December 2018 grant awards

Local Grants

**Area of focus: Vibrant Itasca Area**

**Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency**
Project support for the 2018 Community Connect event in Itasca County   $5,000

**Bearville Township**
Donation in support of a community event around fire prevention and awareness in the Itasca County area   $300

**Bigfork Valley Foundation**
Donation in support of Bigfork community projects in Itasca County   $250

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

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

**First Call for Help of Itasca County**
Capital support to upgrade the telephone system and to expand crisis line services in Itasca County   $9,500

**Goodland Township**
Capital support for an addition to the fire hall in Itasca County   $10,000

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

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

**Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation**
Operating support for 2019-21 in Itasca County   $270,000

**Grand Rapids Players**
Donation in support of putting on the production of Mamma Mia! in Itasca County   $1,000
Greenway 316 Foundation Inc
Donation in support of Financial Aid Night for Greenway High School students and parents in Itasca County  $150

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

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

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

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

Itasca Community Television, Inc.
Operating support over two years in Itasca County  $160,000

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

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

Itasca County Family YMCA Inc
Operating support over two years for the child care, youth and senior programs in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area  $209,500

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

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe dba Winnie Dam Local Indian Council
Donation in support of teaching youth regalia making by community members for the 2019 pow wow season in Itasca County  $1,000

Legal Aid Service of Northeastern MN
Operating support over two years for general operating support for work in Itasca County and on the Leech Lake Reservation in rural Minnesota  $385,000

Little Sand Group Homes
Capital support for construction of a community center in Remer in the Itasca County area  $50,000

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
Capital support for renovation of food shelf operations in Itasca County  
**$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 in Itasca County  
**$750**

**Area of focus: Expand Opportunity**

**Cohaus**  
Capital support for charitable activity associated with establishing a new community coworking space that welcomes and engages existing, new and diverse entrepreneurs Itasca County  
**$50,000**

**Rural Minnesota**  
**Area of focus: Expanding Opportunity**

**Aitkin County Growth, Inc**  
Capital support for workforce education in rural Minnesota  
**$10,000**

**Cannon Falls Economic Development Authority**  
Project support for broadband community projects as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  
**$75,000**

**Community Integration Center**  
Operating support to serve the immigrant population in the Willmar area in rural Minnesota  
**$36,320**

**Dovetail Partners**  
Donation in support of engaging communities around the connection between the forest sector economy and clean water in rural Minnesota  
**$1,000**

**East Range Joint Powers Board**  
Project support for planning and project development as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  
**$1,000**

**Greater Minnesota Housing Fund**  
Operating support over two years for its work in rural Minnesota  
**$400,000**

**Greater Minnesota Housing Fund**  
Project support to capitalize a new fund to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing in rural Minnesota  
**$250,000**

**Independent School District 94**  
Donation in support of Disability Mentoring Day at Fond du Lac Tribal College in rural Minnesota  
**$1,000**

**Koochiching Econ Dev Authority**  
Project support for the Koochiching Tech Initiative broadband community projects as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  
**$63,500**
Latino Economic Development Center
Operating support for organizational stabilization in 2018 in rural Minnesota  $30,000

Leech Lake Financial Services, Inc
Project support for operations of an auto loan and education program for Native American families in rural Minnesota.  $25,000

Leech Lake Financial Services, Inc
Project support to capitalize an auto loan and education program for Native American families in rural Minnesota.  $100,000

North House Folk School
Capital support to expand the school's physical infrastructure in rural Minnesota  $50,000

Northwest Indian Community Development Center
Project support to expand the Miigwech Aki job skills training program in rural Minnesota.  $150,000

Rock County
Project support for the broadband community projects as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  $75,000

Stearns County
Project support of the Feasibility Study for Western Stearns County as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  $25,000

Swift County RDA
Project support for community broadband projects as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  $75,000

Tower Economic Development Authority
Project support for planning and project development as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  $1,000

Town of Fayal
Project support for planning and project development as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  $1,000

Winthrop EDA
Project support of the Minnesota Rural Broadband Coalition as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota  $20,000

Area of focus: Community Leadership

4-Directions Development Inc
Project support for the Red Lake community mural project as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program in rural Minnesota  $5,000
**Afro American Development Association**  
Project support for the Clay County Civic Participation Project as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant program in rural Minnesota  **$5,000**

**Circle of Life Academy**  
Project support for the We Have A Strong Voice Project as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant Program in rural Minnesota  **$5,000**

**Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation**  
Project support over two years for continued operations of the Rural Access Leadership Fund for people to participate in community-based leadership programs throughout rural Minnesota  **$100,000**

**Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Austin MN**  
Project support to increase the number of child care providers in the Austin area as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program in rural Minnesota  **$5,000**

**Lower Sioux Indian Community**  
Capital support for a community center and cultural incubator in rural Minnesota  **$250,000**

**Luverne Area Community Foundation**  
Project support for the Rock County Oral Health Task Force as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program in rural Minnesota  **$1,000**

**Ortonville Economic Development Authority**  
Project support for a community book club and radio show project as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant program in rural Minnesota  **$2,500**

**Springboard for the Arts**  
Project support to provide rural and reservation writers and illustrators opportunities to develop Native children's books about Minnesota tribes as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant program in rural Minnesota  **$4,975**

**United Way of Goodhue, Wabasha and Pierce Counties**  
Project support for marketing and recruitment efforts in Red Wing as part of the Blandin Leadership Program in rural Minnesota  **$1,000**

**Total**  
57 grants  **$2,954,095**