



Northland Foundation awards 33 grants totaling \$257,054 to nonprofit and community organizations serving northeastern Minnesota

During the fourth quarter of 2016, the Northland Foundation approved 33 grants, awarding a total of \$257,054 to serve the people and communities of the seven-county region, not including the 14 grants approved in October by the Minnesota Power Foundation Youth In Philanthropy Board, a program of the Northland Foundation’s KIDS PLUS Program.

A significant grant of **\$20,000 was made to the Arrowhead Center, Inc., located in Virginia,** for the creation of new, in-school counseling for students in the Virginia School District who are experiencing substance addiction and mental health symptoms.

“Given the spike in opioid use, and lack of resources for young people struggling with mental health issues, giving students easier access to counseling fills a big need,” said Eric Torch, Director of Grantmaking, of the Foundation’s support for the project.

“Placing counselors in the schools, with expertise at working with young people, will make a difference for youth and their families,” said Torch.

Grants approved October 1 through December 31, 2016, are listed below.

Children, Youth and Families

Northeast Minnesota School Districts, Northeast Minnesota **\$39,531**
To support locally-designed projects to enhance and strengthen coordination of learning experiences from PreK to Grade 3. The following were funded by a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using federal funding, CFDA 84.027A, Special Education - Grants to States. The opportunity to apply for funding was available to school district teams attending the 2016 Early Childhood Summit.

Barnum Schools – ISD #091, Barnum	\$4,000
Proctor Public Schools – ISD #704, Proctor	\$4,000
Hermantown Schools – ISD #700, Hermantown	\$4,000
Duluth Public Schools Academy, Duluth	\$2,598
Chisholm School District – ISD #695, Chisholm	\$1,500
Cook County Schools - ISD #166, Grand Marais	\$4,000
McGregor Schools - ISD #004, McGregor	\$3,000
Lake Superior School District - ISD #381, Two Harbors	\$2,433
Invest Early, Grand Rapids	\$10,000
Cloquet Public Schools - ISD #094, Cloquet	\$4,000

South Ridge School - ISD #2142, Culver	\$4,500
To support enriching in-school programming for South Ridge School students.	
Valley Youth Centers, Duluth	\$5,000
To support enriching out-of-school time activities to youth in West Duluth.	
Volunteers In Education, Inc., Iron Range Communities	\$12,000
To further develop training of volunteer tutors working to strengthen the reading and math skills of academically at-risk students across the Iron Range.	
Duluth Area Family YMCA, Duluth	\$20,000
To support collaborative efforts to expand access to outdoor recreation programming.	
Cook County Schools - ISD #166, Grand Marais	\$11,980
To support in-school programming that supports the social-emotional development of students.	
Babies Need Boxes, Duluth	\$1,000
To provide maternity care packages that promote health and well-being to new mothers who are in poverty.	
Just Kids Dental, Two Harbors	\$15,000
To support preventative oral health education and treatment to low-income children and youth.	
Arrowhead Center, Inc., Virginia	\$20,000
To support the creation of in-school supports for students who are experiencing substance addiction and mental health symptoms in the Virginia School District.	
<u>Opportunities for Self-Reliance</u>	
North Country RIDE, Esko	\$4,500
To support equine therapeutic services to children with disabilities.	
Minnesota Diversified Industries, Grand Rapids	\$10,000
To support the development and piloting of a work skills training program for employees with and without disabilities working in an integrated workplace.	
Good Samaritan Outreach, McGregor	\$2,500
To provide emergency financial assistance to people in need in the Aitkin County area.	
Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia	\$425
To provide information and services to low-income people in Cook County.	
Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans, Northeast Minnesota	\$10,000

To support services to veterans and their families in crisis.

Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Duluth **\$20,000**
In support of the community and economic development work of Duluth LISC.

Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless, American Indian Communities of Northeast Minnesota **\$15,000**
To support work that deepens relationships with Tribal partners with the Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, and Grand Portage Reservations, along with Duluth area and Iron Range community allies invested in American Indian housing needs.

One Roof Community Housing, Duluth **\$15,000**
To provide services to resolve disputes between tenants and landlords that could lead to eviction and homelessness.

First Witness Child Advocacy Center, Duluth **\$10,000**
To support efforts to improve the response of the child protection system when domestic violence is also present.

Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota, Northeast Minnesota **\$20,000**
To provide interim legal support during a leadership transition.

Community Vitality and Economic Development

APEX, Duluth **\$15,000**
To support economic development efforts in Duluth and the surrounding area.

Arrowhead Manufacturing & Fabricators Assoc., Northeast Minnesota **\$511**
To introduce young people to career opportunities in the manufacturing and fabricating trades.

Laurentian Chamber of Commerce, Virginia **\$168**
Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

Hibbing Area Chamber of Commerce, Hibbing **\$489**
Annual membership dues to help support local entrepreneurship and economic development.

Minnesota Council on Foundations, Minneapolis **\$4,450**
Membership support for programs and activities of this statewide organization.

