



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

September 2019 grant awards

Local Grants

Area of focus: Vibrant Itasca Area

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency

Project support for Community Connect 2019 **\$5,000**

Bigfork Valley Foundation

Donation in support of Bigfork community projects **\$250**

Bovey Farmers Day Association

Donation in support of the 2019 Bovey Farmers' Day celebration **\$1,000**

City of Grand Rapids

Donation in support of the 2019 National Night Out hosted by the Grand Rapids Police Department **\$250**

City of Grand Rapids

Capital support for upgrades to Mississippi River park **\$142,000**

City of Nashwauk

Project support over three years to establish a School Resources Officer position to support the Nashwauk-Keewatin High School **\$45,000**

Grace House of Itasca County

Project support for strategic planning in Itasca County **\$2,500**

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation

Capital support to install a turf playing surface on Noble Hall Field at Grand Rapids High School **\$130,000**

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation

Project support for the Free Range Co-op's community outreach project **\$10,000**

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation

Project support for the Community Action Team to update the video "Colored Lines – A Story of Race in Itasca County" with more stories told by Itasca County residents of color **\$9,950**

Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority

Program-related investment over ten years to continue the Commercial Building Improvement Loan program **\$500,000**

Greenway Joint Recreation Association

Capital support to make ADA accessibility improvements to the Hodgins-Berardo Arena **\$10,000**

Independent School District 319, Nashwauk-Keewatin

Project support for after-school programming at Nashwauk-Keewatin elementary school **\$10,000**

Independent School District 317, Deer River

Project support of a two-year initiative to improve student and family outcomes by developing a school-wide Social and Emotional Learning framework **\$30,000**

Itasca Area Schools Collaborative

Project support to implement a Career Pathways Initiative across IASC districts **\$500,000**

Itasca Hospice Foundation

Donation in support of the 2019 educational seminar for healthcare providers and volunteers **\$500**

Jacobson Community Volunteer Fire Department

Capital support to purchase a water storage tank for firefighting **\$5,000**

Propel Nonprofits

Project support over three years to continue nonprofit capacity building **\$385,000**

Regents of The University of Minnesota

Project support for a Ripple Effects Mapping training **\$4,000**

Area of Focus: Expand Opportunity

4-Directions Development Inc

Project support for small business development on the Red Lake Reservation **\$215,000**

Comunidades Latina Unidas en Servicio

Operations support for financial empowerment services in Willmar and Austin **\$300,000**

Rural Minnesota

Area of Focus: Expand Opportunity

Chisago County Housing and Redevelopment Authority-Economic Development Authority

Project support to conduct a feasibility study to better understand options for improving broadband infrastructure and services within the townships of Sunrise and Lent in Chisago County as part of the Broadband Program **\$5,750**

City of North Branch

Project support to conduct a broadband survey of all households within the City of North Branch as part of the Broadband Program **\$7,500**

Grand Marais Arts

Expansion of physical spaces for community engagement and economic development purposes **\$50,000**

Headwaters Regional Development Commission

Project support for youth entrepreneurship development as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$5,000**

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Inc

Donation in support of sponsorship of the Overcoming Racism conference **\$1,000**

Productive Alternatives Inc

Project support of transitional workforce housing **\$10,000**

Area of Focus: Community Leadership

Alexandria Technical College

Project support for Voices: A Roundtable Talk Series on Inclusion as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$5,000**

Hornets Hive

Project support to develop a youth-led bistro to promote job training and life skills management as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$5,000**

Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability

Project support to produce outdoor activities to build community as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$3,000**

Lac Qui Parle County Historical Society

Project support to host a two-day poetry festival featuring Roger Bly's legacy as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$2,000**

Luverne Area Community Foundation

Project support for a one-day retreat to evaluate efforts to move people out of poverty as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$3,000**

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Project support to produce a workbook of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$5,000**

Native Governance Center

Donation in support of follow-up planning as a result of US Census 2020 Tribal Partnership training **\$350**

Redwood Area Communities Foundation

Project support for a capital campaign feasibility study as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$5,000**

White Earth Tribal and Community College

Project support to hire a grant writer to work with community leaders as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$3,400**

Total

36 grants \$2,416,450