



Spring 2024 Grant Awards

Alexandra Smith Fund – In Support of Native American Treaty Rights

- Spring 2024		
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Anishinaabe Cultural Workshops	\$1,263.00
<p><i>Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa has outlined goals in its strategic plan to increase knowledge of Anishinaabe culture and Ojibwemowin language among its staff members. With this project, the Treaty Natural Resources Division plans to engage tribal experts from the Red Cliff Community and pay them a stipend to lead presentations and workshops focused on cultural and historical knowledge, and skills/practices pertaining to topics such as environment, well-being, Treaty Rights/Tribal sovereignty, and food sovereignty. This series of workshops and presentations will be geared towards Red Cliff staff members and the Red Cliff community. The expected outcome of this project is to create and/or build relationships between community and staff members, increase staff cultural competency to better serve the Red Cliff community, and to build bridges through increased understanding between the local communities of Bayfield, Washburn, Ashland, Cornucopia, Bad River, and Red Cliff.</i></p>		
		\$1,263.00

Animal-Assisted Therapy Fund

- Spring 2024		
Nature's Edge Therapy Center	Wellness Pawsibilities	\$1,500.00
<p><i>Our proposal seeks funding to expand our animal-assisted therapy program, addressing the growing need for mental health support. Our goals include enhancing participant well-being, ensuring animal welfare, increasing community engagement, and improving therapy team performance. We plan to achieve these through qualitative and quantitative assessments, optimizing care, and expanding our reach. Anticipated outcomes include improved mental health, greater community awareness, and the continued success of our mission to enhance well-being for both participants and therapy animals.</i></p>		
North Country RIDE	Hoof Care for Therapy Horses	\$973.00
<p><i>North Country RIDE currently has 10 horses who provide equine-assisted therapeutic activities to community members of all ages and abilities. We are requesting funding for professional farrier service to care for the horses' hooves. Some of our horses need shoes. Some of them need routine trims. All of the horses need to have healthy feet so they can stand quietly and comfortably for our riders with disabilities.</i></p>		
Northwoods Women Inc	Animal Support Fund	\$1,000.00
<p><i>The Animal Support Fund by New Day Advocacy Center assists animals belonging to survivors of domestic abuse, sexual assault, and/or human trafficking. It covers essential needs like food, medical care, and other expenses, recognizing the vital role these pets play in a survivor's recovery. Our goal is to ensure both survivors and their beloved animals receive top-notch care and support during their journey towards healing.</i></p>		
		\$3,473.00

Anishinabe Fund

- Spring 2024		
Friends of the Madeline Island Museum	Capser Tribute 2024	\$5,000.00
<p><i>A fuller history of Madeline Island, especially the contribution of Anishinabe people, needs to be told. The Friends of the Madeline Island Museum has invited Dr. Anton Truer, professor, author and expert on Ojibwe language and culture, to share his expertise at our second annual Capser Tribute honoring the founders of the Madeline Island Museum. His renown promises to attract a wide in-person and online audience including island residents, visitors and members of the Bad River and Red Cliff Tribes.</i></p>		
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Anishinaabe Cultural Workshops	\$6,495.00
<p><i>Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa has outlined goals in its strategic plan to increase knowledge of Anishinaabe culture and Ojibwemowin language among its staff members. With this project, the Treaty Natural Resources Division plans to engage tribal experts from the Red Cliff Community and pay them a stipend to lead presentations and workshops focused on cultural and historical knowledge, and skills/practices pertaining to topics such as environment, well-being, Treaty Rights/Tribal sovereignty, and food sovereignty. This series of workshops and presentations will be geared towards Red Cliff staff members and the Red Cliff community. The expected outcome of this project is to create and/or build relationships between community and staff members, increase staff cultural competency to better serve the Red Cliff community, and to build bridges through increased understanding between the local communities of Bayfield, Washburn, Ashland, Cornucopia, Bad River, and Red Cliff.</i></p>		
The National Loon Center Foundation	Future Lake Leaders w/ Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe	\$9,725.00
<p><i>Seeking to combat declines in water quality and shoreline habitat across the state, Future Lake Leaders is a National Loon Center youth stewardship program that works with the Bugonaygeshig school serving the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe to co-create an educational program focused on the preservation of loons and lakes. While highlighting connections between communities in Central and Northern Minnesota that rely on healthy freshwater ecosystems, the program will be grounded in indigenous knowledge and provide a platform for leadership that will prioritize Ojibwe perspectives.</i></p>		

Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community	Rez Follies: An Original Ojibwe Comedic Play	\$6,496.00
<i>Zeitgeist is supporting the development of a new original comedic play, Rez Follies, written & performed by & for Fond du Lac members, Lake Superior Ojibwe, and other local Native and non-native community. Following the tradition of Dibaajimowinan (Ojibwe narrative storytelling) Rez Follies will bring 4-5 Fond du Lac Ojibwe together over several months to share contemporary, humorous, and tragic stories about life on the rez as part of a supported devising process, resulting in an evening-length play to be performed in Zeitgeist's theater. The play will draw inspiration and writing from the late iconic, award-winning Ojibwe author Jim Northrup II's published works: The Rez Road Follies, Walking the Rez Road, Anishinaabe Syndicated, and Rez Salute: The Real Healer Dealer; and include real-life stories from & lead performances by Jim Northrup's son, Jimmy Northrup III, with fellow rez residents—creating an Indigenized approach to theater making and experiencing.</i>		
		\$27,716.00

**Apostle Islands Area Community Fund
- Spring 2024**

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	Game-Sharers: Supporting the Native Lacrosse Club	\$3,737.00
<i>Bad River member Joseph Gokee, with UW-EX educator, Joy Schelble, have led baaga'adowewin (native lacrosse) for Bad River for 9 years. It began as a way to bring together a community grieving from a police shooting, & is now a promising movement to bring back the "Creator's game." The kids who have been playing the medicine game the longest are now in their late teens, taking on leadership roles within the hosting of games and teaching younger players. Our project seeks funding to assist with hosting an inter-tribal tournament and to cover team travel costs to a special regional tournament.</i>		

Bayfield Area Trails	Developing a long-term plan	\$5,000.00
<i>We propose to hire a professional facilitator (contractor) to lead and facilitate a planning process, with public input, to produce a long-term plan document and associated maps for the Bayfield Area Trails (BAT) network. The process will be supported by technical assistance provided by the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. The process will identify what trails the Bayfield Peninsula communities desire, what locations are well-suited for additional trails, what resources are needed to implement the envisioned trails program, and a roadmap for achieving the trails program goals. The outcomes will enable the BAT Committee to focus their efforts toward highest priorities as well as move toward establishing a self-sustaining organization that will live on beyond our current membership.</i>		

Bayfield Summer Concerts	A Musical Celebration of Maritime History	\$1,400.00
<i>Songs about the Apostle Islands and the Bayfield Wisconsin area composed by Warren Nelson and performed by an ensemble of musicians from the area will be presented in the Bayfield Maritime Museum, in a setting of exhibits about Lake Superior, Apostle Islands and Chequamegon Bay history. The intention of this presentation is to inform about Wisconsin Lake Superior maritime history through entertaining song presented in the context of existing museum developed historical exhibits.</i>		

Great Lakes Lifeways Institute	Giiwekii	\$5,000.00
<i>Giiwekii is a powerful, long term collaborative initiative to bring Mandamin, Indigenous Anishinaabe flint corn, back to Mooningwanekaaning, otherwise known as Madeline Island, Wisconsin. Giiwekii is an intercultural collaborative effort between the Bad River Tribal Food Sovereignty program and Indigenous bioregional ancestral corn growers, partnered with Island community members and Island farmers coordinated by Great Lakes Lifeways Institute. The aim is to develop and select a new, climate adaptive variety of Anishinaabe flint corn utilizing diverse ancestral flint corn seedstock, while building the strength of our community and bioregional food systems and seed networks. The variety will be selected over a period of seven years, designed to be specifically adapted to the environment of Madeline Island, and selected for a primary use of food grade hominy corn. This work is designed to strengthen our regional food systems, both genetically, economically, socially, and culturally.</i>		

Northwood Technical College Foundation, Inc.	Fire Training LaPointe Fire Department	\$5,000.00
<i>Providing training to the Apostle Island Fire Department is a challenge. Given the fact that transportation on and off the island is by ferry makes transportation time for our instructors and students challenging. It is always a question of if they can arrive on a weeknight to teach or take a class on time. We are requesting funding assistance to provide a weekend fire training session in Fall (Sept/Oct of 2024) for various skills on the island, on a Friday night (4 hours) and Saturday (8 hours) providing various skills training. The skills would include ladders; car fire and propane fires; live interior firefighting; engine operations; water supply; and incident management, and any other skills they would request work on. We would have adequate time to plan to transport our mobile training props in the days prior to training and have everything set up by Friday night.</i>		

Town of La Pointe	Creating Transportation Equity for Madeline Island	\$5,000.00
<i>The Town of La Pointe couldn't let an outside entity determine its future. When the Madeline Island Ferry Line, which serves 420 year-round islanders, went up for sale in 2023, the town bought it from private owners for \$17.3 million. Now, the town aims to expand ferry service, allowing children attending mainland schools to join after-school activities and residents to work at mainland employers without missing the last ferry home. This initiative would bridge a longstanding equity gap that has challenged islanders.</i>		

Washburn Historical Museum Inc	Washburn Cultural Center Arts & Cultural Program	\$6,000.00
<i>The Washburn Historical Museum, Inc. is looking to develop creative, diverse and inclusive arts & cultural programming that includes hands on workshops, cultural activities, and art exhibits that will utilize classroom and exhibit space in the Washburn Cultural Center (WCC). The WCC recently hired a new Program Coordinator who will work with the local art community, with a priority given to Ojibwe Artists of the area, to create a dynamic art/cultural curriculum. Workshops and exhibits will be free and available to the public with a focus on involvement of youth and elders. The proposal includes a request for funds for the Coordinator position, artists stipends, and workshop supplies. The WHM is an historic building located in Washburn Wisconsin, the building houses a museum, gift shop, two art galleries, and a large workshop/meeting space. It is next to a park that will allow for outdoor art experience as well.</i>		

Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity, Inc.	Critical Home Repair Program	\$5,000.00
<i>In response to the pressing need for safe and stable housing in the Apostle Islands region, Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity is launching a critical home repair program. Our goal is to address the housing crisis by providing essential repairs and renovations to low to moderate income homeowners, ensuring they can continue to live safely and comfortably in their homes. Through partnerships with local churches and community groups, contractors and volunteers, we aim to complete critical repairs efficiently and cost-effectively. The expected outcomes include improved living conditions, enhanced community resilience, and a stronger sense of stability for families in need.</i>		

Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity, Inc.	Rock the Island	\$3,880.00
<p><i>The request for funds for "Rock the Island" serves as a pivotal opportunity to address both immediate community needs and long-term revitalization goals on Madeline Island. With a focus on enhancing Joni's Beach and the Dog Park, the initiative aims to bolster recreational spaces while fostering social cohesion. Additionally, "Rock the Island" acts as a catalyst for introducing critical home repair programs to island residents, addressing housing and infrastructure challenges. Goals include securing permits, coordinating with municipal authorities and community members, and initiating repair programs. Expected outcomes encompass improved community spaces, increased volunteer engagement, and a strengthened sense of community pride. This comprehensive approach ensures lasting positive impact and sets the stage for ongoing revitalization efforts.</i></p>		

\$36,137.00

Apostle Islands Area Human Rights Fund

- Spring 2024		
Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua	B.E.A.T. - Being Encouraged About Tomorrow	\$5,000.00
<p><i>We seek funding for a dynamic concert experience inspired by the rich traditions of Historically Black College and University marching bands for multiple Free Shows for Schools performances at our venue in Bayfield, WI. This production brings infectious energy, riveting rhythms, bold beats, and ear-grabbing energy. The performances will engage and inspire students to consider finding alternative methods of creating art while imparting a message about the importance of teamwork, leadership, aspiring to excellence, and chasing your dreams.</i></p>		

\$5,000.00

Biodiversity Fund

- Spring 2024		
Duluth Children's Museum, Inc	Pollinator Garden Expansion	\$10,000.00
<p><i>The Duluth Children's Museum (DCM) seeks to expand and sustain its existing pollinator garden project to further promote biodiversity and pollinator conservation in the Duluth-Superior region. Funding will support another year of hands-on interactive daily facilitated programs and the purchase of additional plants, planters, and signage. This expansion aligns with the goals of the Biodiversity Fund, aiming to preserve and restore habitat, support specific species and ecosystems, and educate the community about the importance of biodiversity. Through this project, children and their families will participate in hands-on educational engagement with the conservation of pollinators.</i></p>		

Friends of the North Pikes Creek Wetlands, Inc.	Wetland Forest Restoration	\$8,000.00
<p><i>The wetland forests surrounding North Pikes Creek's headwaters are at imminent risk from an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation of black ash trees, and a projected warmer, drier climate that will hasten the decline of additional tree species. The Friends of the North Pikes Creek Wetlands (FNPCW) will continue to implement our multi-year, peer-reviewed, scientific forestry management plan in the spring of 2025, by engaging community members in a tree underplanting project in this black ash-dominated wetland forest. The FNPCW plans to plant, and tube, an average of 650 trees per year for 5 years, to reach our goal of underplanting 25 trees per acre in our wetland forests. This underplanting project will ultimately transition our predominantly black ash forest to stands of diverse native tree species that will thrive in this wetland habitat, fare well in a warming climate, and continue to support existing wildlife species as the forest composition and the climate continues to change.</i></p>		

Hartley Nature Center	Hartley Park Ecological Restoration	\$7,717.00
<p><i>As part of an invasive species removal and ecological restoration effort, we are endeavoring to restore 11.2 acres in Hartley Park. To realize the restoration portion of this project, we are seeking funding from the Biodiversity Fund to plant and protect up to 1,500 trees along with native plants in priority areas that will undergo large-scale buckthorn removal as part of a Save Our Great Lakes grant. The overarching goal of this invasive removal and restoration effort is a healthier, more ecologically diverse Hartley Park, in line with Hartley's long-range natural resource management plan. The management plan for the Hartley Natural Area can be found here: https://duluthmn.gov/media/9377/hartley-natural-area-management-plan-and-nomination-11-25-19.pdf</i></p>		

Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, Inc.	Hawk Ridge Research Director Position	\$25,000.00
<p><i>Hawk Ridge is seeking start-up funds to help establish a new Research Director position. The mission of Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory is to promote conservation of raptors and other birds in the Western Lake Superior Region through research, education, and stewardship. Hawk Ridge has one of the longest annual records of counting and banding raptors in North America (over 50 years!), as well as some of the highest records for species diversity and numbers. Hawk Ridge engages in monitoring and research to advance our understanding and knowledge of birds to help implement effective conservation and management actions. This management position would provide much needed leadership to oversee the long-term bird migration monitoring and applied ecological research programs, as well as developing projects, funding, scientific publications, and contribute solutions to advance HRBO's research mission.</i></p>		

Minnesota Land Trust	Conserving Sawmill Dome Highlands Biodiversity	\$15,000.00
<p><i>The Sawmill Dome Highlands [the Site] is a 1654-acre site of High Biodiversity Significance as designated by MN DNR. Located near Little Marais, this site is one of Minnesota's North Shore dramatic geographic features. The west side of Sawmill Dome drains into Sawmill Creek, a designated trout stream and tributary to the Baptism River. The Site is highly significant based upon its elevated landscape context, old growth northern hardwood forests, assorted cliff and talus features, and the general lack of roads and fragmentation. The Superior Hiking Trail traverses the lower 75% of the Site. We have a long-term goal of protecting this Site and developing a shared management vision to keep biodiversity intact. This proposal is about taking the first big step in achieving this goal.</i></p>		

Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin	Restoring 3 Bayfield County State Natural Areas	\$18,000.00
<i>This project will restore three rare and biodiverse sites in northwest Wisconsin: Bibon Swamp, Inch Lake, and Lake Two Pines State Natural Areas (SNAs). Thanks to generous prior funding from DSACF's Biodiversity Fund, restoration efforts at 2 of these sites in recent years have focused on removal of invasive glossy buckthorn. This rapidly growing invasive remains a significant threat to the high-quality lakes, wetlands, and centuries-old pine stands found at these "true gem" sites. Additional funding will support continued management and prevention of buckthorn and other restoration activities on 30 total acres, with the ultimate goal of increasing biodiversity and resiliency at these 3 critical wetland and upland areas.</i>		

Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness	Water Quality Research in the Boundary Waters	\$25,000.00
<i>Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness is requesting funding for our water quality monitoring program. We created this program due to the lack of state data on sulfate levels in Birch Lake (which is officially classified as a wild rice lake) and surrounding areas in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness where sulfide-ore copper mining is being proposed. We use our scientific findings to aid in the implementation and enactment of policy protections for Birch Lake and its watershed.</i>		

\$108,717.00

**Chequamegon Bay Area Community Fund
- Spring 2024**

Friends of the Vaughn Public Library	The Chequamegon Book	\$2,500.00
<i>When people talk about books together it builds a sense of shared experience. Public librarians understand the power of literature to bridge gaps in life-experiences and to alleviate the sense of isolation so easily experienced today. The Chequamegon Book is an annual tournament of books. An initial group of diverse readers select a book that speaks to our time, place, and culture. Then the community is invited to read, discuss, and celebrate the "Chequamegon Book." Promoting literacy, having diverse book-centered discussions, and fostering a sense of shared community through literature are the program goals. The Chequamegon book will rely on the collaboration of the four public and two tribal libraries located in the Chequamegon Bay. Research shows a strong correlation between book ownership and increased literacy within the home, putting more books in people's hands and homes through providing free copies of the selected book will be supported by a successful grant award.</i>		

Northwoods Women Inc	Trauma Support Groups	\$2,000.00
<i>New Day Advocacy Center (NDAC) has transformed a dedicated space within our facility into the Mary H. Rice Group Room, named in recognition of the generous support from Mary H. Rice. This room serves as a crucial hub for trauma-based support groups, training sessions, client activities, and meetings, all geared towards advancing NDAC's mission of aiding survivors of Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault in their journey toward healing. As the Mary H. Rice Group Room evolves beyond its initial stage, we are seeking funding to enhance its functionality and effectiveness in facilitating healing for survivors. Your support will enable us to furnish the room with essential supplies and activities tailored to the specific needs of trauma-based support groups. These resources will play a pivotal role in creating a safe and supportive environment where survivors can engage in therapeutic activities, connect with NDAC staff for guidance, and progress toward healing and empowerment.</i>		

Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Community	Project Lead the Way STEM Kit Expansion	\$2,000.00
<i>Our Lady of the Lake (OLL) seeks support to expand the current STEM initiative to elevate Pre-K - 5 education. This expansion is crucial to address the learning setbacks OLL has identified specifically in STEM areas post-pandemic. The expanded curriculum aims to empower students at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School in Ashland WI, to engage in their learning through hands-on activities directly related to their future success guided by STEM-trained teachers.</i>		
<i>* Goals include integrating STEM seamlessly into the curriculum.</i>		
<i>* Objectives involve expanding STEM kits to the Pre-K -5 grade classrooms to expand on the curriculum implemented in year one of the STEM initiative.</i>		
<i>* Anticipated outcomes encompass heightened student interest, improved academic performance, and a well-rounded STEM foundation. Your support empowers our students, fostering a future-ready generation through enhanced STEM education.</i>		

The BRICK Ministries, Inc.	Website Development Support	\$2,500.00
<i>As under-resourced residents' needs are rapidly growing, The BRICK must improve outreach efforts and availability to new potential program participants. Funds will be used to overhaul The BRICK's outmoded and inaccessible website. A revamped website will help to clarify the organization's mission of compassion, love, and respect for all, better communicate with participants, volunteers, and the general public, and increase capacity through a secure volunteer portal and potential to develop a blog.</i>		

Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity, Inc.	Critical Home Repair Program	\$2,500.00
<i>In response to the pressing need for safe and stable housing in the Chequamegon Bay Area, Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity is launching a critical home repair program. Our goal is to address the housing crisis by providing essential repairs and renovations to low to moderate income homeowners, ensuring they can continue to live safely and comfortably in their homes. Through partnerships with local churches and community groups, contractors and volunteers, we aim to complete critical repairs efficiently and cost-effectively. The expected outcomes include improved living conditions, enhanced community resilience, and a stronger sense of stability for families in need.</i>		

\$11,500.00

Cook County Community Fund**- Spring 2024**

Boy Scouts of America-Voyageurs Area Council	Starting Cub Scouts in Grand Marais	\$2,000.00
<i>Rural areas often lack structured extracurricular programs for youth, especially at-risk and low-income youth. The Boy Scouts of America helps young people develop life skills, including leadership, ethical decision-making, and an appreciation of the outdoors. Importantly, the BSA now welcomes youth regardless of gender and can serve all youth in any small town. The Voyageurs Area Council of the BSA aims to expand its Scouting programs by starting a Cub Scout pack in Cook County.</i>		
Good Harbor Hill Players	Winter Solstice Shadow Puppet Show	\$4,500.00
<i>The Good Harbor Hill Players propose to create an original shadow puppet performance with live music for the occasion of the winter solstice, December 21st, 2024. Members of the public will be invited to join the core artists in designing and creating the shadow puppets, as well as participating in rehearsals and performing the show. Workshops will take place nightly for 10 days before the show. The production and final event will take place on the campus of North House Folk School in Grand Marais, MN.</i>		
Grand Marais Arts, Inc.	Arts Access Programs for Adults and Youth	\$4,500.00
<i>We are requesting CCCF funding to support our Entry Points and youth programs. CCCF has generously supported our Entry Points program, which offers arts access to all through open studios, artist talks, demonstrations, art days, and exhibitions. The arts foster community through allowing diversity in expression, they provide space for reflection and self-awareness in a frenetic society, they increase empathetic responses and they give us mutual convening spaces where we can talk to one another about the most important things to us. The Entry Points program fosters such spaces in a small, rural community that might not otherwise have this opportunity. Alongside these benefits, the Art Colony's youth programs provides safe and creative space for youth to be, between the end of the school day and the end of the work day. We will host 15 - 20 Entry Points events and increase our youth offerings by 25%. We expect to increase our overall engagement numbers by 25% from 2023.</i>		
Great Expectations School	Playscapes for All	\$2,000.00
<i>Our playscape needs to be able to serve 100% of all children with no limitations. We want to be culturally inclusive, while maintaining our mission to our school to provide and understanding and appreciation for the natural world around us.</i>		
Gunflint Trail Historical Society	Dark Sky Technology Improvements	\$4,500.00
<i>The hardware and software to run the internationally known Chik-Wauk Dark Sky camera has experienced increased issues with breakdowns, slow speeds, and obsolete technology and needs to be replaced. This project has been done in coordination with the University of Minnesota Duluth Planetarium. This work is critical to the mission of the Chik-Wauk's dark sky program. We are currently experiencing outages on a frequent basis, the most recent lasted 10 days and was due to technology failure.</i>		
ISD #166 - Cook County Public Schools	Early Childhood Indoor Play Expansion	\$5,000.00
<i>The Cook County YMCA, ISD#166 Community Education, and Grand Portage are collaborating to create programming for Early Childhood playspaces indoors. The YMCA and Community Education have a current program established, but equipment and toys need to be replaced and updated for safety concerns. Grand Portage will be an extension of our Early Childhood programming. We will be able to provide programming on Fridays in Grand Portage because Preschool is not in session on Fridays. Our overall goal is to provide large motor skill activities for children ages 0-4 in all of Cook County.</i>		
Justice North (fka LASNEM)	Cook County Legal Services Support	\$4,500.00
<i>Justice North (formerly known as Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota) provides key legal services in Cook County that ensure low-income families' legal rights are protected, that families remain housed, safe with their families, and that their incomes are secure. Justice North attorneys provide representation and advice in evictions, custody, divorce, orders for protection, public benefits appeals, and other cases to preserve the basic needs of low-income families.</i>		
North House Folk School	2024 Summer Solstice & Wooden Boat Festival	\$2,000.00
<i>As North House Folk School continues to grow and evolve programming to enhance craft connection for our community, we are reshaping the annual Wooden Boat Show event in 2024 to promote additional community engagement. With new opportunities to connect with traditional craft through try-its and take-home activities for all ages, this event will shift from a somewhat passive consumption of artisan demonstrations to active engagement that will enhance understanding of North House and traditional craft.</i>		
North Shore Collaborative	Learning Opportunities Through Stories (LOTS)	\$1,000.00
<i>The LOTS summer literacy program has been offered since 2009 and distributes over 1,200 books annually. Studies have shown that by providing children with early literacy education, it leads to better reading proficiency, improved imagination and creativity, cognitive development, and improved language skills. The goal of the LOTS program is to get books into the hands of children so that they may have a lifelong love of reading and be better prepared for school.</i>		
North Shore Health Care Foundation	Leadership Support for Healthcare Solutions	\$5,000.00
<i>As a rural area with limited resources, Cook County faces numerous challenges in providing adequate healthcare to its residents. This proposal addresses two challenges in Cook County: lack of healthcare professionals and consistent, unified early childhood development programs. To address these issues, two collaborative initiatives have formed: The "Early Childhood Village," drawing partners from Grand Portage and Cook County, and the "Investing in our Future" workforce coalition, which is a collaboration between the Foundation, North Shore Health, Sawtooth Mountain Clinic, Grand Portage Health, CC Higher Ed and CC Public Health & Human Services. NSHCF is requesting funds to support leading these joint initiatives as they require administrative support to coordinate meetings, record keeping, and resource development. The anticipated outcome is improved efficacy of both initiatives and the creation of community-based solutions to childhood development and healthcare workforce issues.</i>		

\$35,000.00

Eveleth Community Foundation Fund**- Spring 2024**

Angel Fund	Angels For Eveleth Residents	\$4,177.00
<i>Angel Fund is a grassroots nonprofit that provides financial assistance to Northeastern Minnesota residents diagnosed with any type of cancer and dealing with treatment. This mission aims to strengthen the health and well-being of area residents, which in turn strengthens our communities. Angel Fund targets a regional healthcare issue, particularly by providing financial support and resource assistance to individuals and families who are dealing with cancer. Angel Fund primarily provides assistance by "gifting" gas cards valued at \$400 to patients for transportation to and from medical appointments. Individuals have utilized our assistance to travel locally but also to Duluth, Minneapolis and Rochester. We serve a predominately rural population, many who travel long distances for treatment and need gas money to travel. Angel Fund has also been tapped to financially assist cancer patients with grocery costs, car repairs, and nutritional supplements, among other needs.</i>		
Children's Dental Services	Dental Care & Vaping Prevention for Eveleth Youth	\$1,500.00
<i>Children's Dental Services (CDS) requests funding to provide comprehensive preventive dental care and education to 250 Eveleth children at high risk for school absences and pain due to dental disease. CDS will create 250 oral health kits including toothbrushes, floss, and toothpaste and deliver culturally focused preventive treatment and education, including brushing and flossing demonstrations to 250 school children, and education and tools on preventing commercial tobacco and vaping use.</i>		
Eveleth Heritage Society	Eveleth Newspaper Project	\$5,000.00
<i>The Eveleth Newspaper Project is an opportunity to make priceless Eveleth newspapers readily available to Eveleth residents. The Eveleth Heritage Society (EHS) has partnered with the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS) to incorporate newspapers of the 1940s, 1950s and 1970s on the MHS Digital Newspaper Hub website. Being online will allow anyone to browse or search old Eveleth newspapers anywhere at any time. Attesting to the project's popularity, there have been over 49,640 page views of Eveleth newspapers on the Hub since 2017.</i>		
Mesabi Symphony Orchestra	2024-2025 MSO Concert Season	\$750.00
<i>Mesabi Symphony Orchestra is seeking support for its 2024-2025 concert season, which will include at least one concert in the Rock Ridge High School auditorium. Rehearsals will begin in September, and concerts will be spread throughout the season, ending in April. MSO is a multi-generation orchestra that draws its members from across the Iron Range. Our artistic vision for the coming year is to present a variety of compelling and engaging concerts that will inspire audiences of all ages in all walks of life. Our work will reflect our commitment to building and contributing to a thriving arts community.</i>		
Town of Fayal	Fayal Ballfield Electrical Extension	\$5,000.00
<i>The Town of Fayal has recently acquired a scoreboard from the Rock Ridge School District and is relocating the scoreboard to the Fayal Ballfield. The Town is seeking assistance for extending power to the scoreboard as well as a recently installed shed that will serve as a storage and concession stand for Rock Ridge Youth Baseball. Initial estimated cost is \$11,235.00. By having power placed at the Ballfield, the Rock Ridge Youth Baseball Association will be able to hold more games at the site as they will be able to utilize the shed for concessions, which is a significant fundraising activity for their organization. Running the power for the scoreboard will also be a nice addition to the field that the Town has made significant improvements to over the years. The ability to easily see the score of the game will allow the public and viewers to better follow the game.</i>		
Volunteers in Education (VinE)	Volunteers in Education: Laurentian Elem. School	\$3,000.00
<i>Volunteers in Education (VinE) is a 501 c3 nonprofit organization with a mission to engage the community in educating its students, supporting their growth, and preparing them for successful citizenship. VinE has been an important and beloved presence in Northern Minnesota public schools since 2009. VinE supports public schools by providing trained volunteer tutors to work with K-12 students who need extra help with their schoolwork. Most of these students do not qualify for Special Education or Title 1 services. Many are from economically disadvantaged households. The VinE tutoring program is an excellent resource for these students, who otherwise may not receive the extra support they need for school success. VinE requests Eveleth Community Foundation Funding to support the tutoring program at Laurentian Elementary School in Eveleth, MN.</i>		
		\$19,427.00

Four Cedars Environmental Fund**- Spring 2024**

Chester Bowl Improvement Club	Environmental Education at Chester Bowl Day Camp	\$3,000.00
<i>The Chester Bowl Improvement Club is requesting \$7,500 to support increased environmental education activities at their summer day camp. The proposal includes both one-time programming that will benefit the campers this year, and investments in guidebooks and other materials that will serve camp for many summers to come. These resources will allow Chester Bowl to implement more deliberate environmental education programming in summer camp, leading to more environmentally literate campers.</i>		
Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua	Conservation Collaboration	\$2,590.00
<i>We seek funding for a unique collaboration centered on the impact of climate change in our local region. The event will include a discussion about the impact of climate change and strategies to combat it led by Fred Clark, Executive Director of Wisconsin's Green Fire. Jeff Rennie, Executive Director of the Friends of the Apostle Islands will communicate the impact of warmer temperatures and low amounts of ice in Lake Superior on the Apostle Islands' ecosystem. The Blue Canvas Orchestra will perform an original environmental docu-musical, including images on a big screen provided by the community at large. We will conclude the evening with a hike up the ski hill to view the starry night sky in furtherance of the potential designation for the Apostle Islands as a Dark Sky Park through the International Dark Sky Association.</i>		
Minnesota Land Trust	Duluth Natural Areas Forest Restoration FY2025	\$15,000.00
<i>The City of Duluth has invested in protecting high-quality public natural land and exceptional bird habitat in the St. Louis River watershed. But climate change, emerald ash borer, and invasive species threaten these lands' ecological integrity. We seek funding to support coordination and implementation of a 35-acre ash forest planting project in the St. Louis River Natural Area in 2024, and coordination and planning for future restoration projects in the Magney-Snively Natural Area. Restoring these forests now provides the opportunity to maintain their ecological integrity for the future.</i>		

Minnesota Public Radio	Disappearing Shorelines	\$25,000.00
<i>A multi-media series from MPR News focusing on the problem of overdevelopment of Minnesota lakes, and the loss of natural vegetated shorelines that provide valuable habitat for birds and wildlife and help protect lakes from pollution.</i>		
Noatun Community Wooden Boat Works	Boat Building & Sailing as Environmental Education	\$10,000.00
<i>Noatun Community Wooden Boat Works is an arts education organization based in Duluth, Minnesota which provides community participants with hands-on learning opportunities in traditional boat building, fiber arts, metalwork, and more. We were inspired by the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater in New York, The Center for Wooden Boats in Seattle, Fartøyvemsenter in Norway, and others to begin building wooden boats by hand with members of the public, for our mutual benefit, regardless of ability or background. We seek to work with our hands, source materials sustainably, carry on important cultural knowledge, learn about how we interact with our ecosystem, and better understand, connect with, and preserve our waterways—through rowing, paddling, and sailing boats which we create together. We seek funds to develop our unique approach to environmental education into more serious programming. Our goal is to establish successful programming which can then continue for many years to come.</i>		
Superior Rivers Watershed Association Inc.	Adopt a Site - Sustaining Water Quality Monitoring	\$10,000.00
<i>Superior Rivers Watershed Association has conducted volunteer water quality monitoring in the Chequamegon Bay region for over 20 years. Data from this program are shared with local stakeholders, including local government decision makers, and statewide through the Wisconsin DNR's Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System (SWIMS). To be effective, monitoring must be ongoing and consistent. However, sustained funding for such continuous work has remained a major obstacle. To solve this sustainability problem, we aim to implement an "Adopt a Site" program which will further engage our members and provide long-term support for the program. We are asking for funding to support our water quality monitoring while we develop and implement this "Adopt a Site" offer.</i>		
University of Wisconsin Superior Foundation, Inc.	Sadie Ann: Education - Year 1	\$25,000.00
<i>The UW-Superior Foundation is requesting \$25,000 from the Four Cedars Fund to underwrite pilot programming aboard the Sadie Ann. The catamaran-style research vessel will arrive in Superior, WI spring of 2024 and will enable UW-Superior's Lake Superior Research Institute to provide opportunities for students and community members of all ages to connect with Lake Superior. Support from the Four Cedars Fund will provide program support and the equivalent of eight (8), eight-hour excursions.</i>		

\$90,590.00

**Fund for Women and Girls
- Spring 2024**

Armory Arts and Music Center	Girls Rock! Fostering Music Career Opportunities	\$5,000.00
<i>The Music Resource Center has provided music lessons free of charge to underserved youth for more than ten years. We are seeing an increase in interest for music lessons from girls, and have expanded our staff to accommodate this exciting trend. We hope to offer 100 additional instruction hours to girls next year, provided to them by professional, woman-identifying musicians in our community. In this way girls can see a career path they want to take by learning from mentors with whom they can identify.</i>		
Chester Bowl Improvement Club	Girls Shred- Empowering Girls in the Terrain Park	\$1,000.00
<i>"Girls Shred" is a program designed to empower girls to ski and snowboard in the terrain park. Through lessons and events, participants will learn to master boxes, rails, and jumps in the terrain park, building a critical mass of girls participating while supported by female instructors. The number of girls using the terrain park will increase, creating gender equity within this programming.</i>		
Children's Dental Services	Trauma-Informed Dental for Women & Girls	\$5,000.00
<i>Children's Dental Services (CDS) will increase critical trauma-informed dental care to 100 low-income women and girls at risk of domestic violence on-site at accessible community locations across Northeast Minnesota. Domestic violence often occurs near the mouth, and trauma is shown to be a major barrier in accessing care for domestic violence survivors. Under this proposal CDS will improve oral and overall health for girls and women improving their quality of life, job and academic outcomes.</i>		
CHUM	Supporting Women Living at Steve O'Neil Apartments	\$5,000.00
<i>Most families living at the Steve O'Neil Apartments (SONA) are single mother-led households; all have experienced long-term homelessness. SONA mothers are invited to join our "Grow Up Group," (GUG), a parent support group for women, run by Julie Soderberg, MSW, LICSW, contracted through Harvest Moon Mental Health Services. They are also invited to enroll in weekly individual therapy sessions with Soderberg, which are billed through individuals' insurance. Held weekly during Early Childhood programming hours, GUG nurtures space where mothers learn positive parenting and attachment for children from infancy through young adulthood, apply best parenting practices and report back to the group, and offer one another support. Topics are participant-driven and include sobriety, mental health, appropriate expectations of children, nutrition, warning signs of abuse and mandatory reporting. Many participants have been in attendance for years and report the group is a lifeline for them.</i>		
ConnectAbility of MN	2024-25 Duluth Area Connect Programs	\$5,000.00
<i>The Connect Programs (of ConnectAbility of MN) are filling gaps in services for people with disabilities. We are on track to impact women and girls in Duluth. Our Connect Programs have been growing since August 2022; gathering, refurbishing, and distributing essential devices, from wheelchairs to shower chairs. The program is transforming lives with each donation. We are excited about the launch of the Connect Adaptive Equipment Connection program for Women and Girls in Duluth. We will be building upon our successes in Central MN, and expanding our reach to empower women and girls with disabilities in Northern MN. This program assists with the purchase of equipment for people with disabilities; it's about fostering safety, and independence, which can create opportunities. We've made a difference in the lives of dozens of people in central MN and want to do this in Duluth. With your support, we will reshape the future of the individual that we work with.</i>		

Divine Konnections Inc. <i>Divine Konnections Inc. (DKI) provides safe and stable housing and wraparound support services to young BIPOC mothers and their children (ages 18-24) who are experiencing, or are at-risk of experiencing, houselessness in Duluth, MN. Program infrastructure is set-up in 3 phases: 1) Shared Living at Annie's House of Refuge & Restoration, 2) Transitional Housing/Off- and Scattered- Site, and 3) Permanent Housing/Homeownership, with support and connection to resources offered at all stages. In order to sustain the growth of our program and meet the specific needs of participants, funding will be utilized to build up Phase 2: Transitional Housing. A full-time outreach manager, program and group development, and supporting supplies and marketing materials, will ensure that the moms in our program are able to sustain housing off-site and continue to achieve their goals.</i>	DKI Program Support	\$5,000.00
Duluth Children's Museum, Inc <i>The Duluth Children's Museum (DCM) respectfully requests \$5,000 for its Young Parent Program, an early childhood education program for young parents and early learners. The DCM's Young Parent Program empowers young parents as their child's first teacher. The program will consist of young parent education classes at the DCM and young parent play-dates. Through this project, young parents and their children will engage collaboratively in activities and experiences aimed at nurturing children's social, emotional, cognitive, physical, and language skills. DCM classes are led by experienced educators, ensuring a high-quality educational experience for young parents. Classes and activities adhere to the Parent Education Core Curriculum Framework and utilize Early Childhood Indicators of Progress: MN's Early Learning Standards, as outlined by the MN Department of Education. Featured activities will include literacy, STEM, and arts & culture experiences for families.</i>	Empowering Young Parents	\$5,000.00
Fathers Rise Together dba Family Rise Together <i>Our grant proposal seeks funding to establish a peer entrepreneur program focused on supporting BIPOC women and girls, led by our black-led organization. The program aims to address the systemic barriers faced by BIPOC entrepreneurs by providing mentorship, workshops, and networking opportunities. Our objectives include fostering collaboration, building skills, and increasing confidence among participants. Through this initiative, we anticipate empowering BIPOC women and girls' entrepreneurs to thrive, fostering economic growth, and creating a more inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem.</i>	EmpowerHer Ventures	\$5,000.00
First Witness Child Advocacy Center <i>First Witness has experienced a 150% increase in child abuse cases in our region over the last decade, with over 58% of abuse victims identifying as female. We are seeking support for our advocacy program that is essential for meeting the needs of child abuse victims & their families to help them heal & thrive again, and to prevent further abuse from occurring. We can accomplish this through caregiver support which focuses on building a trusting connection to support self-identified needs & through systems-based advocacy where advocates work to bring equity into the systems we partner with.</i>	Family Advocacy	\$5,000.00
Girls on the Run MN <i>Girls on the Run Minnesota (GOTR MN), an after-school program that combines social emotional learning with physical movement, seeks \$5,000 in general operation support to ensure that GOTR programming remains accessible to any girl who wishes to participate. GOTR's payment model is "pay what you can" and about 50% of participants utilize financial aid. GOTR also provides the gear (shoes, pants and sports hijabs) necessary to fully participate in the program to any girl who needs it.</i>	Supporting Girls in St. Louis and Cook Counties	\$2,500.00
Healthy Alliances Matter for All dba Health Equity Northland <i>Health Equity Northland (HEN) staff will provide training and mentoring for African heritage teen girls to develop as young, vibrant leaders. Through this mentoring, they will develop civic leadership, career potential, and outreach skills to promote health access and equity for African heritage girls, women, and the whole community. They will learn community outreach, nonprofit leadership, and teaching and mentoring of young children in the African heritage community.</i>	Youth Intern and Mentorship Program	\$5,000.00
Men As Peacemakers <i>This funding request seeks support for implementing restorative survivor circles addressing domestic violence. Goals include empowering survivors, engaging communities, and promoting healing. Objectives involve training facilitators, conducting outreach, facilitating survivor circles, and evaluating impact. Expected outcomes include increased survivor empowerment, reduced rates of violence recurrence, and enhanced community support.</i>	Domestic Violence Restorative Survivor Circles	\$2,500.00
Program for Aid to Victims of Sexual Assault <i>PAVSA serves over 1,000 survivors of sexual violence in St. Louis County and beyond in a given year. One of our core services is crisis response to the hospital. PAVSA provides staff that respond to the hospital to provide forensic medical exams and advocates that provide emotional support and resources. Each year PAVSA responds to the hospital for exams between 100-150 times. In many instances, survivors need to hand over clothing as evidence to law enforcement or for their own peace and healing are interested in a change of clothing when at the hospital. PAVSA seeks grant funding to create gender neutral clothing kits to give to survivors at the hospital that include a change of clothing and hygiene items, something that helps to provide them dignity after a difficult event.</i>	Hospital Clothing Kits for Survivors	\$5,000.00
YWCA of Duluth <i>Spirit Valley Young Mother's Program (YMP) serves approximately 45 homeless young mothers (ages 16-21) and their children each year. The program offers transitional housing and a wide variety of supportive services. The program empowers mothers to pursue economic self-sufficiency, expand their parenting skills to support their children's development and increase their opportunities, and help them break the cycle of poverty.</i>	Young Mothers Program	\$5,000.00
		\$61,000.00

**Global Awareness Fund
- Spring 2024**

Duluth Children's Museum, Inc <i>The Duluth Children's Museum proposes a Go Green Week and Earth Day celebration to address the urgent need for environmental education. Through STEAM programs and Earth Day festivities, we aim to inspire sustainability action in our youngest community members. Our goal is to increase awareness, promote STEAM literacy, and empower community members to create a greener future. With support from the Global Awareness Fund, we anticipate fostering environmental stewardship and global citizenship among Duluth's children and families.</i>	Green Horizons: Go Green & Earth Day Celebration	\$3,006.00
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Duluth Sister Cities International <i>In partnership with the DECC, the Tweed Museum, the Duluth Art Institute, artist Anne Labovitz, and lifelong peace activist Brooks Anderson, Duluth Sister Cities would like to utilize public spaces to create cultural, artistic and educational exhibits that promote peace and global understanding.</i>	122 Conversations	\$5,000.00
<i>Three initiatives contribute to this objective: Bringing Anne Labovitz's 122 Conversations artwork back to Duluth, where it will be showcased at the DECC. Creating a display at the DECC outlining the stops on the Brooks Anderson Peace Walk along the Lake Walk and in downtown Duluth. Creating a documentary about 122 Conversations and the Brook Anderson Peace Walk. This documentary will be part of a permanent Duluth Sister Cities exhibit at the Depot.</i>		
Global Rights for Women <i>Valiant Voices, a program of MN-based nonprofit Global Rights for Women, is a free, online webinar and podcast series that features conversations between global and local human rights advocates and survivors, addressing injustice and disrupting oppressive systems that cause harm. Valiant Voices is a unique space where global and local changemakers identify the patriarchal systems that exacerbate gender-based violence and connect on survivor-centered and trauma-informed solutions to eradicate GBV through legal and systems reform as well as community education and awareness. Funds would support expansion for future episodes, highlighting both international and local human rights experts' discussions on issues and solutions to addressing gender-based violence with intercultural sensitivity and understanding.</i>	Connecting Global and Local Valiant Voices	\$4,000.00
Zeitgeist Center for Arts and Community <i>The Minnesota Film Festival (MFF) introduces global storytelling, issues, and people to the NE MN/NW WI communities. It features movies, artists, and independent filmmakers and creators from around the world. In 2023, the festival had film submissions from 19 countries. The 2024 festival continued building global relationships with submissions from 40 countries. The 2024 festival also features a special focus on Iranian guests, directors, producers, and filmmakers.</i>	Minnesota Film Festival 2025 - Global Connections	\$3,005.00
<i>But this application is in support of the 2025 festival. In addition to the global relationships the MFF has established, Zeitgeist is thinking about how to expand the local impact of global perspectives on this community. To accomplish that, Zeitgeist is building a focused partnership with the University of MN-Duluth Department of World Languages & Cultures. This application is in support of maintaining the global relationships that already exist, and expanding new opportunities, like UMD.</i>		
		\$15,011.00
Grutzner Madeline Island Fund		
- Spring 2024		
Friends of the Madeline Island Museum <i>A fuller history of Madeline Island, especially the contribution of Anishinabe people, needs to be told. The Friends of the Madeline Island Museum has invited Dr. Anton Truer, professor, author and expert on Ojibwe language and culture, to share his expertise at our second annual Casper Tribute honoring the founders of the Madeline Island Museum. His renown promises to attract a wide in-person and online audience including island residents, visitors and members of the Bad River and Red Cliff Tribes.</i>	Casper Tribute 2024	\$3,000.00
La Pointe Center, Inc. <i>Since 1993, The La Pointe Center for the Arts, Positivity Children's Theatre(PCT), has entertained the residents and tourists of Madeline Island with theatrical performances by children and youth from the community. The production provides interaction with children, parents, family, friends, neighbors, and new acquaintances who enjoy the arts. The uniqueness of PCT is that adults return to support and help out long after they have graduated. We are asking for \$2050 from the Grutzner Madeline Fund to further support PCT staff and alumni artists with the production of the 2024 theatrical performance.</i>	Positivity Children's Theater	\$2,050.00
Madeline Island Public Library <i>Madeline Island Sound Garden is a self guided immersive sound experience created by James Everest and his Free Range Orchestra in conjunction with the youth of Madeline Island. Utilizing the woods behind the Library a temporary sound installation of 50+ speakers, each playing a different part of the whole piece of music will envelope the outdoor space. The groomed paths will lead you through art, sculpture, flags, wind chimes, writings, poetry and of course Sound. The intention is a reflective, contemplative experience for everyone involved. It is durational and layered without fixed focal points, allowing for spontaneous intersections and subtle unfolding, and its effects are felt and experienced more deeply over time.</i>	Sound Garden	\$3,000.00
Town of La Pointe <i>The Town of La Pointe couldn't let an outside entity determine its future. When the Madeline Island Ferry Line, which serves 420 year-round islanders, went up for sale in 2023, the town bought it from private owners for \$17.3 million. Now, the town aims to expand ferry service, allowing children attending mainland schools to join after-school activities and residents to work at mainland employers without missing the last ferry home. This initiative would bridge a longstanding equity gap that has challenged islanders.</i>	Creating Transportation Equity for Madeline Island	\$5,000.00
Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity, Inc. <i>The request for funds for "Rock the Island" serves as a pivotal opportunity to address both immediate community needs and long-term revitalization goals on Madeline Island. With a focus on enhancing Joni's Beach and the Dog Park, the initiative aims to bolster recreational spaces while fostering social cohesion. Additionally, "Rock the Island" acts as a catalyst for introducing critical home repair programs to island residents, addressing housing and infrastructure challenges. Goals include securing permits, coordinating with municipal authorities and community members, and initiating repair programs. Expected outcomes encompass improved community spaces, increased volunteer engagement, and a strengthened sense of community pride. This comprehensive approach ensures lasting positive impact and sets the stage for ongoing revitalization efforts.</i>	Rock the Island	\$1,120.00
		\$14,170.00

John Allan Kunz Fund for Reminiscence and Life Review**- Spring 2024**

University of Wisconsin - Superior Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies Programming \$750.00
We are requesting 750 dollars from the John Allan Kunz fund to help cover the costs of Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies throughout the Second Half of Life programming that John started. This year's focus will be a one-day educational event during November's "Social Isolation and Loneliness Week." The intent will be to provide opportunities for older adults to engage and connect with people and organizations in the Twin Ports community in addition to offering educational programming topics that support healthy bodies and healthy minds in the second half of life.

\$750.00**LaBounty Family Fund****- Spring 2024**

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency RSVP Two Harbors Area Outreach \$4,500.00
AEOA's Retired Senior and Volunteer Program (RSVP) connects clients and volunteers with a variety of programs and volunteer opportunities that include but are not limited to; Bone Builders, an exercise program vital to health and wellness of senior citizens, VINE, a tutoring program that connects applicable retirees to students in need, Intergenerational Pen Pal, which connects senior citizens and youth through writing letters, and Meals On Wheels, which delivers meals to seniors in need.

As a result of the pandemic and the increasing number of elderly individuals in our community, our client and volunteer participation has dwindled in recent years, with many clients and volunteers opting not to return. Consequently, it's imperative we intensify our efforts in outreach to attract new clients and volunteers. We seek support to facilitate outreach efforts aimed at both clients and volunteers, and to rebuild existing relationships and forge new partnerships in the Two Harbors community.

Community Partners Technology Improvements \$2,400.00
Community Partners is in need of technology upgrades to maintain accurate and secure financial transactions and reports that includes retrieval and storage of data sets, an improved sound system so that individuals attending educational or social events are not excluded because of hearing impairments, and ancillary Smart Board technologies that support virtual participation and conferencing. The existing computer and printer are over ten years old. Despite software upgrades and hard drive maintenance, the current computer take over an hour to load financial management software and supporting programs. Additionally, the current desktop version of financial management software will no longer be supported after July 2024, switching to an online version is of critical importance.

Justice North (fka LASNEM) Two Harbors Legal Services \$2,500.00
Justice North (formerly known as Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota) provides key legal services in Two Harbors that ensure low-income families' legal rights are protected, that families remain housed, safe with their families, and that their incomes are secure. Justice North attorneys provide representation and advice in evictions, custody, divorce, orders for protection, public benefits appeals, and other cases to preserve the basic needs of low-income families.

Lake Superior Railroad Museum Sensory Friendly Day Out With Thomas \$2,000.00
The most popular train engine in the World, Thomas the Tank Engine, is returning to Two Harbors this summer. While Thomas is for everyone, not everyone can be with Thomas. The noise, confusion, commotion and excitement is off-putting for family members with autism. Working with Autism Speaks Minnesota the Lake Superior Railroad Museum and North Shore Scenic Railroad have sponsored a Sensory Friendly Day for individuals on the Spectrum. We offer FREE admission for the family member and a parent/guardian to a controlled Day Out With Thomas (DOWT) with extremely limited attendance, an orderly progression of events, a much quieter environment with minimal distractions. The first ever Sensory Friendly Day Out With Thomas was held on the North Shore Scenic Railroad and is now a part of every Thomas appearance across the country.

PCs for People Technology Access to Bridge the Digital Divide \$5,000.00
In partnership with the Labounty Family Fund and collaboration with Two Harbors area organizations, PCs for People will provide 50 refurbished desktop sets and 50 hotspots with one-year internet subscriptions on the T-Mobile network to low-income households in Two Harbors. This initiative aims to address the digital divide in greater Minnesota, empowering individuals to succeed in education, employment, telehealth services, and community engagement. Through similar projects in various regions, we have witnessed an average 15% increase in income among participating families in the first year. With \$15,000 in funding, we will extend this impactful effort to Two Harbors, making a lasting difference and raising awareness of our mission to bridge the digital divide in small towns and rural communities throughout Minnesota.

Superior Hiking Trail Association Volunteer Trail Skills Training \$2,000.00
A coalition of non-profit hiking trail organizations led by the Superior Hiking Trail Association and the North Country Trail Association is hosting a trail skills training in Duluth in October that will better enable volunteers to build and maintain more sustainable hiking trails. By providing volunteers with this training, the organizations and agency partners can ensure that the volunteers are utilizing best practices to provide the optimal visitor experience possible while minimizing environmental and social impacts resulting from the weather and trail use.

Two Harbors Area Food Shelf Providing Fresh & Health Food in Lake County \$3,000.00
The Two Harbors Area Food Shelf has experienced record-setting demand within the last 12-month period as many area residents are struggling to make ends meet in the current economic climate. One of our greatest operating costs is purchasing food for our clients, which has also been directly affected by the current economic climate as food costs continue to rise. Our program emphasizes offering fresh and healthy food options for our clients, including milk, eggs, meat, and produce, all of which happen to come at an even greater cost than traditional foods offered by food shelves such as canned goods.

Western Lake Superior Habitat for Humanity Capacity Development to Adapt Homes \$3,053.00
Two Harbors has a critical need for affordable homes. Habitat helps low-income homeowners live longer in their homes, where they want to be. We achieve this goal by improving home safety and accessibility. Our objective is adapting permanent homes that support, sustain and provide relief to poor, distressed homeowners. People live longer with a higher quality of life at home. Homeowners, the public and the city all benefit when people are in safe, revitalized homes near family and community.

\$24,453.00

Lone Wolf Fund**- Spring 2024**

American Diabetes Association	Camp Needlepoint	\$1,283.00
<i>ADA Camp Needlepoint is one of our premier programs. Camp Needlepoint is held in two one-week sessions in August at the YMCA Camp St. Croix, just outside Hudson, Wisconsin. Besides the typical camp activities, such as swimming, archery, and horseback riding, campers participate in one half-hour session of diabetes education per day with a member of our medical staff. The campers are taught diabetes self-management skills and get to interact with other children who relate to the challenges of living with diabetes. Our campers learn more diabetes independence in one week than they have learned since diagnosis.</i>		
Hartley Nature Center	Environmental Education for Underserved Youth	\$3,000.00
<i>Field trips are an incredible opportunity for experiential learning that many special education programs and low income students do not have access to. We would use these funds to provide free environmental education field trips for special education classes, schools with the highest free and reduced lunch percentage, and other specialty programs that serve under resourced communities. We expect to be able to be able to offer 5-6 free programs serving between 180-240 students with this grant.</i>		
Minnesota Masonic Children's Clinic for Communication Disorders	STEAM for Kids with Communication Disorders	\$1,500.00
<i>The Masonic Children's Clinic for Communication Disorders (MMCCCD) uses a variety of activities to work on speech and language skills. An important part of any child's learning is exposure to STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, mathematics) activities. We kindly request funding to purchase materials to meet these needs. These activities, as all of the Clinic's programs, are no charge to the families. This allows many to get the help they need that they may otherwise not have access to.</i>		
Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center	Increasing Accessibility at Wolf Ridge	\$2,750.00
<i>Wolf Ridge provides experiential learning in the greatest outdoor classroom, we don't want accessibility to get in the way. With the support of the Lone Wolf Fund we can continue to improve our campus facilities and the full student experience. Funding will help us update campus spaces and add additional adaptive equipment to our outdoor classroom.</i>		
		\$8,533.00

Mary H. Rice Community Innovation Fund**- Spring 2024**

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	Game-Sharers: Supporting the Native Lacrosse Club	\$1,263.00
<i>Bad River member Joseph Gokee, with UW-EX educator, Joy Schelble, have led baaga'adowewin (native lacrosse) for Bad River for 9 years. It began as a way to bring together a community grieving from a police shooting, & is now a promising movement to bring back the "Creator's game." The kids who have been playing the medicine game the longest are now in their late teens, taking on leadership roles within the hosting of games and teaching younger players. Our project seeks funding to assist with hosting an inter-tribal tournament and to cover team travel costs to a special regional tournament.</i>		
Bayfield Summer Concerts	Classical Series Bayfield Summer Concerts	\$3,000.00
<i>The Classical Series of Bayfield Summer Concerts is a 10 concert series featuring local and visiting artists that provides an in depth educational musical experience of Classical and Americana repertoire for general audiences without consideration of ability to pay.</i>		
CORE Community Resources, Inc	CORE Food Pantry Expansion	\$3,000.00
<i>CORE's Food Pantry is central to our mission to reduce hunger in northern Bayfield County, including Gaa-Miskwaabikaang/Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Since July 2023, food pantry visits have increased by 47 percent. We will be better positioned to meet this growing need as we move the food pantry into its newly constructed wing of our building this summer. With the support of this fund, we will be able to purchase additional food to continue serving those in need, including the 199 children who benefitted from our food pantry in 2023.</i>		
Recreation and Fitness Resources	Bayfield Recreation Financial Assistance Programs	\$5,000.00
<i>The Bayfield Recreation Center has been undergoing unprecedented growth following: Covid, Purchase of the Building, and Strategic Planning. We provide need based financial assistance. The number of families taking advantage in 2023 has doubled in the past year from 20 to 40, and an average family size of 4, that is about 160 members or about 15% of our overall member base. We expect the number of people on our community on financial assistance to continue to grow are providing more assistance than projected for 2024 already. We rely on Fundraising, Grants, and Donations to keep membership affordable to the community.</i>		
Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity, Inc.	Critical Home Repairs Program	\$4,000.00
<i>In response to the pressing need for safe and stable housing in the Ashland Bayfield region, Wild Rivers Habitat for Humanity is launching a critical home repair program. Our goal is to address the housing crisis by providing essential repairs and renovations to low to moderate income homeowners, ensuring they can continue to live safely and comfortably in their homes. Through partnerships with local churches and community groups, contractors and volunteers, we aim to complete critical repairs efficiently and cost-effectively. The expected outcomes include improved living conditions, enhanced community resilience, and a stronger sense of stability for families in need.</i>		
		\$16,263.00

Michael Madeline Island Fund**- Spring 2024**

Anishinaabe Agriculture Institute	Anishinaabe Heritage Farming Project	\$2,000.00
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Anishinaabe Agriculture is a five-year-old Anishinaabe-led farming program, with thirty years of experience as farmers and intergenerational farming experience. We are from the White Earth reservation, but are farming in our homeland- Mooningwanikanig on land adjoining the Bad River reservation with youth from Bad River. We are focused on the restoration of traditional Anishinaabe crops, like corn, beans, squash, potatoes, tobacco, and Jerusalem artichokes as well as fiber hemp, which we are growing for textiles We will teach traditional farming knowledge, practices and grow food for our ceremonies and communities. We wish to secure stipend expenses for tribal members especially youth from the Food Sovereignty Program of Bad River and the White Earth Anishinaabe community to engage these youth in our farming work on the island.

Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians	Bad River THPO Madeline Island Partnership	\$2,500.00
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The Bad River Repatriation Committee (BRRC) and the Bad River Tribal Historic Preservation (THPO) Office will erect a new plaque at the Indian Cemetery on Madeline Island to augment, not replace, the current one. The new plaque will tell the story of the Ojibwe migration to Madeline Island and environs in our words. Once the plaque is erected, we will work with the Wisconsin Historical Society/Madeline Island Museum to present a related educational activity to students of LaPointe Elementary.

La Pointe Center, Inc.	Positivity Children's Theater	\$1,950.00
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Positivity Children's Theatre has facilitated a child oriented theater program for many years on the island. It was designed to support the creative energy of children in a fun and innovative atmosphere, incorporating drama, music and movement. This funding will support a scholarship for 13 children to attend and participate in the theatrical experiences being offered. Without the scholarship opportunity, some children will not be able to participate due to a financial need. Participating in the program provides children with an opportunity they may not have elsewhere and capitalizes on their interests, socialization, trust, independence, confidence, and skills.

\$6,450.00**Red Cliff / Miskwaabikaang Fund****- Spring 2024**

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	2024 Red Cliff Royalty Pageant and Coronation	\$5,000.00
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This request supports the Coronation of Red Cliff Pow Wow Royalty at the 46th Annual Red Cliff Pow Wow. Royalty include six youth between ages of 6 to 18 who serve as cultural ambassadors representing Red Cliff at local and area pow wows and cultural events throughout their one year reign. Guided by a commitment to uphold a Code of Conduct as positive role models, this is an opportunity to exercise peer and community leadership grounded in community cultural values.

\$5,000.00**Sandbulte Family Higher Education Endowment Fund****- Spring 2024**

College of St. Scholastica, Inc.	BioCHIP 2.0	\$6,000.00
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The Biology Community High Impact Practice project will provide the College of St. Scholastica (CSS) sophomore and junior biology students with the opportunity to engage in professional development programming and a paid internship experience, giving priority to low-income and first-generation students. As the second year of this pilot program, the project aims to build on the success of year one with small improvements but with the continued goal of addressing the growing opportunity gap by providing students with early professional development experiences that prepare them to enter the workforce successfully.

\$6,000.00**Scott D. Anderson Leadership Foundation Fund****- Spring 2024**

College of St. Scholastica, Inc.	2024 Scott D. Anderson Leadership Forum	\$21,000.00
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We are requesting support for the annual Scott Anderson Leadership Forum to ensure the continuance of a high-quality youth leadership development program for area high school students. As a service learning program, students develop values, a vision, and the leadership skills necessary to become involved and engaged in their community.

\$21,000.00**Silver Bay Charitable Fund****- Spring 2024**

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency	RSVP Silver Bay Area Outreach	\$8,587.00
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AEOA's Retired Senior and Volunteer Program (RSVP) connects clients and volunteers with a variety of programs and volunteer opportunities that include but are not limited to; Bone Builders, an exercise program vital to health and wellness of senior citizens, VINE, a tutoring program that connects applicable retirees to students in need, Intergenerational Pen Pal, which connects senior citizens and youth through writing letters, and Meals On Wheels, which delivers meals to seniors in need.

As a result of the pandemic and the increasing number of elderly individuals in our community, our client and volunteer participation has dwindled in recent years, with many clients and volunteers opting not to return. Consequently, it's imperative we intensify our efforts in outreach to attract new clients and volunteers. We seek funding to facilitate outreach efforts aimed at both clients and volunteers, and to rebuild existing relationships and forge new partnerships in the Silver Bay community.

Boy Scouts of America-Voyageurs Area Council <i>Rural areas often lack structured extracurricular programs for youth, especially at-risk and low-income youth. The Boy Scouts of America helps young people develop life skills, including leadership, ethical decision-making, and an appreciation of the outdoors. Importantly, the BSA now welcomes youth regardless of gender and can serve all youth in any small town. The Voyageurs Area Council of the BSA aims to expand its Scouting programs by starting a Cub Scout pack in Silver Bay.</i>	Restarting Scouting in Silver Bay	\$2,000.00
Friends of the Finland Community <i>We are requesting continued support to sustain the Finland Community Youth Program. These funds are critical for our increasing staff needs at our weekly Youth Night, annual outings for local youth, and our yearly Camp Finland summer program.</i>	Finland Community Youth Program 2024	\$7,500.00
Friends of the Silver Bay Public Library <i>The Silver Bay Public Library is a place to find books and so much more! As the Friends of the Library we work closely with library staff to identify needs that the library has in how it serves the community and then work to fund those needs when they are over and above the operating budget of the library. The library works hard to support the community through knowledge sharing, community gathering and promoting life long learning. This grant is to support lifelong learning experiences that happen at the library as well as outside the library. We are working to provide a variety of facilitated programs (by library staff and community members) and self directed activities that foster personal curiosity and discovery and connections between our community members of all ages.</i>	Inspiring Lifelong Learning with the Library	\$5,000.00
ISD #381 - Lake Superior Public Schools <i>Little Mariners Childcare Center located in the William Kelley school in Silver Bay is a Minnesota Department of Human Services licensed child care provider. Currently, LMCC serves as the only licensed center-based child care provider in Silver Bay. LMCC provides childcare at all three licensed facility levels (infants, toddlers, and preschoolers). The center currently serves 28 students, however, many of the students are enrolled only two or three days per week. However, to remain fiscally viable, the center needs revenue equivalent to full-time contracts and is considering moving in the direction of only accepting full-time enrollments. LMCC is seeking funds to be used as scholarships for families with part-time contracts in order for those part-time contracts to remain viable another year, thus ensuring the childcare needs of the community continue to be met.</i>	Anchoring Little Mariners Childcare Center	\$7,500.00
North Shore Collaborative <i>The LOTS summer literacy program has been offered since 2009 and distributes over 1,200 books annually. Studies have shown that by providing children with early literacy education, it leads to better reading proficiency, improved imagination and creativity, cognitive development, and improved language skills. The goal of the LOTS program is to get books into the hands of children so that they may have a lifelong love of reading and be better prepared for school.</i>	Learning Opportunities Through Stories (LOTS)	\$1,000.00
North Shore Horizons, Inc. <i>The federal government significantly decreased funding amongst ALL domestic violence/sexual assault programs in the United States. North Shore Horizons needs your limited term help in order to fill that deficit until a resolution is reached at the state/federal level in order to maintain our current level of services.</i>	Short Term Service Provision	\$3,000.00
Silver Bay Parent Teacher Student Organization <i>The William Kelley Elementary Youth Enrichment Program is offered for Silver Bay and surrounding communities. It not only helps fill in the gap for child care needs for some families, but also offers a fun, safe and educational environment for students to participate in outside of school hours.</i>	William Kelley Elementary After School Program	\$5,000.00
Two Harbors Area Food Shelf <i>The Two Harbors Area Food Shelf has experienced record-setting demand within the last 12-month period as many area residents are struggling to make ends meet in the current economic climate. One of our greatest operating costs is purchasing food for our clients, which has also been directly affected by the current economic climate as food costs continue to rise. Our program emphasizes offering fresh and healthy food options for our clients, including milk, eggs, meat, and produce, all of which happen to come at an even greater cost than traditional foods offered by food shelves such as canned goods.</i>	Providing Fresh & Health Food in Lake County	\$1,000.00
		\$40,587.00

**Two Harbors Area Fund
- Spring 2024**

Above and Beyond with U <i>The key purpose for the request is to increase the effectiveness of Above & Beyond With U, a new local non profit promoting accessibility and inclusion for those with disabilities. The goal of the project is to increase recognition through updating our website and social media, creating promotional materials, providing training for the Board of Directors and obtaining certifications in the field of accessibility and inclusion.</i>	Increasing Impact of Above & Beyond With U	\$5,000.00
Boy Scouts of America-Voyageurs Area Council <i>Rural areas often lack structured extracurricular programs for youth, especially at-risk and low-income youth. The Boy Scouts of America helps young people develop life skills, including leadership, ethical decision-making, and an appreciation of the outdoors. Importantly, the BSA now welcomes youth regardless of gender and can serve all youth in any small town. The Voyageurs Area Council of the BSA aims to expand its Scouting programs by starting a Cub Scout pack in Two Harbors.</i>	Starting Cub Scouts in Two Harbors	\$5,000.00

Community Partners	Volunteer Program Support	\$5,000.00
<i>Community Partners volunteers provide thousands of hours of in-kind organizational support that enables us to serve a greater number of individuals. Volunteer services include non-emergency transportation to medical appointments in Two Harbors and Duluth, daily Meals on Wheels deliveries Monday through Friday, clerical office support, social engagement opportunities, caregiver support, outreach and education, weekly grocery shopping, light housekeeping, and dementia programs.</i>		
<i>As the aging demographic increases, so does the need for consistent care and programs. In 2023, the demand for transportation has increased 57 percent from quarter one to quarter four. While there is no single factor that has contributed to the increased need, what we do know is that it will continue beyond 2030. Community Partners is committed to maintaining the independence of the individuals who request our services through the coordination of care that is provided by our Volunteer and Program Coordinator.</i>		
Justice North (fka LASNEM)	Two Harbors Legal Services	\$1,770.00
<i>Justice North (formerly known as Legal Aid Service of Northeastern Minnesota) provides key legal services in Two Harbors that ensure low-income families' legal rights are protected, that families remain housed, safe with their families, and that their incomes are secure. Justice North attorneys provide representation and advice in evictions, custody, divorce, orders for protection, public benefits appeals, and other cases to preserve the basic needs of low-income families.</i>		
Knife River Heritage & Cultural Center	Build Shelter Over Commercial Fishing Exhibit	\$5,000.00
<i>We intend to build a metal-roofed open shelter over our commercial fishing exhibit consisting of the restored fish tug CRUSADER II, a viewing deck that parallels the boat, and five interpretive displays that describe Knife River's commercial fishing history from Indigenous times. A shelter for CRUSADER II has been the goal of three communities:</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lake County Historical Society rescued the boat from Knife River in the mid-80s where it was then displayed on Lighthouse Point for 34 years before returned to Knife River in 2016 because the Society could no longer care for it.</i> • <i>It is significant to Larsmont where it was built on 1938 by the Hill family.</i> • <i>It is an icon of Knife River where it was christened by King Olav of Norway in 1938 and was fished until the mid-1950s.</i> 		
<i>We are asking the TH Foundation to help us complete the shelter the Historical Society intended to build 34 years ago.</i>		
North Shore Collaborative	Learning Opportunities Through Stories (LOTS)	\$1,000.00
<i>The LOTS summer literacy program has been offered since 2009 and distributes over 1,200 books annually. Studies have shown that by providing children with early literacy education, it leads to better reading proficiency, improved imagination and creativity, cognitive development, and improved language skills. The goal of the LOTS program is to get books into the hands of children so that they may have a lifelong love of reading and be better prepared for school.</i>		
North Shore Horizons, Inc.	Short Term Service Provision	\$5,000.00
<i>The Federal Government significantly decreased funding amongst ALL domestic violence/sexual assault programs in the United States. North Shore Horizons needs your limited term help in order to fill that deficit until a resolution is reached at the state/federal level in order to maintain our current level of services.</i>		
Northern STEM Robotics	Northern STEM Robotics Reboot	\$5,000.00
<i>Northern STEM Robotics (NSR) is a nonprofit going through a transition from the inaugural board supporting robotics in the Hermantown area to supporting LEGO Robotics and more in the Two Harbors area and beyond. NSR's goals are to provide support of student needs for robotics opportunities, the pursuit of STEM careers and STEM education. The NSR Reboot Project includes training for our board of directors in strategic planning, creation of a website and social media platforms to promote our non-profit and its work. In addition we will create systems and opportunities to train more adults for coaching and mentorship roles. Robotics experience at all levels is rapidly growing in our area, so we need robust and effective support systems to be able to provide quality STEM education and experiences for all student and families.</i>		
Two Harbors Area Food Shelf	Providing Fresh & Health Food in Lake County	\$5,000.00
<i>The Two Harbors Area Food Shelf has experienced record-setting demand within the last 12-month period as many area residents are struggling to make ends meet in the current economic climate. One of our greatest operating costs is purchasing food for our clients, which has also been directly affected by the current economic climate as food costs continue to rise. Our program emphasizes offering fresh and healthy food options for our clients, including milk, eggs, meat, and produce, all of which happen to come at an even greater cost than traditional foods offered by food shelves such as canned goods.</i>		
Two Harbors Community Radio	Youth Radio Initiative- Connecting with Community	\$4,850.00
<i>KTWH, Two Harbors Community Radio is responding to a need for our area's youth to find meaningful roles and representation in community conversations on issues that will affect their future. Youth Radio provides an opportunity in our 4 day-week school district, providing students meaningful roles in a grassroots medium that's immersive, creative, rigorous, and inspiring when done well. And they can have fun in the process.</i>		
<i>Our grassroots radio service will engage students and train them as citizen broadcasters with the skills needed to create relevant content about their own lives and those of their peers, as well as the people of all ages and backgrounds that they encounter inside and outside the studio. The youth trainees take initiative based on learning core skills in recording and editing and expanding on that. They create original radio program content under adult guidance, relying on their own writing and planning skills and imaginations to become capable independent producers.</i>		
Two Harbors Soccer Club	Summer Adventure Soccer Academies	\$4,200.00
<i>The Two Harbors Adventure Academy is a series of activities that allow hiking, camping, and adventure, all while encouraging teamwork and friendship. This is done in an educational and fun manner both inside and outside but is mainly geared towards physical activity outdoors. We also incorporate elements of our primary activity focus, the sport of soccer, to engage our current and prospective club athletes, their parents, grandparents, and siblings.</i>		

Western Lake Superior Habitat for Humanity	Adapting Two Harbors Homes	\$5,000.00
<i>Two Harbors has a critical need for affordable homes. Habitat helps low-income homeowners live longer in their homes, where they want to be. We achieve this goal by improving home safety and accessibility. Our objective is adapting permanent homes to support and provide relief to poor or distressed homeowners. People live longer with a higher quality of life at home. Homeowners, the public and the city all benefit when people are in safe, revitalized homes near family and community.</i>		

\$51,820.00

West Wind Fund

- Spring 2024

Bayfield Carnegie Library	Replace Outdoor Lamp Posts	\$1,198.00
<i>The five lamp posts around the Library are in very poor repair, with parts missing and electrical connections exposed (currently duct taped). New posts, matching current City street lights, and are "night sky kind" are needed.</i>		

\$1,198.00

Wetherby Fund

- Spring 2024

CHUM	Steve O'Neil Apartments Youth Outdoors	\$5,000.00
<i>100% of children at the Steve O'Neil Apartments (SONA) have a history of homelessness and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs); most have experienced recurring complex trauma. Chum's Youth Outdoors Program provides them with outdoor experiences, opportunities for structured and unstructured interactions with nature, and several field trips. Our goal is that they connect with nature through all their senses, try new experiences, and gain healing and confidence through self-directed play.</i>		

Duluth Area Family YMCA	Harbor Highlands Youth Programming Outdoors	\$5,000.00
<i>Support from the Wetherby Fund will provide low income students ages 5-18 from the Y's Harbor Highlands drop in program with the opportunity to experience local parks, state parks, and attend programming through The Duluth Parks and Recreation Department. Funds will help eliminate social, financial, and transportation barriers that often prevent low-income students from attending learning about nature.</i>		

ISD #100 - Wrenshall School District	Wrens Club	\$4,000.00
<i>ISD 100 has an opportunity to increase enrollment and better serve all families in and out of our district. Within our district, 45% of pre-K through 6th grade students qualify for the free and reduced lunch program. Our minority population is 10%. Better serving these and all families begins with an affordable offering of full day childcare on non-preschool days to families with 3 year old preschoolers. It continues through our plans to expand care offerings and programming from pre-k through school age children. If we can increase funding the result will be more affordable care that will keep children in a safe and enriching environment.</i>		

\$14,000.00

Wirtanen Family Fund

- Spring 2024

Gender Justice	Advancing Gender Equity Through the Law	\$2,873.00
<i>Gender Justice works to expand access to abortion care, protect trans rights, and advance gender equity in Minnesota and across the Upper Midwest. We utilize effective impact litigation, public education, and movement building know-how to move the law forward and eliminate gender discrimination, thus alleviating the negative economic and health outcomes associated with gender injustice. In this time when equity rights and bodily autonomy are under attack, your support helps move this work forward.</i>		

Minnesota Dental Foundation	2024 Minnesota Mission of Mercy (2024 MnMOM)	\$2,873.00
<i>We will be setting up a 100-chair temporary dental clinic at the DECC on June 6 for a 2-day clinic on June 7-8. The dentistry that will be provided includes exams, fillings, extractions, root canals on front teeth, partial dentures for missing front teeth, children's dentistry, cleanings and oral hygiene instruction. Anyone can attend and no insurance or identification is needed. Approximately 1,000 compassionate volunteers will take care of approximately 1,200 patients and provide close to \$1 million in free dentistry.</i>		

Minnesota Justice Foundation	Summer Fellowship Program	\$2,874.00
<i>Funds will be used to increase free legal services for clients with issues involving housing, domestic violence, government benefits, and more. Law students will be paid to work full-time at public interest law agencies during the summer which, in the short-term, will allow agencies to handle a higher volume of cases. Program funds also will have the long-term effect of giving students experience, skills, and connections that will help them pursue a legal career that serves the public interest.</i>		

\$8,620.00

SPRING 2024 COMPETITIVE GRANT CYCLE TOTAL AWARDS

\$635,618.00