



Northland Foundation awards 52 grants totaling more than \$450,000 to schools, nonprofits, Tribal nations, and community organizations

In the third quarter of 2019, the Northland Foundation made 52 grant awards totaling \$450,895 to benefit the people and communities in the seven counties of northeastern Minnesota.

Of these grants, 17 were awarded through the Foundation’s Rural Aging Initiative. This special, \$2.8 million initiative was designed to strengthen capacity among nonprofit and community-based services to meet the needs of older adults and their caregivers, promote collaboration and innovation in programming, and bolster social connections to help older adults in rural northeastern Minnesota to age well in their homes and communities of choice. The current three-year phase of the Rural Aging Initiative launched in January 2017 and will conclude in December 2019. The initiative’s three main strategies are:

- **Capacity Building** providing funding and training opportunities with [18 nonprofit organizations](#) that focus on aging services in the region.
- **Civic Engagement and Social Connectedness among older adults** increasing physical, mental, and emotional health through intergenerational activities in the region’s 18 [AGE to age: bringing generations together](#) sites.
- **The Aging Innovations Program** offering competitive grant awards for fresh approaches to helping older adults age in place with independence and purpose.

“We appreciate the important work of all our Rural Aging Initiative community partners,” said Tony Sertich, President of the Northland Foundation, “to help older adults in our region access needed services – and positive social engagement opportunities – that enhance their quality of life and ensure that our rural region ‘works’ for people of all ages.”

The 52 grants awarded July 1 - September 30, 2019 are as follows. For more about the Northland Foundation, visit www.northlandfdn.org or call 218.723.4040.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

School Districts, Northeast Minnesota

\$24,000

A total of 15 PreK to Grade 3 Team Grants were awarded to school districts that attended the Northland Foundation’s 2019 Early Childhood Summit to support planning and activities that strengthen the learning continuum from early childhood to 3rd grade.

Cloquet Public Schools - ISD #094, Cloquet	\$1,000
Esko Public Schools - ISD #099, Esko	\$1,000
Wrenshall School District - ISD #100, Wrenshall	\$1,000
Proctor Public Schools - ISD #704, Proctor	\$2,000

Moose Lake Schools - ISD #097, Moose Lake	\$1,000
Mesabi East Early Childhood Coalition, Aurora	\$1,000
Virginia School District – ISD #706, Virginia	\$1,000
Invest Early, Grand Rapids	\$4,000
Silver Bay Early Childhood Coalition, Silver Bay	\$2,000
Duluth Public Schools Academy, Duluth	\$1,000
Floodwood School District – ISD #698, Floodwood	\$1,000
Duluth Public Schools - ISD #709, Duluth	\$5,000
Barnum Schools - ISD #091, Barnum	\$1,000
North Shore Community School, Duluth	\$1,000
St. Louis County Schools - ISD #2142, Virginia	\$1,000
Duluth Community School Collaborative, Duluth	\$5,000
To support programming to foster community partnerships that promote wellness and school success for youth and families.	
University of MN Extension Service Itasca Co, Grand Rapids	\$10,000
To support mentoring programs in communities across Itasca County.	
American Indian Community Housing Organization, Duluth	\$30,000
To support culturally grounded programming for youth and families in AICHO's permanent supportive housing.	
Nashwauk-Keewatin Schools - ISD #319, Nashwauk	\$20,000
To support out-of-school time programming in the Nashwauk-Keewatin School District.	
Wrenshall School District - ISD #100, Wrenshall	\$4,104
To support programming to improve the atmosphere and culture of the Wrenshall schools.	
Washington Elementary School- ISD #701, Hibbing	\$4,548
To support efforts to increase nature-based learning.	
City of Nashwauk, Nashwauk	\$20,000
To support staffing to help foster a safe school environment to enhance learning.	
Duluth Early Childhood Family Education, Duluth	\$5,000
To provide support to first-time parents who have mental health and chemical dependency issues.	
Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Duluth	\$20,000
To support the recruitment of families to serve high need foster children.	

INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING

One Roof Community Housing, Duluth	\$100,000
To support the development and maintenance of affordable housing in the Duluth area and Carlton, Cook and Lake counties.	

Damiano of Duluth, Inc., Duluth	\$5,000
To support programming to reduce food insecurity of youth and families in the Central Hillside neighborhood.	
Second Harvest North Central Food Bank, Grand Rapids	\$10,000
To support programming to reduce food insecurity among children.	
United Way of Carlton County, Cloquet	\$800
To support activities that raise awareness of local services available for diverse populations in Carlton County.	
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Nett Lake	\$20,000
To support the development of a comprehensive needs and resources assessment for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa.	
Project Care Free Clinic, Hibbing	\$20,000
To support increased access to health care services.	
Local Solutions to End Poverty Committee, Duluth	\$2,350
To support candidate forums for Duluth City and School Board races.	

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY VITALITY

The Northspan Group, Inc., Duluth	\$1,500
To support efforts to increase communications around economic development in northeast Minnesota.	
Regents of the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis	\$500
To increase area college students' understanding of entrepreneurship.	
Blandin Foundation, Grand Rapids	\$1,000
To support efforts to expand broadband access in rural communities.	
Tiwahe Foundation, Minneapolis	\$1,000
To support programs to help American Indian people live culturally centered, economically independent and healthy lives.	

RURAL AGING INITIATIVE - AGE TO AGE IMPLEMENTATION

Proctor Public Schools - ISD #704, Proctor	\$5,000
To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement through the Reading Pals program.	
Moose Lake Schools - ISD #097, Moose Lake	\$5,000
To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement through the Reading Pals program.	
	\$5,000

Aitkin Public Schools - ISD #001, Aitkin

To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement through the Reading Pals program.

Ely Community Resource, Inc., Ely

To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement through the Reading Pals program.

\$5,000

McGregor KIDS PLUS/Something Cool, Inc., McGregor

To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement through the Reading Pals program.

\$5,000

McGregor KIDS PLUS/Something Cool, Inc., McGregor

To support an intergenerational chore service that helps older adults live independently and gives workforce skills to youth in the McGregor area.

\$10,000

Hibbing AGE to age, Hibbing

To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

\$15,000

Ely Community Resource, Inc., Ely

To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

\$15,000

North Shore Area AGE to age, Silver Bay

To support intergenerational programming through the Rural Aging Initiative.

\$15,000

Community Partners - Two Harbors Block Nurse Program, Two Harbors

To support the implementation the Aging Mastery Program, an evidence-based health promotion program for older adults.

\$5,000

Hermantown/Proctor Community Education, Hermantown

To support the implementation the Aging Mastery Program, an evidence-based health promotion program for older adults.

\$5,000

Northwoods Partners, Ely

To support the implementation the Aging Mastery Program, an evidence-based health promotion program for older adults.

\$5,000

Lake Superior School District - ISD #381, Two Harbors

To engage older adults in helping boost academic achievement.

\$5,000

RURAL AGING INITIATIVE - SUMMER COLLEGE INTERN PROGRAM

North Shore AGE to age, Silver Bay

To provide paid internship opportunities to college students over the summer, to gain experience in intergenerational programming in their hometowns through the Northland Foundation's Rural Aging Initiative.

\$3,000

RURAL AGING INITIATIVE - AGING INNOVATIONS PROGRAM

Northwoods Partners, Ely

\$4,448

To support innovative programming to raise awareness of dementia and provide services to caregivers and those with dementia.

Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Grand Portage

\$30,000

To support innovative inter-generational programming to improve access to fresh foods.

Arrowhead Regional Development Commission, Duluth

\$8,645

To support development and leader training for Evidence-Based Health Programs serving older adults in northeastern Minnesota.