Blandin Foundation 2018 Itasca Area Grants

Blandin Foundation partners with local leaders to build healthy rural Minnesota communities, especially in the Itasca area. The Foundation awards grants, provides community leadership training, and engages rural communities on topics such as student success and broadband. At least 60% of grant funding is dedicated for the Itasca County area.

Awarded Grants and Donations
All grants awarded by the Foundation are listed at www.blandinfoundation.org/grantlists

Total 2018 Grants
$12,392,034
January 1 – December 31, 2018

Area of Focus: Vibrant Itasca Communities
All dimensions of local communities are healthier, especially for people persistently excluded.

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency
Project support to develop the Arrowhead Mobility Management Program – $20,000

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency
Project support for the 2018 Community Connect event – $5,000

Ball Club Local Indian Council
Donation in support of Ball Club's annual Mii-Gwitch Mahnomen Days pow wow – $1,000

Bearville Township
Donation in support of a community event around fire prevention and awareness – $300

Bigfork Improvement Group
Capital support for the final phase of renovation of the Bigfork City Hall – $30,000

Bigfork Valley Foundation
Donation in support of Bigfork community projects – $250

Bovey Farmers Day Association
Donation in support of the 2018 Bovey Farmers' Day celebration – $1,000

Cass County Economic Development Corp
Donation in support of economic development work in the Remer area – $1,000

City of Cohasset
Capital support to develop a community center that includes space for quality early and Pre-K education – $250,000

City of Grand Rapids
Donation in support of the 2018 National Night Out hosted by the Grand Rapids Police Department – $250

City of Grand Rapids
Donation in support of the City Human Rights Commission immigration education series – $1,000

City of Grand Rapids
Donation in support of the 2018 annual Independence Day fireworks on Pokegama Lake – $1,000

Cook Area Health Services Inc
Donation in support of hosting a documentary/discussion on anxiety and depression with Bigfork students in grades 6-12 – $500

Deer River Area Health Care Foundation
Project support to conduct a Community Wellness Center study – $7,500

Deer River Area Health Care Foundation
Donation in support of area health and wellness initiatives – $250

Depot Commons Association
Donation in support of the Future Forest Stewards expo for area high school students – $500

Edge of the Wilderness Community Center
Project support for 2018 programming events and upgrades – $8,875
First Call for Help of Itasca County
Capital support to upgrade the telephone system and to expand crisis line services – $9,500

Goodland Township
Capital support for an addition to the fire hall – $10,000

Grand Itasca Foundation
Donation in support of the High School Scholarship Fund – $500

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Donation in support of the Farmers Market Power of Produce program – $500

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Capital support for a community and recreation space in Ball Club – $20,000

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Project support for the Life Skills Academy project – $25,000

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Operating support for continued crisis aid and management support over two years for the Itasca County Sharing Fund – $200,000

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Operating support for 2019-21 – $270,000

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Operating support for SPARK to conduct research, education and engagement to strengthen youth programming, youth worker professional development and stronger outcomes over two years for youth – $160,000

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Donation in support of the Grand Rapids 2018 WinterGlo Festival – $1,000

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Donation in support of Grand Rapids High School 2018 Post Prom event – $750

Grand Rapids Area Male Chorus
Donation in support of the Together We Sing program – $1,000

Grand Rapids Band Boosters
Donation in support of advertising the 2019-20 Blandin Education Grants program in the Grand Rapids High School band calendar – $550

Grand Rapids Economic Dev. Authority
Donation in support of developing a community profile for Itasca County – $1,000

Grand Rapids Players
Donation in support of putting on the production of Mamma Mia! – $1,000

Grand Rapids Summer Celebration Inc
Donation in support of the 2018 Tall Timber Days festival – $1,000

Grattan Township
Donation in support of upgrades to Grattan Town Hall – $1,000

Greenway 316 Foundation Inc
Donation in support of Financial Aid Night for Greenway High School students and parents – $150

Independent School District 2
Donation in support of the Orff Instrument Extravaganza – $1,000

Independent School District 2
Capital support for enhancement of publicly accessible community space within the newly remodeled Hill City school – $150,000

Independent School District 316
Donation in support of advertising the Blandin Education Awards Program in the Greenway Blast yearbook – $350

Independent School District 316
Project support for a scholarship ambassador/ coach – $2,000

Independent School District 316
Operating support for Children First! activities through June 2020 – $7,000

Independent School District 318
Donation in support of advertising the 2018-19 Blandin Education Grants Program in the Grand Rapids High School yearbook – $300

Independent School District 318
Project support for continuation of the Children’s Fair and county wide Children’s First! activities through June 2020 – $72,000

Independent School District 319
Project support to contract with an online platform to seek community input around updating school facilities in the Nashwauk-Keevin school district – $10,000

Independent School District 319
Donation in support of the Nashwauk-Keevin School District’s music program – $1,000

Independent School District 319
Donation in support of portable sound shells for student and community music and theater performances – $1,000

Independent School District 319
Operating support for Children First! activities through June 2020 – $5,000

Inger Local Indian Council
Donation in support of the Inger Pow Wow – $1,000

ISD 317 Deer River
Donation in support of Spring Awards Night and presentation of Blandin Education Grants – $200
ISD 317 Deer River
Operating support for Children First! activities through June 2020 – $7,000

Ita-Bel-Koo Day Action Center
Donation in support of an automatic external defibrillator in the Itasca County area – $750

Itasca Choral Society
Donation in support of the 2018-19 fall and spring concert programs – $250

Itasca Community College
Project support for the 2018 career fair – $10,000

Itasca Community College Foundation
Capital support for construction of a campus student union – $1,750,000

Itasca Community Television
Operating support over two years in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area – $160,000

Itasca County
Donation in support of emergency aid and NARCAN training – $250

Itasca County
Capital support for equipment for the Itasca County Dive Team – $5,000

Itasca County
Donation in support of boat and water safety education for elementary students – $500

Itasca County Agricultural Association
Donation in support of capital improvements to the fairgrounds – $1,000

Itasca County Family YMCA Inc
Operating support over two years for the child care, youth and senior programs – $209,500

Itasca County Family YMCA Inc
Donation in support of establishing a new fundraising event for nonprofits – $1,000

Itasca County Historical Society
Donation in support of the picture “Grace” oral history project – $1,000

Itasca County Health & Human Services
Donation in support of historical trauma training being held in Grand Rapids – $750

Itasca Hospice Foundation
Donation in support of the 2018 educational seminar on Cultivating a Vital Resource for Caregiving – $500

Itasca Life Options
Capital support to make accessibility and safety upgrades to its new facility – $50,000

Itasca Ski & Outing Club
Capital support for safety sideboards alongside the Mount Itasca ski jump – $5,000

Itasca Water Legacy Partnership
Project support for research, education and consultation associated with protecting water quality and restoring shorelands over three years – $150,000

Judy Garland Childrenís Museum
Donation in support of the 2018 Wizard of Oz Festival – $1,000

Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota
Operating support over two years to continue to provide legal assistance to low-income individuals and the Native American Outreach project – $385,000

Letís Go Fishing of MN
Donation in support of the 2018 Let’s Go Fishing with Seniors program – $1,000

Little Sand Group Homes
Capital support for construction of a community center in Remer – $50,000

MacRostie Art Center
Capital support to repair structural roof damage to the arts facility – $10,000

MN Assistance Council for Veterans
Project support for programming and services to veterans – $10,000

NAMI Grand Rapids Area
Donation in support of presenting three workshops in Grand Rapids entitled “It’s Complicated: Children, Social Media and Mental Health” – $1,000

North Central MN Farm & Antique Assoc
Donation support for local history and culture events – $1,000

Northern Community Radio KAXE
Capital support for construction of a new transmission tower – $250,000

Northern Lights Community School
Donation in support of Spring Awards Night and presentation of Blandin Education Grants – $200

Northland Counseling Center Inc
Donation in support of activities and programming at Kiesler Wellness Center – $1,000

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
Project support for the One Crisis Away public awareness campaign about poverty – $5,000

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
Project support for the Kids Backpack program – $5,000
Blandin Foundation 2018 Itasca Area Grants

Vibrant Itasca Communities continued

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
Capital support for renovation of food shelf operations – $25,000

U of M North Central Research & Outreach Center
Donation in support of educating area high school students about applying strong math and science skills to the field of Natural Resources – $750

University of Minnesota Foundation
Project support to continue elements of youth mentoring programs and conduct an evaluation to determine the future direction of existing programs – $50,000

Winnie Dam Local Indian Council
Donation in support of teaching youth regalia making by community members for the 2019 pow wow season – $1,000

Blandin Foundation
Education Grants
344 local students from 11 area schools were awarded grants of up to $4,500 – $1,053,200

Area of Focus: Expanded Opportunity
All residents experience greater opportunity possible through the blend of economic vitality, intentional inclusion and education success.

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency
Operations support for continuation of the Adult Scholarship Program through June 2020 – $302,132

City of Grand Rapids
Capital support for accessibility and ADA compliant features to be constructed on the pedestrian bridge crossing the Mississippi River – $50,000

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Project support to determine the feasibility of back office collaboration among nonprofits – $40,000

Itasca Area Schools Collaborative
Operating support for continuation of the Invest Early program – $1,925,000

Itasca Community College
Project support for financial aid programs during the 2018-19 academic year – $395,000

Itasca Economic Development Corp
Project support for meeting facilitation of the Itasca Area Response Team – $21,250

KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc
Operating support for Circles of Support, Teenage Parent Program, Crisis Nursery, Community Engagement and Transitional Housing programs over two years – $530,350

Area of Focus: Rural Community Leadership
Rural leaders feel supported and inspired to improve the health and resiliency of their communities.

Independent School District 118
Project support to offer Anishinaabe Worldview Training for educators, administrators and support staff/paraprofessionals of the Northland Remer and Deer River school districts – $14,500

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
Central Food Bank
Capital support for renovation of food shelf operations – $25,000

U of M North Central Research & Outreach Center
Donation in support of educating area high school students about applying strong math and science skills to the field of Natural Resources – $750

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