



June 2016 grant awards

Local Grants

Area of focus: Vibrant Itasca County

Bigfork Valley Foundation

Donation in support of Bigfork area youth and family programs in Itasca County

\$250

Bigfork Wilderness Committee

Donation in support of Bigfork Wilderness Days Celebration in Itasca County

\$500

City of Coleraine

Donation in support of replacing the front doors on the Coleraine Public Library in Itasca County

\$1,000

City of Keewatin

Capital support to upgrade its community center with handicapped accessible restrooms in Itasca County

\$5,000

Deer River White Oak Society, Inc.

Donation in support of the 2016 White Oak Sled Dog Race in Itasca County

\$500

Edge of the Wilderness Discovery Center

Donation in support of summer programming in Itasca County

\$500

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation

Donation in support of the Itasca Area Cancer Crisis Fund for 2016

\$1,000

Habitat for Humanity of Itasca County

Donation in support of hosting the 2016 statewide Habitat for Humanity conference in Grand Rapids, Minnesota

\$500

Independent School District 316

Operating support for Children First! activities through June 2018 in Itasca County

\$7,000

Independent School District 318

Operating support for Children's First! activities and events through June 2018 in Itasca County

\$7,000

Independent School District 318

Operating support of Project READ during 2016-18 in Itasca County

\$30,000

Independent School District 318 Donation for advertising the 2016-17 Blandin Education Grants Program in the Grand Rapids High School yearbook in Itasca County	\$325
Independent School District 319 Nashwauk-Keewatin Donation in support of Nashwauk-Keewatin high school's 2016 post prom event in Itasca County	\$400
Independent School District 319 Operating support for Children's First! activities through June 2018 in Itasca County	\$2,500
ISD 317 Deer River Operating support for Children's First! activities through June 2018 in Itasca County	\$7,000
Itasca Choral Society Capital support to purchase new risers for performances in Itasca County	\$2,500
Itasca Community College Donation in support of Family Empowerment Day to bring together mixed race families for informal networking and sharing in Itasca County	\$500
Itasca Youth For Christ Donation in support of Itasca Youth for Christ in Itasca County	\$250
Judy Garland Children's Museum Donation in support of the 2016 Judy Garland Festival in Itasca County	\$1,000
KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc Project support to develop a new collaborative governance structure with Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency to better serve rural clients in poverty in northeastern Minnesota	\$20,000
Minnesota Forestry Association Donation in support of producing a University of Minnesota Extension Forestry special magazine covering woodland stewardship tips and educational materials in Itasca County	\$1,000
Pengilly Booster Club Donation in support of upgrades to the Pengilly Community Center in Itasca County	\$1,000
Second Harvest North Central Food Bank Donation in support of workforce development research meeting expenses in Itasca County	\$1,000

Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency

Operations support for continuation of the Adult Scholarship Program through June 2018 in Itasca County **\$391,185**

City of Grand Rapids

Capital support for development and construction of a multi-purpose outdoor recreation facility in Itasca County **\$200,000**

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation

Project support for the Mobility Mania event to bring awareness to accessibility needs in Itasca County **\$5,000**

Grand Rapids Area Community Foundation

Project support for the development of Spark and the Pathway to Student Success in the Itasca County area **\$60,000**

Itasca Area Schools Collaborative

Operating support for continuation of the Invest Early program in Itasca County **\$2,100,000**

Mississippi Headwaters Area Dental Health Center

Capital support for a new expanded clinic building in rural Minnesota and a significant portion of Itasca County **\$50,000**

Northland Area Family Service Center

Project support to develop and implement an evaluation process for the Northland Early Childhood Collaborative in the Itasca County area **\$10,000**

Rural Minnesota

Area of focus: Expand Opportunity

Area Partnership for Economic Expansion

Project support for membership confined to charitable education and research activity in rural Minnesota **\$45,000**

Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations

Donation in support of creating and distributing five educational segments on powwows and powwow etiquette via Minnesota AMPERS stations including KAXE/KBXE (Grand Rapids), KOJB (Leech Lake), KKWE (White Earth) and WTIP (Grand Marais) in rural Minnesota **\$1,000**

Center For Rural Policy & Development

Operating support over 2 years in rural Minnesota **\$140,000**

Enterprise Minnesota Project support for the 2016 State of Manufacturing survey in rural Minnesota	\$5,000
Hibbing College Foundation Donation in support of Hibbing Community College's centennial celebration in rural Minnesota	\$1,000
Hubbard County Project support for the Workforce Assessment and Action Plan project in rural Minnesota	\$5,000
Lao Assistance Center of Minnesota Project support for development of a Lao Parent Task Force in the Warroad, Minnesota area	\$7,000
Leech Lake Tribal College Project support for an engineering study as part of a regional renewable energy demonstration project in rural Minnesota	\$5,000
Longville Area Community Choir Donation in support of the 2016 Music in the Park series in the Remer-Longville area	\$500
Minnesota D.A.R.E., Inc. Donation in support of D.A.R.E. programming in rural Minnesota	\$1,000
MN Council of Nonprofits Inc Membership support for 2016	\$1,600
Minnesota Public Radio Operating support over two years for continuation of the rural news reporting network in rural Minnesota	\$200,000
Renewing the Countryside II Project support for a feasibility study on innovative financing models for rural farm and food businesses in rural Minnesota	\$10,000
Second Harvest North Central Food Bank Donation in support of research and preparation for presentation at the Grantmakers for Effective Organizations conference	\$400
Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation Project support to assist the town of Madelia's post-fire business and downtown recovery efforts in rural Minnesota	\$50,000
Southwest Initiative Foundation Donation in support of sponsorship of the 2016 EDAM Summer Conference for economic development professionals throughout rural Minnesota	\$1,000

Area of focus: Invest in Leadership

City of Bird Island

Project support to determine the feasibility of developing recreational amenities in Bird Island as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program in rural Minnesota **\$5,000**

City of Ely

Project support for the small business conference in Ely as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program in rural Minnesota **\$2,500**

City of St. Charles

Project support to increase safety knowledge and practices of youth on bicycles as St. Charles is intersected by two major highways, as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program in rural Minnesota **\$2,000**

Lower Sioux Indian Community

Project support for cross-cultural training for educators and community leaders in the Redwood Falls area as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$5,000**

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Project support to facilitate LGBT youth support groups in Virginia, Minnesota, as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants program **\$5,000**

MN Council On Foundations

Project support for the 2016 MCF Experience funders tour in rural Minnesota **\$10,000**

Northwest Minnesota Foundation

Donation in support of a World Cafe event for the Park Rapids community as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program **\$1,000**

Perham Community Food Shelf Inc

Project support to develop a mobile food pantry serving the communities of Frazee, Vergas and Wolf Lake as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program in rural Minnesota **\$5,000**

Regents of The University of Minnesota

Project support for the One Minnesota 2016 Conference of Legislators in rural Minnesota **\$10,000**

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation

Project support for community engagement and strategic planning for the Owatonna area in rural Minnesota as part of the Blandin Leadership Grants Program **\$5,000**

Broadband Rural Minnesota grants

Brainerd Lakes Area Development Corp

Project support for a two-day hack fest to share information, use local skills to problem solve local challenges, and develop new technology solutions as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$10,000

City of Cloquet

Project support to provide Cloquet and Moose Lake libraries with makerspace equipment and training, and six mobile hot spots to provide home access for un(der) served residents of the County as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$6,500

First American Financial Services

Project support for a feasibility study to extend broadband services to the under and un-served areas of the Todd Wadena Electric Cooperative service area as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$13,825

Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Project support for interactive device applications development for youth in grades 4-12 as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$8,620

Fond Du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Capital support for the purchase and installation of interactive devices to enhance internal and external communications for government and community use as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$4,000

Itasca Economic Development Corporation

Project support to increase the technological sophistication of businesses and organizations by providing educational and networking opportunities as part of the Broadband Program in Itasca County

\$15,000

Lower Sioux Indian Community

Capital support to provide reliable, high-speed internet access to key tribal buildings for residents, service providers, officials and visitors as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$9,765

Project FINE

Project support to provide technology and coding education for diverse youth as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$25,000

Redwood County

Project support to promote the new Technology Training Center classes as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$4,000

Region 5 Regional Dev Commission

Project support for a survey and assessment tools to collect and process information from a sample of new Consolidated Telephone Company broadband customers as part of the Broadband Program

in rural Minnesota **\$10,500**

Traverse County

Project support to implement a broadband feasibility study as part of the Broadband Program in rural Minnesota

\$25,000

Total

67 grants

\$3,628,120