June 2017 grant awards

Local Grants

Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation
Project support over three years for continuation of the Itasca County Trails Task Force in Itasca County. $150,000

Itasca Area Schools Collaborative
Operating support for continuation of the Invest Early program in Itasca County. $1,975,000

Northland Area Family Service Center
Operating support over two years for the Northland Early Childhood Coalition in the Itasca County area. $180,000

Area of focus: Vibrant Itasca County

Bigfork Valley Foundation
Capital support to preserve a nonprofit dental clinic in Itasca County. $50,000

Bigfork Wilderness
Donation in support of Bigfork Wilderness Days celebration in Itasca County. $500

Boys and Girls Club of the Leech Lake Area
Operating support for the Deer River unit through 2018 in Itasca County. $135,000

City of Bigfork
Capital support for an outdoor skating rink/warming house in Itasca County. $2,500

City of Deer River
Capital support to purchase a generator to support emergency services in Itasca County. $7,500
Civil Air Patrol
Donation in support of the activities of the Civil Air Patrol, Grand Rapids Squadron, in Itasca County.  $500

Cooperative Solutions
Project support for transition and relocation of services in Itasca County.  $3,660

Deer River Area Health Care Foundation
Donation in support of the planning stage of a Community Wellness Center for the Deer River area in Itasca County.  $1,000

Edge of the Wilderness Community Center
Project support for 2017 performances and events in Itasca County.  $9,000

Grand Rapids Summer Celebration
Donation in support of the 2017 Tall Timber Days festival in Itasca County.  $1,000

Independent School District 316
Donation in support of the Greenway 2017 Post Prom event in Itasca County.  $500

Independent School District 318
Donation in support of Bigfork Elementary School’s Community Work Day in Itasca County.  $500

Independent School District 318
Operating support over two years for continued assistance of Baby Steps Boutique in the Itasca County area.  $165,000

Independent School District 318
Donation in support of Grand Rapids High School 2017 Post Prom event in Itasca County.  $750

Independent School District 319
Capital support to purchase computers for the Nashwauk Public/School Library in the Itasca County.  $2,000

Independent School District 319
Donation in support of Nashwauk-Keewatin High School’s 2017 post prom event in Itasca County.  $500

ISD 317 Deer River
Project support to conduct a Full Service Community Schools needs assessment in the Itasca County area.  $40,000
Itasca Community College Foundation
Project support for planning funds to construct a Student Union on the Itasca Community College campus in the Itasca County area. $25,000

Judy Garland Children’s Museum
Donation in support of the 2017 Judy Garland Festival in Itasca County. $1,000

Northome Community Food Shelf
Operating support and fresh food product for the Northome Community Food Shelf in Itasca County. $10,000

Reif Arts Council
Operating and programming support over two years for the Reif Center in the Itasca County area. $340,000

Rural Minnesota

Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

African Development Center
Program-related investment for a small business loan program to assist African immigrant entrepreneurs in rural Minnesota. $200,000

Boys and Girls Club of the Leech Lake Area
Operations support to provide bridge funding in rural Minnesota. $49,000

Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School
Donation in support of youth activities at Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig school in rural Minnesota. $500

Dakota Wicohan
Project support for a master-apprentice art program as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program in rural Minnesota. $2,500

Enterprise Minnesota
Project support for the 2017 State of Manufacturing Survey in rural Minnesota. $5,000

Family Safety Network of Cass County Inc.
Donation for a symposium called “One Load at a Time” focusing on raising awareness and combating sex trafficking and sexual violence on the Leech Lake Reservation in rural Minnesota. $500
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota  
Operating support to provide legal services and education for immigrants in rural Minnesota.  $150,000

Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul  
Donation for sponsorship of the Minnesota Council on Foundation’s briefing on poverty in rural Minnesota.  $1,000

Longville Area Community Choir  
Donation for the Music in the Park series for the Longville, Remer and surrounding communities in the Itasca County area.  $500

Meeker County  
Project support for the Meeker County Broadband and Advance Technology Feasibility Study as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota.  $25,000

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Inc.  
Project support for 2017 membership assistance in rural Minnesota.  $1,600

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Inc.  
Project support for sponsorship of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits’ 2017 annual conference in rural Minnesota.  $5,000

Minnesota Education Equity Partnership  
Project support over three years for equity policy development and implementation in Nobles County and the Mille Lacs area in rural Minnesota.  $180,000

Region 5 Regional Development Commission  
Donation for the placemaking workshop in rural Minnesota.  $800

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation  
Project support over three years for the Rural Entrepreneurial Venture Program in rural Minnesota.  $150,000

Southwest Regional Development Commission  
Project support for the Coalition for Better Broadband as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota.  $123,800

White Earth Tribal Council  
Project support for the White Earth Broadband Initiative as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota.  $25,000
**Area of focus: Invest in Leadership**

**Aitkin County Growth, Inc.**
Project support for a mapping and planning project to grow and strengthen the business and manufacturing base in the Aitkin County area as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant Program in rural Minnesota.  
**$5,000**

**Chisholm Kids Plus**
Project support for the community improvement work as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant program in rural Minnesota.  
**$5,000**

**Goodness, Inc.**
Project support for the Taste of Willmar event as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant Program in rural Minnesota.  
**$2,875**

**MinnPost**
Project support for the production of 12 stories on immigrant communities in rural Minnesota.  
**$25,000**

**PFund Foundation**
Project support to implement the Better OUTcomes initiative in rural Minnesota.  
**$180,000**

**Redwood Area Communities Foundation**
Project support for LINC Redwood County to host discussions about available County services as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant program in rural Minnesota.  
**$5,000**

**Region 5 Regional Development Commission**
Project support to implement curriculum designed for the Minnesota Network of Community Developers in rural Minnesota.  
**$75,000**

**West Central Minnesota Educational Television Company**
Project support for civic engagement efforts as part of the Blandin Leadership Grant program in rural Minnesota.  
**$5,000**

**Total**
49 grants  
**$4,323,985**