March 2017 grant awards

Local Grants
Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

Boys & Girls Club of Duluth
Operating support for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greenway and Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $308,000

City of Cohasset
Project support for completing a feasibility study to bring competitive rail access to Itasca County. $50,000

Independent School District 2
Project support over two years for continued early childhood programming for Hill City in the Itasca area. $170,000

Itasca Community College
Project support for continuation of financial aid programs during the 2017-18 academic year in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $375,000

Minnesota Diversified Industries
Capital support for equipment to expand production capacity and grow employment opportunities for people with disabilities in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $100,000

Northland Counseling Center, Inc.
Capital support to develop a 16-bed residential and crisis treatment home for children ages 4-12 in rural Minnesota. $74,936

Area of focus: Vibrant Itasca County

Advocates For Family Peace
Project support for emergency assistance to support victims of domestic violence in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $10,000

ANGELS – LAH/BNP
Donation for expansion of services to Hill City in rural Minnesota. $1,000

Boys and Girls Club of the Leech Lake Area
Project support for emergency assistance to meet basic needs for youth at the Deer River unit of the Boys and Girls Club in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $10,000

Deer River White Oak Society, Inc.
Donation for the 2017 White Oak Annual Winter Festival in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $500

First Call for Help of Itasca County
Project support for emergency assistance due to the high volume of calls processed through First Call for Help of Itasca County. $10,000

Grace House of Itasca County
Project support to prevent homelessness for emergencies and guests in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $10,000

Grand Rapids Area Male Chorus
Donation for the 2017 spring and summer concert series in Itasca County. $1,000

Greenway Joint Recreation Association
Donation in support of the fourth annual fishing tournament for the Greenway Sports Complex in Itasca County. $500

Independent School District 318
Donation for advertising the 2017-18 Blandin Education Grants Program in the Grand Rapids High School yearbook in Itasca County. $325

Independent School District 318
Capital support to purchase and install an electronic sign that allows for sharing of information and events in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $46,600

Independent School District 318
Donation for the Murphy Elementary School Garden Project in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $500

Independent School District 319
Donation for the Nashwauk-Keewatin School District’s music program in Itasca County. $1,000

Independent School District 319
Donation for the Nashwauk-Keewatin All Night Grad Party in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $400

Itasca Community College
Project support for students facing emergency situations at Itsca Community College in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $10,000

Itasca Community College
Project support for the 2017 Career Fair in Itasca County. $10,000

Itasca County
Donation for child safety materials in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $300

Itasca County Agricultural Association
Donation for the Itasca County Fair’s 125th Anniversary Celebration historical display in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $1,000
Itasca Ski & Outing Club
Donation for emergency medical equipment for the Mt. Itasca Skil Patrol in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $1,000

Let’s Go Fishing Itasca Chapter
Donation for the 2017 Let’s Go Fishing with Seniors program in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $1,000

MN Assistance Council for Veterans
Project support for direct assistance to veterans who are either homeless or at risk of becoming homes in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $10,000

Salvation Army – Grand Rapids
Donation in support of staff match for the Salvation Army in the Grand Rapids/Itasca County area. $500

Rural Minnesota
Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

Boreal Community Media
Project support for Kids’ Online Civic News Service as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota. $25,000

Ironworld Development Corporation
Donation for the 2017 Iron Range Science and Engineering Festival in rural Minnesota. $1,000

Isanti County
Project support to conduct a feasibility study to better understand options for improving broadband infrastructure and services within the county as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota. $25,000

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Inc.
Donation for the May 2017 Nonprofit Summit in rural Minnesota. $1,000

Northland Foundation
Project support for the 2017 Northeastern Minnesota Early Childhood Summit in rural Minnesota. $20,000

Northwest Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center
Project support for the Green Jobs Initiative in rural Minnesota. $40,000

Otter Tail County
Project support to conduct a feasibility study to better understand options for improving broadband infrastructure and services within the county as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota. $25,000

PCs for People
Capital support to distribute 500 computers to ten rural Minnesota communities as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota. $49,000
PCs for People
Project support for sponsorship of the National Digital Alliance’s conference in rural Minnesota. $2,500

Pope County
Project support to conduct a feasibility study to better understand options for improving broadband infrastructure and services within the county as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota. $25,000

Region Nine Development Commission
Project support for the Change, Disparities, Opportunity and equity dialogues in rural Minnesota. $40,000

University of Minnesota Foundation
Project support over three years to establish the Natural Resources and Research Institutes’ Business Assistance Fund in rural Minnesota. $150,000

University of Minnesota Foundation
Project support for the Natural Resources and Research Institute’s forest resource mapping project in rural Minnesota. $50,000

Winona Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation Inc.
Project support for the REACH workforce development program in rural Minnesota. $5,000

Area of focus: Invest in Leadership

City of Crosby
Capital support for construction of a four-mile public connector trail between the City of Cuyuna and the Cuyuna Country State Recreation trail in rural Minnesota. $50,000

Luverne Initiatives for Tomorrow
Project support to evaluate and present a long-range plan to develop Luverne as a destination as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program in rural Minnesota. $5,000

Medford Education Foundation
Project support to build the funding base for educational opportunities in the Medford School District as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program in rural Minnesota. $5,000

Northwest Minnesota Foundation
Capital support for the Bemidji Downtown Alliance/Welcoming Arch project as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program in rural Minnesota. $5,000

Regents of The University of Minnesota
Project support for the 2017 One Minnesota Conference of Legislators in rural Minnesota. $10,000

The Advocates for Human Rights
Project support to strengthen capacity to respond to rising incidents of hate, bias and discrimination aimed at immigrants and refugees in rural Minnesota. $50,000

**University of Minnesota Foundation**
Project support for the Tribal Sovereignty Institute at the University of Minnesota-Duluth for a tribal governance pilot project in rural Minnesota. $110,000

**Willmar Downtown Development Inc**
Project support for a MNyou Youth Garden in Willmar as part of the Blandin Community Leadership Grant Program in rural Minnesota. $5,000

**Total**
50 grants $1,907,061