

# FALL 2016 GRANTMAKING

The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois (CFNIL) has been investing in the Rockford region since 1953. Our early grants responded to community need by distributing the polio vaccine and building playgrounds. Since its founding, CFNIL has granted more than \$63,000,000 to charitable causes. This has been made possible through the generosity of our donors—individuals, families and organizations committed to improving our region’s quality of life. Their endowed gifts will continue to strengthen our community for generations. That’s the power of endowment.

Education has always been a priority for CFNIL. Historically, more than a quarter of CFNIL’s grantmaking has supported education. In 2012, a bequest from Dr. Louis and Violet Rubin significantly increased CFNIL’s grantmaking capacity enabling CFNIL to launch Education Works, a grant strategy that invests in scholarship endowments, after-school programs, and career pathways initiatives.

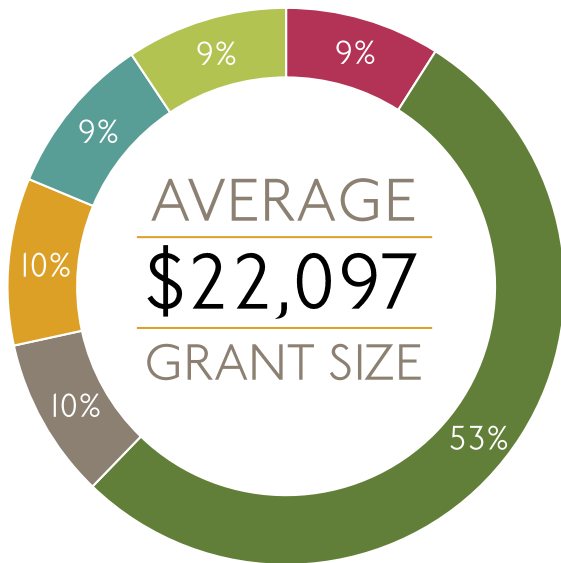
The Fall 2016 Grant Cycle was the third to accept proposals for Education Works. After reviewing proposals from area nonprofits and educational institutions, CFNIL Trustees committed \$635,000\* over the next three years to after-school programs and career pathways initiatives in the region. Since its inception, CFNIL Trustees have committed \$1,625,664\* to programs, projects, and events that align with Education Works.

Fall 2016 is the single largest Community Grants cycle in CFNIL history. It also contains the largest one-year grant made through the program, a \$188,622 grant to the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford for its Growing the Next Generation of Healthcare Professionals project. The project will install state-of-the-art labs and learning spaces at the College of Medicine, which will help it accommodate 55 additional medical students per year.

CFNIL will also fund an exhibit by an internationally-renowned artist, a broadly collaborative after-school program in Rochelle, a cutting-edge welding program in Oregon, hearing aids for underinsured seniors, meals for our hungry neighbors, a beautification and revitalization effort in downtown Rockford, and an initiative to swap volunteer hours for YMCA memberships for local teens.

The next application for the Community Grants Program will be open from late August to early October 2017. For more information about CFNIL’s grantmaking and how to apply, please visit [www.cfnil.org](http://www.cfnil.org). To learn how to support CFNIL’s grantmaking, visit [www.cfnil.org/endowment](http://www.cfnil.org/endowment).

*\*Includes multi-year grants. Recipients of multi-year grants need to demonstrate progress toward their anticipated results in order to receive funding for the second and third years.*



	# of Grants	All Years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Arts & Humanities	11	\$107,540	\$107,540	\$0	\$0
Education	14	\$635,000	\$563,420	\$48,290	\$23,290
Health	5	\$111,645	\$111,645	\$0	\$0
Human Services	9	\$115,748	\$115,748	\$0	\$0
Sustainable Communities	5	\$111,644	\$111,644	\$0	\$0
Youth & Families	10	\$111,644	\$111,644	\$0	\$0
	<b>54</b>	<b>\$1,193,221</b>	<b>\$1,121,641</b>	<b>\$48,290</b>	<b>\$23,290</b>

## ARTS & HUMANITIES | 11 grants totaling \$107,540



### Artists' Ensemble Theater

#### *AE Summer Players*

Artists' Ensemble Theater will form a teen theater troupe that will perform at Rockford Park District and Rockford Housing Authority locations in summer 2017. The performances will be free and the teen theater troupe will receive professional instruction.

\$2,500 from the Rod MacDonald Memorial Theater Endowment Fund



### Freeport Public Library

#### *One Book, One Freeport 2017*

Freeport Public Library will provide free copies of *Gloryland* as part of its One Book, One Freeport project. The library will host educational programs related to the novel, including a visit from the author, Shelton Johnson, who works as a ranger at Yosemite National Park. The project's goal is to encourage a shared reading experience, foster a sense of community, and promote literacy.

\$5,849 from the Community Arts & Humanities Fund



### Midway Village and Museum Center

#### *Artifact Digitization to Preserve Rockford's Priceless History*

Midway Village and Museum Center will digitize and host its archives online, giving the public continuous access to the collection. Nearly 80% of the collection is housed in storage and is rarely seen. As part of the project, Midway will develop never-before-seen glass plate negatives and will make public its collection of letters from Rockford natives serving in the Civil War.

\$7,516 from the Jon W. Lundin Historic Preservation Fund



### Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps., Inc.

#### *Rockford Rhythm*

Rockford Rhythm is a drumline for Rockford-area middle and high school students taught by professional music educators and performers. Rockford Rhythm serves as an outlet for creative expression as well as a way to provide a service to the community through free performances.

\$5,000 from the Communities Arts & Humanities Fund



### Rockford Area Arts Council

#### *RAAC Arts Camp for Young Creatives*

RAAC Arts Camp for Young Creatives is a summer arts program for children. The camp is taught by area artists and arts educators. Programming is offered in art, chorus, creative writing, dance, guitar, rap, theater, and video. In 2017, RAAC will host two summer camps, one in June and one in July.

\$15,000 from the Communities Arts & Humanities Fund



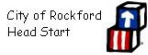
### Rockford Area Arts Council

#### *ArtsPlace*

ArtsPlace is a year-round arts apprenticeship for high school students to improve their artistic and entrepreneurial skills. ArtsPlace apprentices work with professional artists to create, market, and sell new works of art.

\$15,000 from the Communities Arts & Humanities Fund

## ARTS & HUMANITIES | 11 grants totaling \$107,540



### Rockford Human Services Department

#### *Head Start on Music Education with the Music Academy*

This collaboration between City of Rockford Head Start and the Music Academy gives low-income children and families the opportunity to learn about music in a formal setting. The Music Academy will provide age-appropriate music instruction and activities to students in Head Start programs.

\$4,225 from the Communities Arts & Humanities Fund



### Rockford Park District

#### *Bruce Munro: LIGHT at Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens*

The Rockford Park District will host Bruce Munro: LIGHT at Nicholas Conservatory & Gardens in celebration of the conservatory's fifth anniversary. The light-based sculpture exhibition will encompass the Conservatory's entire indoor and outdoor campus. Munro's work has been exhibited all over the world, including at the Guggenheim Museum in New York. The exhibit will run from June to November 2017.

\$35,000 from the Communities Arts & Humanities Fund



### Rockford Symphony Orchestra, Inc. (RSO)

#### *RSO Education and Outreach Programs*

RSO will launch expanded education and outreach programs during the 2016-17 season, including new adult education opportunities, a podcast series, and family-friendly programming.

\$10,000 from the Donald V. & Britta A. Peterson Memorial Fund



### The Arc of Winnebago, Boone and Ogle Counties

#### *Making the Invisible Visible Through Film*

The Sprout Film Festival features documentaries, shorts and videos made by and for people with disabilities. The Arc will bring the touring festival to Rockford to increase awareness of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

\$5,450 from the Communities Arts & Humanities Fund



### The Music Academy in Rockford

#### *Writing with Music: A Cellobration and Conversation with Edward Kelsey Moore*

On March 18, 2017, Edward Kelsey Moore will talk about his experiences in music and literature at Rockford's Sullivan Theater. Moore is a professional cellist, NPR essayist, *New York Times* best-selling author, and recipient of the "First Novelist Award" from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. The event will be hosted by The Music Academy in partnership with the Rockford Public Library.

\$2,000 from the Donald V. & Britta A. Peterson Memorial Fund

# EDUCATIONWORKS AFTER-SCHOOL | 7 grants totaling \$172,400

AFRICAN-AMERICAN RESOURCE CENTER at BOOKER

## **African-American Resource Center at Booker**

### *AARCB After-School Program*

AARCB After-School Program provides youth and children with academic support, character development, and builds racial understanding through mentoring, drama, music, dance, ethnic history, and sports. AARCB After-School Program attendees improve their academic performance, classroom behavior, health, and nutrition.

\$15,000 from the Bengt & Mary Fuller Fund



## **Discovery Center Museum of Rockford, Inc.**

### *STEM Learning Opportunities in Rockford Public Schools*

The Discovery Center will deliver hands-on interactive STEM activities twice a month to nine Rockford Public Schools. Discovery Center will host a school-wide STEM Family Night at each school and STEM-focused field trips for all students in the After-School Achievement Program.

\$27,422 from the Barber-Colman Management Fund



## **Galapagos Rockford Charter School NFP (GRCS)**

### *GRCS After-School X*

GRCS After-School X provides academic support for struggling scholars; opportunities for scholars to travel to Washington, D.C., New York City, and Costa Rica; and opportunities to learn from program partners like Northwestern University and Rockford University. The program's goal is to expand students' intellectual and experiential horizons.

\$25,000 from the Eunice Wishop Stromberg Fund



## **Rochelle Community Consolidated Elementary District # 231**

### *Helping Us Build (HUB) a Smarter, Stronger, and Healthier Community*

The HUB Project is an extended learning program for students and families. The HUB Project aims to improve student learning and awareness of career pathways, build stronger families, and create a healthier community. HUB is a collaboration of more than 40 community partners.

\$100,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



ROCKFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

## **Rockford Public Library (RPL)**

### *Storytime, Anytime & Hora del Cuento en Cualquier Momento*

The Rockford Public Library's recently-launched "Storytime, Anytime" app reads aloud a new book each week. RPL will add books from the United Way's Success by 6<sup>®</sup> school-readiness initiative, which prepares children for academic success. All books will be read in both English and Spanish.

\$5,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



## **Rockford University**

### *Science Equipment Program*

Enrollment in Rockford University's Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, Psychology, and Nursing programs are growing. In order to meet current needs and prepare students for challenging careers, the Starr Science building will be modernized with upgraded science instruments.

\$22,200 from the Vera Maureen Fisher Fund



## **YMCA of Rock River Valley**

### *Black & Hispanic Achievers College Exploration Tour*

The YMCA will take high school students on tours of public universities in Illinois. The tours will allow first-generation, college-bound students from Rockford Public Schools and the Harlem School District to explore the institutions and fields of study that will be available to them after graduation. Students will also get a chance to interact with current college students and professors.

\$5,200 from the Glenn E. Thiel Memorial Fund



## EDUCATIONWORKS CAREER PATHWAYS | 7 grants totaling \$462,600



### **Oregon Community School District #220**

#### *Building Community Careers: Manufacturing Productive Students & Employees*

Building Community Careers will create a state-of-the-art welding lab at Oregon High School. The lab will provide valuable experience in welding and manufacturing technology to Oregon High School students, Highland Community College students, and current professionals in need of ongoing training. Ogle County has a significant and growing need for welders and fabricators.

\$106,686 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **RAMP**

#### *Youth Employment Services - YES!*

RAMP will ensure students with disabilities are prepared and confident to join the working world by bridging existing student empowerment programs with adult employment services. The program's goal is to educate, elevate, and eliminate unemployment for students with disabilities.

\$25,000 for the first year and \$25,000 for the second from the Vera Maureen Fisher Fund



### **Rock Valley College**

#### *Academic Pathways & Engineering Career Services (APECS)*

The APECS program will connect NIU@RVC engineering students to internship and mentorship opportunities with local employers. The program will make the region a global destination for aspiring engineering students and the companies looking to employ them. APECS will ensure that today's engineering students become tomorrow's engineers.

\$23,290 for three years from the Howard D. Colman Memorial Fund



### **Rockford MELD, Inc.**

#### *Job Training for MELD Mothers*

MELD mothers will receive tuition assistance for job training in high-demand healthcare careers like Certified Nursing Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, EKG Technician, Dental Assistant, Physical Therapy Aide, and others.

\$5,000 from the Barber-Colman Management Fund



### **University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford**

#### *Growing the Next Generation of Healthcare Professionals*

Beginning fall 2017, 55 first-year medical students who would have traditionally spent their first year at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus will complete all four years on the Rockford campus. The University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford will purchase equipment for a new Team-Based Learning™ classroom and anatomy and virtual dissection labs to accommodate the influx of new students.

\$188,622 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **University of Illinois Foundation**

#### *Engaging Youth in STEM Through the FIRST Robotics Competition*

The Flaming Monkeys 4-H Club members conceptualize, design, build, program, and test robots that will perform in the FIRST Robotics Competition. Members will develop skills useful for working in STEM fields and mentor younger students who are interested in robotics. The Flaming Monkeys' goal for the 2016-2017 season is to reach the World Championship in April 2017.

\$10,000 from the Barber-Colman Management Fund



## EDUCATIONWORKS CAREER PATHWAYS | 7 grants totaling \$462,600



### **YMCA of Rock River Valley**

#### *YMCA Intern Challenge*

The Intern Challenge is a leadership development program for local high school and college students. Participants complete projects for businesses and community organizations and have the chance to secure college scholarships and paid internships with local organizations, while receiving a stipend to support their work.

\$5,000 from the Howard D. Colman Management Fund

## HEALTH | 5 grants totaling \$111,645



### **Home of Hope Cancer Wellness Center**

#### *Facing the Challenge Networking Program Oregon*

Home of Hope has expanded the "Facing the Challenge Networking Support Group" to Oregon, Illinois in an effort to increase access to psychosocial oncology services, including education, support, and wellness programs.

\$1,100 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **NAMI Northern Illinois**

#### *Bringing Mental Health Resources to the Community*

NAMI Illinois has adopted an aggressive outreach plan to reach more community members with information about NAMI's education, support, and advocacy programs for persons diagnosed with mental illness and their families.

\$2,705 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging**

#### *Hear U Hearing Aid Project*

The Hear U Hearing Aid Project will provide hearing aids for people who are underinsured and do not qualify for Medicaid-covered hearing aids. By providing assistance, seniors and people with disabilities will be able to purchase hearing aids, increasing their ability to communicate, independence, and safety.

\$45,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **Prairie State Legal Services, Inc.**

#### *Winnebago Medical-Legal Partnership*

Prairie State Legal Services and Crusader Clinic are improving the health of low-income persons by integrating legal and medical services. Legal services are focused on the social determinants of health, including housing conditions and domestic violence.

\$22,840 from the Bengt & Mary Fuller Fund



### **The Rosecrance Foundation**

#### *Open Access Child and Family Counseling*

Rosecrance's Open Access Child and Family Counseling program integrates preventive, short-term counseling services for children of all ages into services offered at Crusader's School-Based Health Center at Auburn High School. This program will be available to all students and families from Rockford Public School District 205, enabling them to manage behavioral health in a proactive way.

\$40,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

## HUMAN SERVICES | 9 grants totaling \$115,748



### **Belvidere/Boone County Food Pantry**

#### *Pantry Pole Building*

Belvidere/Boone County Food Pantry will build a single slope pole building, creating 1,500 square feet of additional storage space for non-perishable food.

\$5,224 from the Margaret K. Aldeen Christian Ministry Fund



### **Goodwill Industries of Northern Illinois**

#### *Rockford Area Case Management Initiative*

Rockford-Area Case Management Initiative will develop and implement a comprehensive case management system and a community of practice for human service agencies, creating a radical system change. This initiative will move from a system where hundreds of agencies are working independently to a continuum of care, where agencies work together using the same language, philosophy, and best practices.

\$25,000 from the Armer F. Ahlstrand Fund



### **Milestone, Inc.**

#### *Behavior Modification Therapy Program Expansion*

Milestone, Inc. will expand its Behavior Modification Therapy Program at RocVale Children's Home. An interdisciplinary team will develop a program designed around the needs of each individual with the goal of helping them develop to their fullest potential.

\$2,220 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **Milestone, Inc.**

#### *Physical Therapy Equipment Upgrade*

As Milestone's clients age, their physical and occupational therapy needs increase. Milestone will purchase wheelchairs and other medical equipment to aid clients during therapy. The program's top priorities are increasing mobility and fighting muscle rigidity.

\$4,200 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **Northern Illinois Food Bank**

#### *Take 50 Food Fund*

Northern Illinois Food Bank will provide nutritious food through its Take 50 Food Fund initiative. The Take 50 Food Fund enables agencies to receive a fifty cent credit on every dollar of shared maintenance fees for donated or acquired food. By increasing access to food, Northern Illinois Food Bank will improve the choices available to food pantry clients.

\$15,104 from the Glenn E. Thiel Memorial Fund



### **Rock House Kids**

#### *Kid-Friendly Food Bags*

Rock House Kids will send food home each weekend with the children that it serves through its regular programming. Many children need additional nutritional support when not in school or an after-school program.

\$40,000 from the Margaret K. Aldeen Christian Ministry Fund

## HUMAN SERVICES | 9 grants totaling \$115,748



### **Rock River Valley Pantry, Inc.**

#### *Healthy Proteins for Families*

Rock River Valley Pantry, Inc. will provide healthy protein alternatives, including fish, as an option to clients. Nearly 8,000 people will be fed through this component of the Healthy Proteins for Families program.

\$5,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### **The Fish-Abled Foundation**

#### *Wheelchair Accessible Bus*

The Fish-Abled Foundation is a volunteer-led organization that takes people with disabilities to sporting events, concerts, museums, and on outdoor outings. Fish-Abled will purchase a wheelchair-accessible bus to increase the number of people that are able to participate in the organization's monthly events.

\$14,000 from the United Cerebral Palsy of Blackhawk Region Fund



### **Walter J. Lawson Children's Home**

#### *Audio/Visual Upgrades for Residents*

Walter Lawson Children's Home provides care for individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities. It will replace existing televisions in all bedrooms and upgrade the projector and sound system in the multipurpose room. The audio/visual equipment will benefit residents by providing sensory input, as well as educational and recreational opportunities.

\$5,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES | 5 grants totaling \$111,644



### **Children's Home + Aid**

#### *Family Strengthening and Support Initiative*

Children's Home + Aid's Northern Region Family Strengthening and Support Initiative will hire two critical staff positions: a doula who serves Winnebago County and a child care worker serving MotherHouse Crisis Nursery. The long-term goals of these services are to prevent child abuse and neglect by strengthening families.

\$29,520 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

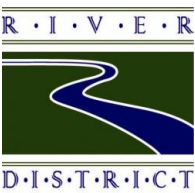


### **Midtown District**

#### *Midtown District Business Corridor Beautification Project Phase II*

Midtown District, in partnership with Rockford Community Partners and the City of Rockford, will purchase, install, and maintain a total of 14 commercial-grade concrete planters along with seasonal plant materials in the recently-refreshed 7<sup>th</sup> Street Business District. Beyond beautification, the project will display the corridor's recent business and social development.

\$11,665 from the Meryle A. Stockhus Fund



### **River District Association**

#### *Forest City Beautiful*

The Forest City Beautiful Partnership Program is an urban greening pilot program focused on beautifying and revitalizing downtown Rockford, with the goal of improving the perception of the city. The River District Association will install trash receptacles throughout downtown in order to reduce litter.

\$43,459 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES | 5 grants totaling \$111,644



### Rockford Corridor Improvement/Zion West Enterprises

#### *Expanded Yard Maintenance Program (EYMP)*

EYMP employs residents of Ellis Heights to maintain vacant lots in the neighborhood. Rockford Corridor Improvement will purchase a new commercial mower, allowing for additional staff to maintain more of the neighborhood.

\$2,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Rockford Park District Foundation

#### *Expanding Usability of the Rock River Recreation Path (Part II)*

Rockford Park District will expand the hours in which people can use the Rock River Recreational path by upgrading lighting on the most-used part of the path. The existing lights will be replaced with LED lighting, resulting in improved visibility for night-time users.

\$25,000 from the Dr. Courtney J. & Margaret Hutchins Hamlin Family Fund

## YOUTH & FAMILIES | 10 grants totaling \$111,644



### Blackhawk Area Council, Boy Scouts of America

#### *ScoutReach*

Blackhawk's at-risk youth program, ScoutReach, is an after-school program where boys have the opportunity to learn life skills, including improved self-sufficiency, decision making, responsibility, goal setting, leadership, and cooperation.

\$15,000 from the Glenn E. Thiel Memorial Fund



### Boone-Winnebago Regional Office of Education

#### *Truant Mentoring and Career Exposure*

Without an education teens are more likely to become involved in the criminal justice system, costing taxpayers \$45,000 to \$60,000 per year, and truancy court is frequently an introduction into the criminal justice system. The Truant Mentoring and Career Exposure program will reduce truants' involvement in criminal courts by providing mentors and career exposure.

\$10,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Children's Safe Harbor, Inc.

#### *Safety and Security for our Community's Children*

Children's Safe Harbor, Inc. will install several security measures at its Rockford location, including panic buttons, security cameras, and an upgraded security system. The organization provides a secure setting for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.

\$4,857 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Girls on the Run of Northwest Illinois (GotR)

#### *Girls on the Run Program Expansion in Rockford Schools*

GotR inspires girls to be joyful, healthy, and confident by taking them through a ten-week, non-competitive running program that promotes physical, emotional, and social wellness. One-hundred and fifty seven girls from Haskell Year Round Academy and Lathrop Elementary will be enrolled in this segment of the program. GotR will use the grant to purchase supplies and equipment for the program.

\$5,000 from the William & Catherine McCoy Fund

## YOUTH & FAMILIES | 10 grants totaling \$111,644



### Hope Reigns Ranch

#### *Life Skills Education for Rockford Park District Participants*

Hope Reigns Ranch is teaming with the Rockford Park District to provide its Therapeutic Recreation Program to at-risk youth and youth with developmental disabilities. Many participants in the program have never interacted with horses; Hope Reigns Ranch believes such interactions help students improve cooperation, problem solving, and responsibility.

\$4,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Patriots' Gateway Community Center

#### *Gateway to Growth*

The Gateway to Growth program will link families to agencies offering needed support, host lunches for Midtown families to build community networks, and teach adults self-advocacy skills with the goal of helping families achieve their employment, education, housing, and health and wellness goals.

\$5,787 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Shelter Care Ministries

#### *Expanding Care at MAYA'S House*

MAYA'S House (Mothers and Youth Achieving Stability) is the only free daycare for children under the age of five who are experiencing homelessness in the Rockford region. MAYA'S House will increase program hours to better serve the region's children and mothers.

\$15,000 from the Margaret K. Aldeen Christian Ministry Fund



DOING THE  
MOST GOOD

### The Salvation Army of Rockford

#### *The Salvation Army & YMCA Teen Center*

The Salvation Army and YMCA Teen Center provides recreation, life skills, health and wellness, and college and career readiness programming for middle and high school students in Winnebago County. The year-round program empowers youth to develop basic life skills, healthy lifestyles, appropriate social interactions, and academic excellence.

\$15,000 from the Norris K. Aldeen Christian Ministry Fund



### Winnebago County CASA

#### *Phase 2 - Diversity Recruitment*

Winnebago County CASA's mission is to assist courts in realizing the best interests of abused and neglected children through court-appointed volunteer advocacy. CASA will continue to diversify its corps of child advocates by recruiting more male and minority volunteers.

\$12,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### YMCA of Rock River Valley

#### *Project 505*

Project 505 gives teens an alternative to being on the streets and an opportunity to take full advantage of the YMCA's programming for recreation, academics, and mentoring. In exchange for a YMCA membership, each student volunteers for a local nonprofit or community group.

\$25,000 from the Glenn E. Thiel Memorial Fund

Thank you for reading. If you have questions about this document or wish to have a copy sent to a friend or colleague, please contact Dan Dineen, Director of Community Investment, at [ddineen@cfnil.org](mailto:ddineen@cfnil.org).

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