James Zastrow, Chair of the Opportunity Gap Convening Committee, talks about the project during a news conference.

Grant to Community Foundation aims to address societal divide

It’s one of the most significant projects that the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation has ever undertaken. And it starts now.

The Community Foundation has received a $1.5 million grant to address the problem of the “Opportunity Gap” locally and find responses through work to improve parenting, education and community connections for poor families and children.

The grant will be used over three years to study how the gap plays out in the region, to seek effective responses and then to fund organizations to narrow the gap.

The “Opportunity Gap” refers to vast differences in opportunities available to poor and rich children.

Deadlines are approaching for applications seeking grants from funds of the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation. Go to dsacommunityfoundation.com/grants to learn more about or to apply.

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The Community Foundation’s Opportunity Gap Convening Committee is working to understand the issue in the Twin Ponds. It hopes to announce initial grant opportunities in the spring, with the first funds provided for project work by summer.

The $1.5 million grant is from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation.”

Thank you for making 2015 a year of big initiatives.

As we enter 2016, we have much to celebrate at the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation.

We ended 2015 with more than $5.5 million in contributions, making 2016 a time of accomplishment for several other initiatives, including efforts to attract and retain young adults in our region. Our Young Leaders Fund received more than $32,000 during Give to the Max Day in November, allowing the Knight Foundation to make a $25,000 matching grant.

Speak Your Peace: The Civility Project enters its 15th year, with efforts locally, regionally and nationally.

Our many scholarships and grant programs continue to work for the public good in 2016.

We hope you’ll continue to be part of the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation’s many efforts locally, regionally and nationally.”

Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis

Robert D. Putnam

President

coming this spring

Look for the next print edition of The Touchstone in March.