



Grant Awards - September and December 2014

Local Grants

Area of focus: Vibrant Itasca County

Ball Club Local Indian Council

Donation in support of Ball Club's 52nd annual Mii-Gwitch Mahnomen Days pow wow in Itasca County **\$1,000**

Bigfork Valley Foundation

Project support for the engineering and planning of the Bigfork RiverWalk project in Itasca County **\$2,000**

Bovey/Coleraine Youth Center Inc

Project support for the 2014 New Year's Eve community celebration in Itasca County **\$5,750**

City of Warba

Project support for the Warba Feeley Sago Fire Department's safety education event in Itasca County **\$200**

Deer River Area Health Care Foundation

Donation in support of increasing patient access to cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation in Itasca County **\$250**

Edge of the Wilderness Community Center

Project support to host the Ragamala Dance Company in October 2014 for one public performance and two school activities in Itasca County **\$3,000**

ElderCircle

Project support for the 2014 annual community Thanksgiving dinner in Itasca County **\$2,200**

First Call for Help of Itasca County

Project support for the 2014 Community Connect event in Itasca County **\$5,000**

First Call for Help of Itasca County

Donation towards bullying prevention and suicide awareness training in Itasca County **\$500**

Grand Itasca Foundation

Donation in support of the High School Scholarship Fund in Itasca County **\$250**

Grand Rapids Band Boosters	
Donation to advertise the 2015-16 Blandin Education Grants program in the Grand Rapids High School band calendar in Itasca County	\$550
Grand Rapids Show Boat Inc	
Donation in support of repairs to the stage and bleachers in Itasca County	\$1,000
Greater Pokegama Lake Association	
Donation towards the Annual Independence Day fireworks on Pokegama Lake for the Grand Rapids area in Itasca County	\$1,000
Greenway Joint Recreation Association	
Donation in support of the second annual Fishing Tournament for the Greenway Sports Complex in Itasca County	\$500
Independent School District 318	
Donation in support of Grand Rapids High School's safe driving campaign "Celebrate My Drive" in Itasca County	\$500
Independent School District 318	
Donation for advertising the 2015-16 Blandin Education Grants Program in the Grand Rapids High School yearbook in Itasca County	\$325
Inger Local Council	
Donation for Inger's 2014 Cha Cha Bah Ning Pow Wow in Itasca County	\$1,000
Itasca Area Schools Collaborative	
Donation towards providing Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) training to all school district staff in suicide awareness in Itasca County	\$927.35
Itasca Choral Society	
Donation for the fall and spring concert programs in Itasca County	\$200
Itasca Community Television, Inc.	
Operating support over two years in Itasca County	\$160,000
Itasca County Family YMCA Inc	
Operating support over two years for the child care, youth and senior programs in Itasca County	\$170,000
Legal Aid Service of Northeastern MN	
Operating support to continue to provide legal assistance to low-income individuals and the Native American Outreach project in the Itasca County area	\$270,000
Legal Aid Service of Northeastern MN	
Project support for a new Domestic Violence Court in Itasca County area	\$79,124

Pengilly Booster Club	
Donation towards upgrades to the Pengilly Community Center in Itasca County	\$1,000
Reif Arts Council	
Project support for a visual humorist and musician for the New Year's Day 2015 performance at a reduced price for the Itasca County area	\$6,500
Youth for Christ	
Operating support in 2015 for the Ground Floor Youth Center in Itasca County	\$85,000

Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

City of Grand Rapids	
Project support for facilitation services for government entities on potential collaboration efforts in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area	\$2,500
GiveMN	
Project support for training and technical assistance for nonprofits and schools in the Itasca County area to successfully transition to the new giving platform and to prepare for Give to the Max Day 2014	\$10,000
Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation	
Project support for the Grand Gathering and conversation event at Grand Rapids High School in Itasca County	\$5,000
Grand Rapids Economic Dev. Authority	
Project support for a comprehensive building assessment of Central School so as to preserve and improve it as an economic and cultural community asset in Itasca County	\$18,000
Greater MN Housing Fund	
Project support for supportive services to residents of the Beacon Hill housing development in Itasca County	\$300,000
Itasca Community College	
Project support for activities associated with the shared text project, Rez Life, for students, staff and community members in Itasca County	\$6,250
Itasca Community College	
Project support for the 2015 Career Fair in Itasca County	\$10,000
Itasca Community College	
Project support for continuation of financial aid programs for Itasca County high school graduates for the 2015-16 academic year	\$375,000

Itasca Community College

Project support for developing programming to improve the success rate for students of African descent and improve cross-cultural competency within both the college and the surrounding community in Itasca County

\$50,000

Itasca Community College

Project support for FIRST Robotics teams from Grand Rapids, Deer River and Northome high schools in Itasca County

\$15,000

Nashwauk Township

Capital support for citizen-led efforts to establish a new community center for Nashwauk Township in Itasca County

\$50,000

Trout Lake Township

Donation towards technology equipment to expand computer literacy in the Trout Lake community in Itasca County

\$1,000

Rural Minnesota

Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

Advocates For Family Peace

Project support to explore whether a merger or alignment with Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP) would be a positive strategic opportunity to families experiencing domestic violence in Itasca, St. Louis and neighboring counties in rural Minnesota

\$17,000

Anishinabe Legal Services

Operating support to provide free legal representation to indigent parents in child protection matters before the Leech Lake Tribal Court in rural Minnesota

\$50,000

Citizens League

Project support for the Taking on 2025 initiative to make Minnesotans aware of the enormous demographic changes taking place in the next 11 years in rural Minnesota

\$30,000

City of Grand Marais

Project support to finalize bidding, secure customer agreements, and finalize financing options for constructing and operating a biomass district heating system for the rural community of Grand Marais

\$50,000

College of St. Scholastica

Project support to develop an Ojibwe curriculum for Niigaane immersion school teachers at Bug-O-Nay-Ge-Shig School in rural Minnesota

\$10,000

Dovetail Partners

Project support for collaborative work to address the northern Minnesota forest dependent community's concerns and opportunities related to the

proposed addition of the northern long-eared bat to the federal list of endangered species in rural Minnesota	\$35,000
First Children's Finance	
Project support over two years for the expansion and reach of the Greater than Minnesota Project in rural Minnesota	\$100,000
Greater Bemidji	
Capital support to develop an R&D incubator/accelerator for emerging high-tech manufacturing companies with a focus on entrepreneurship development in the Bemidji area	\$225,000
Greater MN Housing Fund	
Operating support over two years to promote the creation of affordable housing in rural Minnesota	\$900,000
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	
Project support for the Leech Lake Tribal Administrative Internship Program	\$3,880
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	
Project support for cultural exchange activities in rural Minnesota	\$10,000
Minnesota D.A.R.E., Inc.	
Donation in support of D.A.R.E programs in rural Minnesota	\$1,000
MN Council of Nonprofits Inc	
Project support for the 2014 annual nonprofit conference in rural Minnesota	\$5,000
MN Council On Foundations	
Project support for the summer 2014 issue of <i>Giving Forum</i> focusing on diversity, equity and inclusion throughout rural Minnesota	\$3,000
MN Dept of Natural Resources	
Project support to publish, print and distribute a forest management guide book for loggers, managers and foresters in rural Minnesota	\$3,000
MN Diversified Industries	
Project support to build capacity in marketing, communications, and fund development to strengthen MDI's ability to pursue business opportunities and to provide meaningful employment opportunities for people with disabilities in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
MN Minority Education Partnership, Inc.	
Project support for developing a Brainerd race equity plan and implementing the Mille Lacs Region race equity plan	\$50,000
Navigate	
Donation for sponsorship of the Latino Heritage Celebration event in rural Minnesota	\$250

Northern Minnesota Public Television	
Project support for new programming, research, development and implementation as part of the Program Future Fund in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
PFund Foundation	
Project support for PFund's expanded work in Minnesota (QReach) to map LGBT organizational infrastructure, networks, and approaches to social change work in rural Minnesota	\$30,000
Second Harvest North Central Food Bank	
Project support for the Cass Lake Area Food Shelf to cover food costs for three months during the summer of 2014 in rural Minnesota	\$6,000
Second Harvest North Central Food Bank	
Project support for the Kids Packs To Go Backpack program and Cass Lake Food Shelf in rural Minnesota	\$3,000
United Way of Freeborn County, Inc	
Donation in support of the Freeborn County Leaders Partnering to End Poverty steering committee in rural Minnesota	\$1,000
Walker Area Community Foundation	
Donation in support of public art depicting the cultural heritage of the Leech Lake area in rural Minnesota	\$1,000
Area of focus: Invest in Leadership	
City of Ely	
Project support to create a downtown plan with the help of the Minnesota Design team as part of the Rural Quick Start program	\$5,000
City of Waubun	
Project support for a forum to address local community issues as part of the Rural Quick Start program	\$2,500
Cook County Community Radio	
Project support for strategic planning assistance as part of the Rural Quick Start program	\$3,500
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	\$80,000

Independent School District 544 Fergus Falls

Project support for curriculum development of "Skills for Tomorrow Today" as part of the Rural Quick Start program

\$5,000

LEAP, Inc.

Project support to obtain nonprofit status for the Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty group and convene focus groups as part of the Rural Quick Start program in rural Minnesota

\$1,500

LEAP, Inc.

Project support to implement the Bridges of Hope Mentoring Program in Staples-Motley as part of the Rural Quick Start program

\$5,000

Northfield Area Foundation

Project support to develop an environmental scan for the greater Northfield community as part of the Rural Quick Start Program

\$5,000

St Joseph's Area Health Services Inc

Project support for the Park Rapids Food Angels Backpack Program as part of the Rural Quick Start program

\$4,800

Broadband

Local grants

Itasca County

Project support to gather data on areas in Itasca County that are underserved and unserved by broadband in addition to identifying strategies for development of a robust network throughout Itasca County as part of the Broadband Program

\$6,000

Rural Minnesota grants

City of Monticello

Project support to research and review the benefits and potential structures of creating an organizational entity to support collaboration between municipalities, co-ops and other publicly oriented broadband providers as part of the Broadband Program

\$10,000

City of Starbuck

Donation towards conducting a series of four e-marketing workshops for area businesses as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$900

Employment Enterprises, Inc	
Project support to provide clients with disabilities and mental illness access to online job training skills as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota	\$4,790
Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	
Project support to upgrade the currently deployed unmanaged and limited wireless network at the FDL Ojibwe School to a modern, centrally managed network with greater capacity as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota	\$10,000
KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc	
Operating support for the Circles of Support PCs for People affiliate operation as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota	\$12,500
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	
Project support to begin deployment of a wireless network across the reservation to provide quality broadband to tribal members at affordable prices as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
The Brainerd Baxter Youth Center	
Project support to establish a PCs for People affiliate office at TheShop youth center where youth will be trained to refurbish and redistribute the computers as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota	\$25,000
Regents of The University of Minnesota	
Donation for sponsorship of the Telecommunications and Information Society Policy Forum to hold a Broadband Roundtable discussion on June 17, 2014	\$500
Winona Senior Friendship Center Activity Council, Inc	
Project support to provide videoconferencing technology to older adults no longer able to travel to the Friendship Center, while engaging young adult volunteers as trainers as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota	\$10,000
September subtotal	
39 grants	\$773,120
December subtotal	
42 grants	\$2,743,526.35
Total	
81 grants	\$3,516,646.35