth**
To support efforts to increase the engagement of people with low incomes in public policy.

**North Shore Horizons, Inc, Two Harbors**
To support housing with services for victims of domestic violence.

**Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia**
To support a Community Connect event providing access to resources for people with low incomes.

**Range Transitional Housing Inc, Virginia**
To support a Community Connect event providing access to resources for people with low incomes.
United Way of Northeastern Minnesota, Chisholm
To support increased marketing efforts to strengthen the work of the United Way of Northeastern Minnesota. $10,000

United Way of Northeastern Minnesota, Chisholm
To increase understanding of the dynamics of poverty to human service professionals. $5,000

Damiano of Duluth, Inc, Duluth
To provide public wifi access at the Damiano Center. $2,636

Citizens for Backus, International Falls
General operating support for the Backus Community Center in International Falls. $15,000

RURAL AGING INITIATIVE CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS

Northern Itasca Hospital District, Bigfork
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $25,000

Cook County Council on Aging, Grand Marais
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $15,986

Care Partners of Cook County, Grand Marais
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $25,000

Volunteer Services of Carlton County, Inc., Cloquet
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $24,345

Community Partners - Two Harbors Block Nurse Program, Two Harbors
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $15,386

Aitkin County CARE, Inc, Aitkin
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $25,000

Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota, Duluth
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $24,182

Duluth Lighthouse for the Blind Inc, Duluth
To support organizational capacity building to improve services to older adults and their caregivers. $25,000
RURAL AGING INITIATIVE IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

Oshki Ogimaag Charter School, Grand Portage $10,000
To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

Proctor Public Schools - ISD #704, Proctor $15,000
To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

Proctor Public Schools - ISD #704, Proctor $5,000
To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement.

Aitkin Public Schools - ISD #001, Aitkin $5,000
To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement.

Moose Lake Schools - ISD #097, Moose Lake $5,000
To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement.

Moose Lake Schools - ISD #097, Moose Lake $15,000
To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

McGregor KIDS PLUS / Something Cool, Inc, McGregor $15,000
To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

Lake Superior School District - ISD #381, Two Harbors $5,000
To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement.

Chisholm KIDS PLUS, Chisholm $15,000
To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

Cloquet Public Schools - ISD #094, Cloquet $15,000
To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

Lake Superior School District - ISD #381, Two Harbors $15,000
To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

McGregor KIDS PLUS / Something Cool, Inc, McGregor $5,000
To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement.

RURAL AGING INITIATIVE AGING INNOVATIONS JUMP START GRANTS

Miller-Dwan Foundation, Duluth $5,000
To support efforts to raise awareness about advance care directives in the Duluth area.

Still Dreaming, LLC, Santa Fe $5,000
To engage aging service organizations and other stakeholders in northeast Minnesota on the value of engaging older adults in the arts.

Floodwood Services and Training, Inc., Floodwood $5,000
To support efforts to increase community understanding of dementia and resources available.

**Northwoods Partners, Ely**
To increase resources and supports to people with dementia and their caregivers. 
$5,000

**Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia**
To support efforts to reduce social isolation of older adults in St. Louis, Lake and Cook counties.
$5,000

**Community Partners - Two Harbors Block Nurse Program, Two Harbors**
To support the pilot of Memory Cafes in Lake County.
$5,000

**Aitkin County CARE, Inc, Aitkin**
To pilot the use of technology to connect caregivers in rural communities.
$5,000

**Well Being Development, Ely**
To increase outreach to older adults with mental illness.
$5,000

**Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota, Duluth**
To improve services at elder law legal clinics in rural communities.
$5,000

**Duluth Lighthouse for the Blind Inc, Duluth**
To increase access of technology and tools to assist older adults with vision loss.
$5,000

**North Shore Area Partners, Silver Bay**
To support new efforts to provide chore and other services to older adults in the Silver Bay area.
$5,000

**CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS**

**Apple Tree Learning Center, Virginia**
To provide training to the board of directors on strengthening governance.
$5,000

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY VITALITY GRANTS**

**Blandin Foundation, Grand Rapids**
To support efforts to expand broadband access in rural communities.
$1,000

**ReGen Northland, Eveleth**
To support efforts to increase community engagement across the Iron Range.
$3,750

**Minnesota Council on Foundations, Minneapolis**
Membership support for 2017 programs and activities in northeastern Minnesota.
$4,450

**Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, Saint Paul**
Membership support for programs and activities in northeastern Minnesota for 2017.
$750