



Area students serving on the Minnesota Power Foundation Youth In Philanthropy Board approve \$11,101 in grants to 14 youth-led projects

Youth In Philanthropy is an initiative of the Northland Foundation's KIDS PLUS Program

Thanks to generous program support provided by the Minnesota Power Foundation, \$11,101 in grant funding was recently approved by the 15 young people and 4 adult mentors serving on the 2017-2018 KIDS PLUS Youth In Philanthropy Board. This year's 7th through 12th grade youth board members come from Chisholm, Cloquet, Duluth, Ely, Hibbing, and McGregor, MN, and the border community of Superior, WI.

The young people on the Board make grantmaking decisions three times during the school year—October, January, and April—working with an annual grants budget of \$25,000. Projects that receive Youth In Philanthropy grants must have applications written by young people, for school or community projects developed and implemented by young people with guidance from adult advisors. To learn more, visit <http://www.northlandfdn.org>.

"The incredible young people on the Board have increased both their knowledge and confidence, and they have made thoughtful decisions on grantmaking to support community improvement all across northeastern Minnesota," said Tony Sertich, President of the Northland Foundation. "Thank you to the Minnesota Power Foundation, youth board members, and adult volunteer mentors for their philanthropic commitment."

The 2017-2018 Youth In Philanthropy Board approved the following 14 grants during their April 2018 board meeting. This year, the Board awarded \$25,257 to support 23 youth-driven projects!

Cloquet Middle School - ISD #94, Cloquet: \$800

To create a school garden that will provide students with fresh fruit and vegetables and a hands-on experience of growing and harvesting food.

Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, Northeast Minnesota: \$1,000

To provide resources and information to transient and homeless youth by hosting outreach events.

Ordean East Middle School - ISD #709, Duluth: \$1,000

To help create a new Robotics Team where students learn about gears, machines, and engineering.

McGregor Schools - ISD #004, McGregor: \$1,000

To create a kindness movement that spreads the word through screen printing and other awareness ideas created by kids.

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Girl Scouts of Minnesota/Wisconsin Lakes & Pines, Duluth: \$1,000

To support a "Take Action" project that will benefit the community over time by providing safety equipment for a science lab.

South St. Louis County 4-H Federation, Duluth: \$875

To create an opportunity for youth to get involved in their community and develop their leadership skills.

Deer River Girl Scout Troop 1481, Talmoon: \$700

To bring school-aged girls together for a fun and safe adventure at Camp Ruby.

Seeds of Hope Youth Ranch, Duluth: \$600

To support the creation of a 5K trail run that will teach the youth coordinating skills and engage the community in programs at Seeds of Hope Youth Ranch.

Superior High School, Superior: \$450

To help create a new Robotics Team where students learn about gears, machines, and engineering.

Duluth Community School Collaborative, Duluth: \$1,000

To provide an opportunity to learn the art of beadwork, making dance regalia, and learning about Anishinaabe people and language.

Cook County Community YMCA, Grand Marais: \$200

To provide an opportunity for youth to learn about Model United Nations and global issues, and discover ways they can improve their community, skills, and future.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Northland, Duluth: \$476

To support a place that fosters imaginative play for young children where they have an opportunity to play in an unstructured manner.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Duluth: \$1,000

To create an inviting greenspace for the neighborhood to increase positivity in the community.

Mesabi Family YMCA, Virginia: \$1,000

To support a collaboration of agencies that provides awareness of theatre, performing arts, production, and dance for youth in a camp-like setting.

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