



For Immediate Release
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The Minneapolis Foundation Awards 50 Community Grants for \$1.7 million

Minneapolis, Minn. — The Minneapolis Foundation recently awarded 50 Community Grants totaling \$1,727,400 to organizations under its three areas of focus for community impact – transforming education, promoting economic vitality, and building social capital. The activities funded grants will help achieve a set of key results for Minneapolis residents – from greater family stability, to increased student success, and a more prepared workforce.

These grants are awarded from an endowment to meet critical community needs as identified by the Foundation's board of trustees. The endowment is funded by Minnesotans who want to make a greater community impact by combining their charitable gifts (either planned or direct) with those of other civic-minded individuals and families.

"Our goal is social, economic, and racial equity, without exception," said Sandy Vargas, president and CEO of The Minneapolis Foundation. "With these grants we are building upon the work that's happening to ensure that all Minneapolis residents have the same opportunities to build a positive future for themselves, their families, and their communities."

The following is a breakdown of the grant totals in each focus area and a list of grantee recipients. Visit www.MinneapolisFoundation.org for a complete list of recent Community Grant awards, descriptions, and application information. The next application deadline for Community Grants is March, 2011.

Transforming Education 17 grants totaling \$635,000

Our investment in this area focuses on three key results: student success, reforming public education systems, and community and parent engagement. \$635,000 in grants will support activities to improve early childhood learning readiness, advance research and advocacy efforts, increase parent engagement, support post-secondary school-readiness, and improve Minneapolis Public Schools.

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List of Education Grants

Admission Possible \$45,000	MIGIZI Communications \$35,000
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities \$30,000	Minnesota Literacy Council \$35,000
Child Care WORKS \$50,000	National Youth Leadership Council \$40,000
Children's Theatre Company \$30,000	Parents United for Public Schools \$40,000
Conflict Resolution Center \$30,000	Phillips Indian Educators \$40,000
Hiawatha Leadership Academy \$50,000	Phyllis Wheatley Community Center \$35,000
KIPP: Minnesota \$40,000	The Power of People Leadership Institute \$35,000
Learning Disabilities Association \$35,000	YWCA of Minneapolis \$30,000
Legal Rights Center \$35,000	

Promoting Economic Vitality 18 grants totaling \$565,000

Our investment in this area focuses on three key results: family stability, a prepared workforce, and community wealth. Grant awards totaling \$565,000 will support home ownership programs, prevent foreclosures and homelessness, advocate for affordable housing, and support job training, business development, and employment programs.

List of Economic Vitality Grants

African Economic Development Solutions \$30,000	Metropolitan Economic Development Association \$40,000
Catalyst Community Partners \$40,000	Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless \$30,000
City of Lakes Community Land Trust \$40,000	Neighborhood Development Alliance \$10,000
Corporation for Supportive Housing \$40,000	Northpoint Health and Wellness Center \$25,000
Council on Crime and Justice \$40,000	Powderhorn Residents Group, Inc. \$25,000
Farmers Legal Action Group \$30,000	Project for Pride in Living \$25,000

Jeremiah Program \$30,000	Somali Success School \$30,000
Jewish Community Action \$40,000	St. Stephens Human Services \$40,000
Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis \$25,000	YouthLink \$25,000

Building Social Capital 15 grants totaling \$527,400

Our investment in this area focuses on three key results: communities speak and act for themselves, organizations are responsive, and leaders utilize community assets. \$527,400 in grants will provide technical assistance and capacity building programs, implement the City of Minneapolis' Youth Violence Blueprint, strengthen community media, empower community members to identify and address issues that directly affect them, and increase community-based civic engagement.

List of Building Social Capital Grants

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation \$30,000	Nonprofits Assistance Fund \$40,000
Asian Women United of Minnesota \$20,000	The Advocates for Human Rights \$40,000
Council on American-Islamic Relations, Minnesota Chapter Inc. \$22,400	The Banyan Community \$25,000
Headwaters Foundation for Justice \$40,000	The Center for Leadership Innovation \$35,000
Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota \$50,000	The Link \$35,000
MAD DADS \$40,000	Twin Cities Media Alliance \$35,000
Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board \$40,000	University of Minnesota, Center for Youth Development \$40,000
Minnesota Council of Nonprofits \$35,000	

The Minneapolis Foundation helps people support their community and causes they care about and invests in efforts to ensure every person in Minneapolis has an opportunity to thrive. Established in 1915, The Minneapolis Foundation now manages more than \$600 million in assets, administers more than 1,100 charitable funds and distributes approximately \$36 million in grants each year. In addition, The Minneapolis Foundation works with other community leaders to improve the quality of life in our region and serve as a catalyst for discussion and action on critical issues. For more information, visit www.MinneapolisFoundation.org.