



Northland Foundation awards 33 grants totaling \$406,130 in first quarter of 2017; significant funds go to expand and strengthen social enterprise

Investing in people and communities for a thriving northeastern Minnesota, the Northland Foundation approved a total of \$406,120 in 33 grants during the first quarter of 2017. Of this total, \$260,000 was awarded as part of the Northland Foundation's *Social Enterprise Initiative*. Nine nonprofit organizations participating in the Initiative were invited to apply for funding, in addition to receiving training and technical assistance. The goal of the 18-month special project is to bolster profit-generating ventures operated by nonprofit entities whose programming helps low-income people advance career opportunities and build financial assets.

Grants awarded January 1-March 31, 2017 are as follows.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

YWCA of Duluth, Duluth \$15,000

To support parenting services and staff development for the YWCA Early Childhood Education program.

Minnesota Discovery Center, Chisholm \$500

To introduce 7th grade students from across the Iron Range to career opportunities in STEM fields.

The College of St Scholastica, Duluth \$1,000

To support programming that helps first generation college bound students learn about higher education.

US FIRST, Duluth \$2,500

In support of the 2017 regional robotics competition in Northeast Minnesota.

Woodland Hills, Duluth \$20,000

To provide out-of-school time programming for youth in the Central Hillside neighborhood of Duluth.

University of Minnesota-Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, Duluth \$15,000

To provide support services to pregnant women who are incarcerated in the St. Louis County Jail.

Minnesota Youth Intervention Programs Association, Northeast Minnesota \$1,500

To provide professional development opportunities for youth development workers in northeast Minnesota.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Duluth \$3,000

To support a weeklong festival honoring Martin Luther King Jr. and celebrating African American culture.

SELF-RELIANCE

Northern Lights Special Education Cooperative, Cloquet \$1,000

To connect area high school students with disabilities to local businesses, nonprofits and area colleges to discuss careers, post-secondary education, and agencies/services available to assist with independent living and community participation.

Citizens for Backus, International Falls \$4,800

To support programming to address hunger in the International Falls community.

Grace House of Itasca County, Grand Rapids \$4,800

To provide shelter and services to people experiencing homelessness in Itasca County.

Two Harbors Area Food Shelf, Two Harbors \$10,000

To purchase new computers and software to track donations and distributions.

American Indian Community Housing Organization, Duluth \$20,000

To provide out-of-school time programming for youth at the Gimaajii residence in Duluth.

Servants of Shelter, International Falls \$15,000

To support services to people experiencing homelessness in International Falls and surrounding communities.

Cook County Community Center, Grand Marais \$4,000

Support for income tax preparation services for people with low incomes.

Community Action Duluth, Duluth \$4,000

Support for income tax preparation services for people with low incomes.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Summer Youth Outreach Program (SWOP), Mountain Iron \$14,000

To support the creation of a paid position to help strengthen the organization.

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, Saint Paul \$5,000

To support programming to strengthen the nonprofit sector in northeast Minnesota.

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Social Enterprise Initiative, Northeast Minnesota \$260,000

The following grants were awarded through the Northland Foundation’s Social Enterprise Initiative, with support from the Northwest Area Foundation, to help create and strengthen social enterprise aimed at supporting low-income people to advance career pathways and build financial assets.

Itasca County Habitat for Humanity, Grand Rapids	\$20,000
Life House, Inc., Duluth	\$30,000
McGregor KIDS PLUS / Something Cool, Inc., McGregor	\$20,000
Western Lake Superior Habitat for Humanity, Duluth	\$20,000
American Indian Community Housing Organization, Duluth	\$40,000
One Roof Community Housing, Duluth	\$30,000
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Cloquet	\$20,000
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia	\$40,000
Community Action Duluth, Duluth	\$40,000

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNITY VITALITY

Iron Range Economic Alliance, Iron Range \$50

To support economic development efforts on the Iron Range.

UMD Center for Economic Development, Duluth \$500

To support a Profit Mastery workshop for area businesses.

Itasca Economic Development Corporation, Grand Rapids \$500

To support a Profit Mastery workshop for area businesses.

Arrowhead Manufacturing & Fabricators Association Educational Trust, Northeast Minnesota \$200

Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

Grantmakers for Effective Organizations, Washington, D.C. \$1,280

To support annual membership to GEO, which focuses on helping grantmakers to improve their philanthropy practices.

Chisholm Downtown Revitalization, Chisholm \$2,500

To support downtown revitalization and community-building efforts.

