March 2020 Grant Awards

Local Grants

Area of focus: Vibrant Itasca Area

**Bigfork Improvement Group**
Donation in support of Edge Center upgrades as part of the Blandin Community Leadership program. $1,000

**Bigfork Valley Foundation**
Capital support for community enhancement and wellness projects. $250,000

**Boys Club of Duluth Inc**
Project support for New Year's Eve Community Celebration in Coleraine. $5,750

**Buck Lake Improvement Club**
Donation in support of building upgrades. $1,000

**Children’s Mental Health Services/REACH**
Donation in support of Children's Mental Health Services 8th Annual Stomp on Stigma 5K. $500

**City of Grand Rapids**
Donation in support of the 2020 annual Independence Day fireworks on Pokegama Lake. $1,000

**City of Nashwauk**
Project support for Anishinaabe Worldview Training. $9,175

**City of Warba**
Donation in support of the Warba Fire Department's Summer Celebration event. $300

**Edge of the Wilderness Discovery Center**
Project support for capital and organizational capacity building. $10,000

**First Call for Help of Itasca County**
Donation in support of First Call For Help. $500

**Grace House of Itasca County**
Project support for the Governor’s Minnesota Homeless Winter Initiative. $10,000

**Grand Rapids & Itasca Mountain Bicycling Association**
Project support for the Tioga Recreational Public Art Sculpture project. $2,500
Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation  
Project support to provide fellowship and social opportunity for persons with disabilities.  $10,000

Grand Rapids Band Boosters  
Donation in support of advertising the 2020-21 Blandin Education Grants program in the Grand Rapids High School band calendar.  $550

Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission  
Project support for completing research that identifies ways of reducing effluents and solids to waste treatment from UPM Blandin.  $15,000

Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission  
Project support for reduction of river contamination and public nuisance odors.  $10,000

Grand Rapids Summer Celebration Inc  
Donation in support of the 2020 Tall Timber Days festival.  $1,000

Independent School District 319  
Project support for Anishinaabe Worldview Training for educators, administrators, and other community leaders in Nashwauk and Keewatin.  $16,175

Independent School District 319  
Donation in support of the Nashwauk-Keewatin All Night Grad Party.  $400

ISD 317 Deer River  
Donation in support of Deer River High School’s 2020 post prom event.  $500

Itasca Community College  
Program support for financial aid programs for the 2020-21 academic year.  $407,500

Itasca Community College  
Donation in support of Northern TRIO Day through Upward Bound program.  $500

Itasca Community College  
Project support for the Itasca Community College 2020 Career Fair.  $10,000

Itasca County  
Project support for a complete census count committee.  $40,000

Itasca County Soil & Water Conservation  
Donation in support of program expansion and relocation.  $1,000

Itasca Hospice Foundation  
Donation in support of operations and training.  $1,000

Itasca Ski & Outing Club  
Capital support for new safety equipment for Mount Itasca Ski Patrol.  $2,500
KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc
Operating support for poverty reduction programs.  $529,920

Let's Go Fishing of MN
Donation in support of the 2020 Let's Go Fishing with Seniors program.  $1,000

Northland Area Family Service Center
Project support for strategic planning for the Northland Early Childhood Collaborative.  $7,500

Northland Counseling Center Inc
Program support for Northern Opportunity Works program.  $87,240

Reif Arts Council
Project support for The Reminders Shaun Boothe performances.  $2,500

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank
Project support for Kids-Packs-to-Go Backpack program.  $5,000

University of Minnesota Foundation
Project support for youth engagement, programming and program quality assessments.  $250,000

Rural Minnesota

Area of Focus: Effective Stewards

Minnesota Council On Foundations
Ongoing membership support for 2020.  $17,800

Area of Focus: Expand Opportunity

Area Partnership for Economic Expansion
Project support for research and outreach to attract new businesses.  $10,000

Cherry Township
Project support to expand existing broadband coverage in Cherry Township as part of the Broadband Program.  $4,990

City of Rice Lake
Project support for an engineering study in City of Rice Lake.  $3,000

Greater Bemidji Inc
Project support for coordination of Envision 2030.  $10,000
Institute For Local Self-Reliance
Project support to create a new report “All Hands-On Deck 2020: More Minnesota Models for Expanding Internet Access” as part of the Broadband Program. **$22,500**

Kairos Alive!
Project support for Creative Community Cohorts as part of the Broadband Program. **$25,000**

**Koochiching Economic Development Authority**
Project support for the Koochiching Tech Initiative broadband community projects as part of the Broadband Program. **$11,500**

**Latino Economic Development Center**
Operating support to stabilize the organization and strengthen its capacity to serve Latinx entrepreneurs and farmers. **$50,000**

**Le Sueur County**
Project support for economic development mapping combined with additional community outreach education as part of the Broadband Program. **$20,000**

**Minnesota Council On Foundations**
Project support for the 2020 annual conference. **$5,000**

**Nicollet County**
Project support for a feasibility study as part of the Broadband Program. **$25,000**

**Northland Foundation**
Project support to host the 2020 Northeastern Minnesota Early Childhood Summit. **$5,000**

**PCs for People**
Project support for computer distribution as part of the Broadband Program. **$29,090**

**The Advocates for Human Rights**
Project support for research, planning and community engagement activities. **$50,000**

**Area of Focus: Community Leadership**

**CommunityGiving**
Project support to plan, develop and build infrastructure to build the capacity of community foundations in rural Minnesota. **$50,000**

**Department of Public Transformation**
Project support for the Say YES! Creative Community Gathering project. **$50,000**

**Destination Lake City Inc.**
Project support for a community project in Lake City as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program. **$5,000**
Fond du Lac Tribal Community College
Project support for the second annual Ojibwe Language Symposium as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program.  $5,000

Friends of the Band Shell Park
Capital support for a new performing arts and community center in Two Harbors as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program.  $50,000

Land Stewardship Project
Project support to develop leadership capacity of rural farmers for equitable growth in their communities.  $50,000

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
Capital support for the expansion of childcare facilities and development of early learning workforce.  $300,000

Minnesota Discovery Center
Donation in support for the 9th Annual Iron Range Science and Engineering Festival.  $1,000

Minnesota Public Radio
Program support for the Minnesota Diverse Communities project.  $20,000

Northland Foundation
Donation in support of the 2020 Childcare Training and Appreciation Seminar.  $1,000

Regents of The University of Minnesota
Project support for the 2020 One Minnesota Legislative Conference in support of issues important to rural Minnesota.  $5,000

West Central Minnesota Educational Television Company
Project support to develop a platform for Native people in southwest Minnesota to tell stories about their communities.  $10,000

Total
61 grants  $2,526,890