

# EDUCATIONWORKS

Common Agendas Common Sense

Education Works invests in after-school programs and career pathways, and builds endowments for scholarships.

## timeline

**September 2014** | Dr. Jackie Copeland-Carson leads the annual Board Retreat. Trustees accept her recommendations to streamline the grantmaking process and invest in local education-for-employment efforts.

**January 2015** | Grants and communications departments are combined to build support for Education Works.

**Spring & Summer 2015** | Staff overhauls grant programs, condensing 17 grant programs to seven and reducing the Community Grants' application by two-thirds.

**Fall 2015** | At the annual grantseekers meeting, CFNIL launches Education Works and announces the criteria for **after-school programs and career pathways**. CFNIL unveils the changes to Community Grants and other programs. Grants worth \$574,920 are made to activities that align with Education Works.

**December 2015** | CFNIL announces Rubin Education Challenge—a challenge grant program to **build scholarship endowments** for students attending local colleges or universities. Rockford University, Highland Community College, and later Rock Valley

College take up the Challenge. Once completed, the endowments created by the Rubin Education Challenge will be worth \$8 million, with CFNIL contributing a dollar for every dollar raised by the schools.

**Spring 2016** | CFNIL accepts applications for Community Grants and awards \$373,788 to activities that align with Education Works.

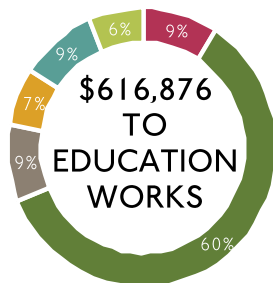
**Fall 2016** | CFNIL accepts applications for Community Grants and awards \$616,876 to activities that align with Education Works.

**Spring 2017** | CFNIL investigates its grantmaking policies and criteria and examines the impact of past grant cycles.

**Summer 2017** | CFNIL convenes regional education and workforce leaders for the first-ever Education Works Summit.

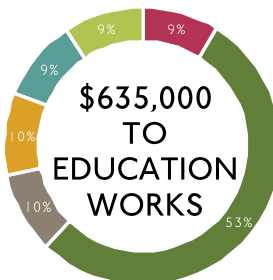
**Fall 2017** | CFNIL awards a three-year, \$675,000 grant to Rock Valley College for the Linking Talent with Opportunity project.

SINCE FALL 2015, CFNIL HAS DISTRIBUTED AT LEAST **50%** OF THE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM FUNDS TO EDUCATION WORKS ACTIVITIES.



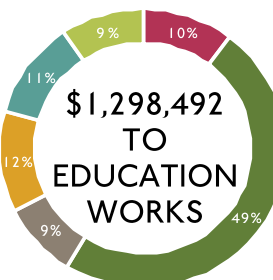
FALL 2015

|                         | # of Grants | All Years          | 1st Year         | 2nd Year         | 3rd Year        |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Arts & Humanities       | 9           | \$95,108           | \$95,108         | -                | -               |
| Education               | 11          | \$616,876          | \$433,077        | \$136,004        | \$47,795        |
| Health                  | 7           | \$91,260           | \$91,260         | -                | -               |
| Human Services          | 7           | \$70,215           | \$66,465         | \$3,750          | -               |
| Sustainable Development | 3           | \$94,000           | \$94,000         | -                | -               |
| Youth & Families        | 8           | \$66,993           | \$66,933         | -                | -               |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>45</b>   | <b>\$1,034,452</b> | <b>\$846,843</b> | <b>\$139,754</b> | <b>\$47,795</b> |



FALL 2016

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



FALL 2017

|                         | # of Grants | All Years          | Year 1             | Year 2           | Year 3           |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Arts & Humanities       | 19          | \$128,994          | \$128,994          | -                | -                |
| Education               | 17          | \$1,298,492        | \$607,702          | \$359,320        | \$331,470        |
| Health                  | 8           | \$116,839          | \$109,839          | \$7,000          | -                |
| Human Services          | 14          | \$144,834          | \$144,834          | -                | -                |
| Sustainable Communities | 9           | \$143,156          | \$143,156          | -                | -                |
| Youth & Families        | 12          | \$116,005          | \$116,005          | -                | -                |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>79</b>   | <b>\$1,948,320</b> | <b>\$1,250,530</b> | <b>\$366,320</b> | <b>\$331,470</b> |



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS



EDUCATION WORKS GRANT REPORT | 1

## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS | 5 GRANTS TOTALING \$373,198



### Boys & Girls Club of Freeport and Stephenson County

#### *After-School Academic Enrichment Program*

The Boys & Girls Club of Freeport & Stephenson County provides after-school academic enrichment programs. Students in the year-long program engage in academic enrichment activities, employment readiness training, career exploration, music and dance programs, and mentoring.

\$144,920 | \$49,330 for the first year, \$47,795 for the second and third



### Chicago International Charter School

#### *CICS Jackson After-School Enrichment Program*

CICS Rockford Charter School Organization will run an after-school enrichment program offering access to community-based extracurricular programs, including opportunities for students to explore the performing arts, receive problem-solving and leadership skills training, experiment with science and engineering projects, and build awareness of career opportunities.

\$60,000



### 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 40 community partners.

\$100,000



### Rockford Public Schools #205

#### *After-School Academic Enrichment*

Working in collaboration with Rockford University Education Department, Rockford University students will tutor students at Whitehead School. Tutors will work with groups of students for 90 minutes, four times per week, in the areas of numeracy, literacy and language arts.

\$11,200



### United Way of Rock River Valley

#### *King Elementary School After-School Program*

At the King Elementary School After-School Program, students receive academic and social support through a variety of community partners. Students who receive intellectual stimulation outside of traditional school hours perform better in school and are less likely to fall behind their peers.

\$57,078 | \$20,119 for the first year and \$36,959 for the second

## CAREER PATHWAYS | 6 GRANTS TOTALING \$243,678



### Discovery Center Museum of Rockford Inc.

#### *Career Discovery for Children and their Families*

Discovery Center is introducing comprehensive career-focused programming in the museum. This four-phase program includes: career-focused kiosks highlighting local people at work; career graphics in each gallery illustrating jobs in specific fields; special programs to spark interest in career exploration; and career learning opportunities for students who participate the after-school programs at Discovery Center.

\$33,734 | \$26,084 for the first year and \$7,650 for the second



### Kids Around The World, Inc.

#### *Youth Career Development 2016*

Kids Around the World and Comprehensive Community Solutions, Inc./ YouthBuild Rockford are partnering to provide vocational skills training. Participants will receive certification in welding and forklift operation and will learn their craft by refurbishing playground equipment. Trainees will also receive high school equivalency preparation, leadership training, life skills, and employability skills training.

\$63,264



### Northern Illinois Workforce Alliance

#### *Addressing the Skills Gap through Talent Pipeline Management in Northern Illinois*

The Northern Illinois Workforce Alliance, in collaboration with Northern Illinois University, area economic development partners, employers, training and workforce providers, will develop an effective talent pipeline management system. This will give students, workers, and employers a clear understanding of the skills, experience and credentials required for specific jobs in the region. NIWA and its partners will develop a plan to implement a local talent pipeline model.

\$50,870



### Rockford Rescue Mission

#### *Furnishings for Classrooms*

Residents in Rockford Rescue Mission's Crisis and Life Recovery programs will use the classrooms in Pitney Place to prepare for their GED, improve literacy and computer skills, define career objectives, prepare effective resumes, and learn how to interview for jobs.

\$12,710



### Rockford Public Schools #205

#### *FIRST Robotics in the Rockford Public Schools*

In conjunction with FIRST Rockford Robotics, the Rockford Public Schools are establishing after-school robotics teams in every school. Having robotics programs throughout District #205 will increase students' technical skills. By engaging K-12 students in science, technology, engineering and math, District #205 is building the next generation of manufacturing professionals for our community.

\$73,100 | \$29,500 for the first year and \$43,600 for the second



### University of Illinois Foundation

#### *Engaging Teens in STEM Experiential Learning through the FIRST Robotics Competition*

The Flaming Monkeys 4-H Club provides students an opportunity to develop skills in conceptualizing, designing, building, programming and testing robots that perform in the FIRST Robotics Competition. The goal is that members will develop skills for careers in engineering, manufacturing, and other STEM fields. This grant will purchase supplies for robot and outreach programs.

\$10,000

## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS | 6 GRANTS TOTALING \$188,731



### Boys and Girls Club of Rockford

#### SPARK · Spheres of Proud Achievement in Reading for Kids

The SPARK Early Literacy Program is designed to improve the early learning outcomes of high-need kindergarten through third grade students in public schools. SPARK aims to get all students reading at grade level by third grade by developing students' cognitive, social, and emotional readiness.

\$40,000 from the Glenn E. Thiel Memorial Fund



### Circles of Learning

#### School Age Summer Program

Each summer, Circles of Learning provides a summer program for 120 children ages 5-11. Due to increased community need, the program is expanding to include an additional 20 children this summer. The program's goal is to retain academic skills during the summer break. The School Age Summer Program features guest speakers, field trips, and arts and crafts.

\$18,399 from the Bengt & Mary Kuller Fund



### Ken-Rock Community Center, Inc.

#### Enhanced After-School Reading Project

Ken-Rock seeks to increase certified reading instructor hours in its after-school program. The program focuses on math and reading skills for more than 40 students from five District #205 schools each year. Ken-Rock will increase one-on-one tutoring from four to 15 hours per week, while accepting more students.

\$54,000 | \$18,000 for three years from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Remedies Renewing Lives

#### Academic Success for Remedies Residents

When adults and children flee their home due to domestic violence, students and parents must have access to a computer work station to keep up with homework assignments and communicate with teachers and school personnel. This grant will allow Remedies to purchase a computer station so residents may stay connected and maintain academic success while residing in the shelter.

\$1,232 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Rockford Public Schools #205

#### After-School Academic Enrichment

Working with the Rockford University Education Department, Whitehead School will host future teachers from Rockford University to serve as tutors in its After-School Academic Enrichment program. Each tutor will work with a group of students for five hours per week in the areas of numeracy, reading, writing, and character development.

\$30,100 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### United Way of Northwest Illinois

#### Dolly Parton Imagination Library

The Imagination Library is a unique book gifting program that mails a brand new, age-appropriate book to enrolled children every month from birth to age five. This program creates a home library and helps cultivate a love of books and reading from an early age. The program was created in 1996 by Dolly Parton and since has prepared students for kindergarten in more than 1,200 communities.

\$45,000 | \$10,000 for the first year, \$15,000 for the second, and \$20,000 for the third from the Eunice Wishop Stromberg Fund

## CAREER PATHWAYS | 5 GRANTS TOTALING \$185,057

### Alignment Rockford

#### *Alignment Rockford Academy Expo*

The Academy Expo is a career exploration event for all 9th grade students in Rockford Public Schools. Founded in 2012, the event provides hands-on career demonstrations from hundreds of local employers. Alignment Rockford's fifth Academy Expo will inspire and inform 2,500 9th grade students about their academic and career pathways.

\$54,000 | \$18,000 for three years from the Barber-Colman Management Fund

### Burpee Museum of Natural History

#### *SPROUTs (Supporting Primary Readiness, Observation and Understanding Through Science)*

The SPROUTs Learning Lab is designed to engage children ages 18 months to 8 years in hands-on learning experiences in natural science. Children will explore careers in animal science, biomedical science, ecology, geology, paleontology, resource conservation, and zoology.

\$29,507 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

### CEANCI

#### *21st Century Workforce Development*

CEANCI will provide curricular implementation and student acquisition of industry-recognized credentials in high school career and technical education programs for local students. More than 4,000 students will receive certifications in early childhood education, manufacturing, food handling, Microsoft Office, and graphic design and publishing.

\$91,050 | \$45,525 for two years from the Howard D. Colman Memorial Fund

### North Boone High School

#### *North Boone Vocational Internship Program*

The funds will be used for this first-ever Vocational Internship Program, a partnership between students with disabilities and local businesses. The program will emphasize the education-to-career transition for students by providing them with real-world work experience. Students will receive classroom instruction regarding the essential attributes for long-term employment.

\$5,500 | \$5,000 for the first year and \$250 for the second and third from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

### YMCA of Rock River Valley

#### *YMCA Intern Challenge*

The Intern Challenge is a team-based competition that develops leadership skills. Local high school and college students will work with businesses and community organizations to address real needs in the community. Students have the chance to secure college scholarships and paid internships, while receiving a stipend for their work.

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





## AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS | 7 GRANTS TOTALING \$186,322

### 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® 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

## CAREER PATHWAYS | 7 GRANTS TOTALING \$388,598



### 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



### 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



## CAREER PATHWAYS | 9 GRANTS TOTALING \$282,521

### Forrestville Valley Community Unit School District #221

#### *Forreston High School Engineering Pathway*

Forreston High School will purchase curricular supplies and equipment to implement an engineering pathway for students. Five courses will be implemented over three years, including a comprehensive program that equips students with the skills to meet workforce needs in our region. The program will increase the academic rigor of the high school's math and science offerings.

\$30,000 for the first year | \$11,000 for the second year | \$28,000 for the third year - Supported by the Howard D. Colman Memorial Fund



### Kids Around The World, Inc.

#### *Youth Career Development - Welding*

Kids Around the World, Inc., in partnership with the Workforce Connection and Comprehensive Community Services Inc./YouthBuild Rockford, will establish a welding career pathway to help students who have dropped out of high school obtain employable job skills and self-sufficiency.

\$44,151 | Supported by the Barber-Colman Management Fund



### Kinnickinnick Community Consolidated School District #131

#### *Promoting Awareness and Interest in STEM-Related Careers*

Seventy-five percent of the fastest-growing occupations in the U.S. workforce require significant mathematics or science skills. This program will increase student awareness of STEM careers by providing them with the tools necessary to acquire STEM-related skills through hands-on inquiry-based learning. The school district will purchase iPads and accessories, as well as STEM-related software.

\$15,000 | Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Rockford Area Arts Council

#### *ArtsPlace*

ArtsPlace is a job-training program that teaches essential skills to teens while they learn an artistic discipline. Apprentices choose an area of artistic study—such as print-making, theater, video, or dance—and receive eight weeks of rigorous training from a professional artist. Apprentices act as entrepreneurs, envisioning a product, developing budgets, securing supplies, marketing and selling the product, and creating a formal process of continuous improvement. Proceeds earned from art and ticket sales are used as stipends for the apprentices. ArtsPlace caters to the needs of “at-risk” youth and is free to participants.

\$15,000 | Supported by the Ralph A. & Mildred Johnson Fund



### University of Illinois College of Pharmacy at Rockford

#### *Recruiting Top Talent to Pharmacy*

The University of Illinois College of Pharmacy at Rockford (UICPR) provides highly skilled, well-trained pharmacists to the surrounding community and beyond. During the next three summers, UICPR will host High School Summer Pharmacy Camps and a Summer Pharmacy Institutes, which will provide pathways for local students to pursue pharmacy in Rockford. The events' goal is to recruit the best and brightest students into the profession.

\$12,080 for the first year | \$13,320 for the second | \$13,470 for the third - Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### University of Illinois Extension of Boone, DeKalb, and Ogle Counties

#### *Engaging Youth with Robotics*

Students in the 4-H program will develop skills in conceptualizing, designing, building, programming, and testing robots that will perform in the FIRST Robotics Competition. Beyond acquiring STEM skills, participants will develop ancillary skills in team building, public speaking, leadership, teaching, and networking. The 4-H students will mentor a younger robotics team and will use parliamentary procedure to run meetings and make decisions about expenses, fundraising, and activities.

\$10,000 | Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



## CAREER PATHWAYS | 9 GRANTS TOTALING \$282,521



### University of Illinois Extension of Jo Daviess, Stephenson, and Winnebago Counties

#### 4-H Community Tech Wizards Program

The 4-H Community Tech Wizards program is a STEM program that engages youth ages 11-15 in hands-on STEM activities during after-school programs, community center programs, and community events. Youth learn about robotics, aerospace, wind and solar energy, GPS systems, digital video, photography, and 3D printing with activities that challenge them to creatively solve issues through technology. This program will connect youth to community leaders and employers through site visits, presentations, college tours, and half-day internships.

\$30,000 for the first year | \$25,000 for the second year | \$15,000 for the third year - Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### YMCA of Rock River Valley

#### Black & Hispanic Achievers College Exploration Tour

The YMCA of Rock River Valley will provide a spring break college tour trip for high school students who are members of its Achievers and Project 505 groups. On the trip, teens will travel to colleges and universities in the southern U.S. The trip will allow local students, many of whom are first-generation college attendees, to explore various schools and fields of study. The students will be able to meet with the colleges' staff and students during the trip.

\$15,500 | Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### YMCA of Rock River Valley

#### YMCA Intern Challenge

The YMCA Intern Challenge is a program that provides area high school and college students with out-of-classroom experiences to prepare them for success in school and in future careers. During the team-based competition, students will work with a number of local organizations to complete projects that address community needs. Students will earn a stipend during the program while competing for scholarships and a paid internship with a local organization of their choosing.

\$5,000 | Supported by the Glenn E. Thiel Memorial Fund

## COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION | 7 GRANTS TOTALING \$340,971



### Belvidere Family YMCA

#### PowerScholars Academy™

The Belvidere Family YMCA and the North Boone School District will offer the PowerScholars Academy™ for students attending the extended school year program. The goal of this pilot program is to increase students' academic success while engaging families in the education process. The summer learning program is designed to address summer learning loss for children living in low-income households or under-resourced areas. PowerScholars Academy™ will enhance youth development, academic performance, and graduation rates in the community.

\$15,000 | Supported by the Vera Maureen Fisher Fund



### Boys & Girls Club of Rockford

#### Success Through Targeted Outreach

The Boys and Girls Club of Rockford is partnering with Rockford public high schools on its Success Through Targeted Outreach program, which works to prevent substance abuse, violence, and pregnancy. The program will assist 120 at-risk minority males throughout high school to develop and follow a path to reach their education and career goals. The program will address behavior, academic success, and attendance and will include pre- and post-tests in order to evaluate student and program success.

\$50,000 for the first year | \$50,000 for the second | \$50,000 for the third - Supported by the Glenn E. Thiel Memorial Fund

\$10,000 | Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

# EDUCATIONWORKS FALL2017

Common Agendas Common Sense

## COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION | 7 GRANTS TOTALING \$340,971



### Discovery Center Museum of Rockford Inc.

#### *STEM Learning Opportunities in District 205*

The program will be delivered to nine after-school programs in Rockford Public Schools. The Discovery Center will deliver hands-on interactive STEM activities twice monthly and host a school-wide STEM Family Night at each school. All of the students in the after-school program will come to the Discovery Center on a STEM-focused field trip.

\$33,971 | Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Ken-Rock Community Center, Inc

#### *Foundations for Success*

This program is geared specifically to junior high students and is designed to give them the skills necessary to thrive in high school, college, and the working world. Foundations for Success concentrates on improving behaviors that lead to success, teaching study habits, conflict resolution strategies, job hunting skills, and basic personal finances.

\$20,000 | Supported by the Eunice Wishop Stromberg Fund



### KFACT

#### *Lady All Stars Mentoring Program*

KFACT will provide direct services to girls in the Lady All Stars mentoring program. The program enhances the development of young girls, exposes them to the benefits of post-secondary education, and assists with developing and implementing individual life plans through mentoring and enrichment activities.

\$50,000 for the first year | \$35,000 for the second - Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



### Severson Dells Nature Center

#### *Environmental Education for Northern Illinois*

Severson Dells provides environmental education to numerous students across the region. It will provide scholarships to increase availability of programs to underserved schools and will purchase new science equipment to be used by students on field trips. The goal is to increase science literacy across the region and improve appreciation and understanding of the amazing habitats and wildlife in our area.

\$15,000 | Supported by the Meryle A. Stockhus Fund

## COMPLEMENTARY EDUCATION | 7 GRANTS TOTALING \$340,971



### United Way of Rock River Valley

#### *I READ*

I READ is a reading intervention program that matches volunteer mentors with selected kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students in four local public school districts. The goal is for volunteers to help students become proficient readers by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade by supporting students in phonetic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, and comprehension. Volunteers commit to working with the same child for four years and meet with them once a week during the school year. Currently, 350 students between kindergarten and third grade are served by I READ.

\$22,000 | Supported by the Bengt & Mary Kuller Fund

## REGIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM | 1 GRANT TOTALING \$675,000



### Rock Valley College

#### *Linking Talent with Opportunity*

Linking Talent with Opportunity (LTO) is a regional, collaborative initiative led by Rock Valley College in partnership with Highland Community College to align career and technical education with local employment opportunities in high priority occupations. Over a three-year period, the community colleges will design and implement career education pathways based on a stackable credential model and increase collaboration with regional K-12 school districts. K-12 partners will design and deliver more preparatory coursework and dual credit classes as 'on ramps' to the community college pathways. Stackable credentials will offer students choice, flexibility, shorter paths to employment, and lower costs. The combination of stackable credentials and alignment with high priority occupations will make the regional education system more adaptive to continually changing employment opportunities, increase the regional talent pool, and support economic vitality.

\$225,000 for the first year | \$225,000 for the second | \$225,000 for the third - Supported by the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

