

SPRING 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 helping to distribute the polio vaccine and creating safe places for kids to play. Since its founding, CFNIL has granted more than \$60,000,000 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. With added capacity, CFNIL launched Education Works, a grant strategy that invests in scholarship endowments, after-school programs, and career pathways initiatives.

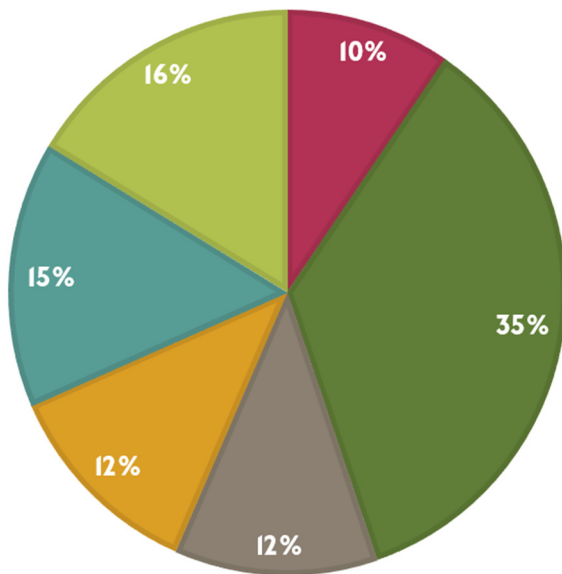
The Spring 2016 Grant Cycle was the second to accept proposals for Education Works. After reviewing 96 proposals from area nonprofits and educational institutions, CFNIL Trustees committed up to \$373,788* over the next three years to after-school programs and career pathways initiatives in the region. CFNIL Trustees committed up to \$616,876* during the Fall 2015 Grant Cycle. This brings CFNIL's commitment to Education Works to \$990,664* during its inaugural year.

For place-based scholarships, CFNIL challenged local post-secondary institutions by offering dollar-for-dollar matches to build scholarship endowments. Highland Community College, Rock Valley College, and Rockford University answered the challenge. Once the challenges have been met, the endowments will be worth \$8,000,000 and will award scholarships to students who attend one of the three post-secondary institutions, are from Northern Illinois, and can demonstrate financial need.

The matching endowment program is named the Rubin Education Challenge, after Dr. Louis and Violet Rubin, whose gifts to the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois made the matching endowments possible. Their legacy lives on in name and spirit.

The next application for the Community Grants Program will be open from August 25 to October 1, 2016. Organizations interested in applying should attend CFNIL's Grantseekers Meeting on August 25, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. at Klehm Arboretum. For more information about CFNIL's grantmaking and how to apply, please visit www.cfnil.org.

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



	# of Grants	All Years	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Arts & Humanities	9	\$59,945	\$59,945	\$0	\$0
Education	11	\$373,788	\$220,763	\$96,775	\$56,250
Health	5	\$173,915	\$73,915	\$50,000	\$50,000
Human Services	8	\$74,642	\$74,642	\$0	\$0
Sustainable Development	4	\$95,447	\$95,447	\$0	\$0
Youth & Families	4	\$102,410	\$102,410	\$0	\$0
	41	\$880,147	\$627,122	\$146,775	\$106,250

ARTS & HUMANITIES | 9 grants totaling \$59,945



Artists' Ensemble Theater

Whistling in the Dark (a Sherlock Holmes Mystery)

Artists' Ensemble Theater (AET) will commission a new play by Rockford playwright Margaret Raether, "Whistling in the Dark (a Sherlock Holmes Mystery)." AET's goal is to show the process of writing and staging a production to encourage people to explore theater.

\$2,000 from the Rod MacDonald Memorial Theatre Endowment



Byron Museum Lucius Reed House

Byron's Soldiers Monument Sesquicentennial

The Soldier's Monument in Byron was originally dedicated on October 16, 1866 and is the oldest Civil War Marker in Illinois. This October 16, Byron will celebrate 150 years of honoring veterans through a day-long and city-wide event. The event will highlight the Lucius Reed House, a safe house on the Underground Railroad.

\$3,000 from the Community Arts & Humanities Fund



KANTOREI, The Singing Boys of Rockford

Kantorei Summer Choral Camp

The Kantorei Summer Choral Camp is a week-long choir camp designed to inspire and encourage the art of choral singing among local boys. Participants will develop music literacy, vocal technique, and performance skills with a minimal tuition fee.

\$2,600 from the Community Arts & Humanities Fund



Mid Town District Association

2016 Midtown Ethnic Parade & Festival

The 2016 Midtown Ethnic Parade & Festival will host more than 3,000 people and bring together more than 50 different ethnic and cultural groups from the Rockford area. The day starts with a parade from Downtown to Midtown, followed by a festival. Attendees can learn about art, music, and cuisine from all over the world. Genealogists will be available to help families trace their roots.

\$4,000 from the Ralph A. & Mildred Johnson Fund



Midway Village and Museum Center

Bringing Downtown History Alive

Midway Village Museum will install up to 20 historical plaques in the downtown area illustrating the persons who have impacted Rockford's downtown since its founding. The ultra-violet and vandal resistant plaques will display historical images and text, creating a story of Rockford's downtown for residents and visitors alike to enjoy.

\$30,140 from the Jon W. Lundin Historic Preservation



NAMI Northern Illinois

The Art of Recovery - Fall Art Scene 2016

NAMI's Stars of Light Theatre Troupe will host a series of Visiting Artist Workshops in preparation for "The Art of Recovery" gallery. Workshops will be open to persons living with mental illness who would like to participate in the gallery show during the Fall Art Scene 2016. The gallery will spotlight the importance of artistic expression in recovery from mental illness and its associated stigma.

\$1,575 from the Community Arts & Humanities Fund

ARTS & HUMANITIES | 9 grants totaling \$59,945



Patriots' Gateway Community Center

the ONES

Patriots' Gateway Community Center hosts a fledgling dance group for elementary and junior high students that it would like to help flourish. Dancers primarily reside in Blackhawk Courts. This grant will pay for costumes, snacks, and the instructor's wage.

\$3,630 from the Community 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 ages 5-13 housed at Ellis Elementary School. The school is equipped with dance, artistic, music, and theater equipment. The camp is taught by area artists and educators. Campers can enroll in dance, chorus, art, theater, video, or rap classes, with a performance and art exhibit on the final day for parents and friends.

\$7,000 from the Donald V. and Britta A. Peterson Memorial Fund



Tinker Swiss Cottage Museum and Gardens

The Digitization and Rehousing of the Tinker Collection

Tinker Swiss Cottage Museum preserves Rockford's authentic treasures. Tinker's complete collection houses more than 10,000 historical objects from the Tinker family and the city of Rockford. This project will photograph, digitize, and re-house 3,000 objects that have not yet been cataloged or properly stored.

\$6,000 from the Community Arts & Humanities Fund

EDUCATIONWORKS AFTER-SCHOOL | 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

EDUCATIONWORKS AFTER-SCHOOL | 6 grants totaling \$188,731



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

EDUCATIONWORKS 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

EDUCATIONWORKS CAREER PATHWAYS | 5 grants totaling \$185,057



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

HEALTH | 5 grants totaling \$173,915



Family Counseling Services of Northern Illinois

Access to Life-Changing Counseling

The cost of counseling is prohibitive for many low-income individuals and families that have marital conflict, parenting issues, abuse, mental health, and emotional issues. The grant will subsidize the sliding fee scale which allows low-income individuals and families to receive counseling.

\$15,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Milestone Dental Clinic

Dental Patient Care Fund

Milestone has one of the few free-standing dental clinics in the nation that exclusively serves developmentally disabled patients. Many families lack dental insurance or the ability to pay out of pocket for care, including routine cleanings and exams. This program provides care and education regardless of patients' insurance status or ability to pay.

\$28,700 from the United Cerebral Palsy of Blackhawk Region Fund



NAMI (Northern Illinois Alliance for the Mentally Ill)

NAMI Northern Illinois Office Project

NAMI Northern Illinois will purchase new furniture for its office at Stepping Stones, creating a professional and welcoming space for NAMI members and the general public.

\$2,215 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging (NIAAA)

Oral Health Access Project

NIAAA will collaborate with oral health providers to offer education, access, and financial assistance for seniors and people with disabilities who need oral health treatment.

\$28,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

HEALTH | 5 grants totaling \$173,915

University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford

Physician Awareness: Early Detection of Lung Cancer

In 2014, 203 deaths and 245 lung cancer cases were reported in Winnebago County. This high mortality rate is likely due to late clinical diagnosis. Currently, no biomarkers are available for the early detection of lung cancer. The College of Medicine at Rockford will use this grant to attempt to develop blood and tumor biomarkers to detect lung cancer in its early stages. The College of Medicine will also educate smokers and physicians about new CDC guidelines for early screening for lung cancer.

\$100,000 | \$50,000 for two years from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

HUMAN SERVICES | 8 grants totaling \$74,642

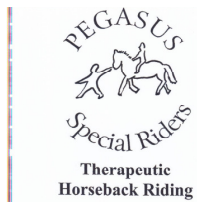


Boone County Council on Aging

Training Bus Drivers and Dispatchers

Bus drivers and dispatchers require training and refresher courses each year. The Boone County Council on Aging will develop a training program and materials for dispatchers and bus drivers, who provide door-to-door transportation services. Last year, BCCA provided nearly 30,000 trips to local seniors.

\$5,500 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Pegasus Special Riders, Inc.

Expanding Services

Pegasus Special Riders, Inc. will purchase new therapy horses to expand services for disabled clients. Pegasus will also purchase power tools needed for facility repair and a vehicle to transport people and materials.

\$7,500 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Milestone, Inc.

Portable Lift Project

Milestone will purchase three portable lifts to aid in the transfer of individuals experiencing mobility issues. One will be used at Milestone's office, while the others will be used as need arises at Milestone's 32 group homes.

\$7,940 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Northern Illinois Food Bank

Milk2MyPlate Program

Northern Illinois Food Bank's Milk2MyPlate Program brings fresh 1% milk to local food pantries. Fresh milk provides vitamins and nutrients that are often lacking in clients' diets. Milk is especially important to help children develop to their full potential.

\$20,000 from the Margaret K. Aldeen Christian Ministry Fund



Over The Rainbow Association

Resident Services Program

Over The Rainbow Association will support a part-time service coordinator for its Resident Services Program in Rockford. The goal of the Resident Services Program is to help residents, all of whom have physical disabilities and/or mobility impairments, by providing case management for an array of needs and services in order to maintain their ability to live independently and to reach their full potential.

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

HUMAN SERVICES | 8 grants totaling \$74,642



Rock River Valley Pantry, Inc.

Eat Your Vegetables!

Rock River Valley Pantry, Inc. needs 15,000 cans of vegetables every month to meet the needs of the more than 6,750 individuals. Healthy food is especially important for the physical and cognitive development of children, who make up 40% of its clients.

\$5,720 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Rock River Valley Pantry, Inc.

Fruit for Families

Rock River Valley Pantry needs 14,000 cans of fruit each month to meet the needs of its clients. Funding will be used to purchase three days' worth of fruit for local families.

\$5,832 from the Armer F. Ahlstrand Fund



St. Elizabeth Center—Diocese of Rockford

Communications and Technology Replacement and Expansion

The telephone and wireless connection between the St. Elizabeth Center and other social services and educational institutions is critical. As the Center becomes more responsive to parents, providers, and outside institutions, its communications must be updated to meet the needs of those in the Center's care.

\$12,150 from the Margaret K. Aldeen Christian Ministry Fund

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | 4 grants totaling \$95,447



"Hoo" Haven Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Center

Wildlife Rehabilitation: Walk-in Cooler Purchase

"Hoo" Haven Wildlife & Education Center will purchase a walk-in cooler to accommodate the storage of meat, produce, and medication used to rehabilitate wildlife.

\$7,000 from the Dr. Courtney J. and Margaret Hutchins Hamlin Family Fund



Midtown District Association

Business Corridor Beautification

Midtown District will purchase, install, and maintain commercial-grade planters and seasonal plants in the 7th Street Business District. Beyond beautification, this investment will encourage economic and social development within the corridor.

\$24,830 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



River District Association

Forest City Beautiful

The Forest City Beautiful Partnership Program is an urban greening initiative to beautify and revitalize Rockford's downtown with the goal of improving the city's perception. Funds will be used to purchase new benches, bistro tables, chairs, directional signage, and trash receptacles.

\$38,617 from the Bengt & Mary Kuller Fund

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | 4 grants totaling \$95,447



Rockford Park District Foundation

Expanding Usability of Rock River Recreation Path

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. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

YOUTH & FAMILIES | 4 grants totaling \$102,410



Angelic Organics Learning Center

Roots & Wings: Growing Leadership, Self-Sufficiency and Community through Blackhawk Courts Farm

Roots & Wings operates an organic farm on the grounds of Rockford Housing Authority's Blackhawk Courts. Through apprenticeships, events, and microenterprise projects, Roots & Wings offers practical opportunities for youth and adults to learn, practice, and master positive life and job-readiness skills.

\$20,000 from the Meryle A. Stockhus Fund



Boys & Girls Club of Freeport and Stephenson County

Snack Program

This proposal will allow the Boys & Girls Club of Freeport & Stephenson County to purchase four convertible cafeteria benches for serving snacks after school and during summer programming.

\$1,880 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Rockford MELD, Inc.

Furniture for MELD Apartments

MELD will replace damaged furniture in its Transitional Living Apartments. The furniture provides young homeless mothers with a safe place to live, a clean bed, and nutritious food. With the basic necessities of daily living in place, young mothers can focus on becoming responsible, self-sufficient parents.

\$5,530 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund



Youth Services Network, Inc.

Juvenile Redeploy

Juvenile Redeploy is a diversion program open to court-involved males ages 13-18 who reside in Winnebago County. Rockford has seen an increase in juvenile crime. Almost 600 juveniles are on probation in Winnebago County alone. YSN proposes to work with 20-25 of these youth to prevent further involvement in the juvenile justice system.

\$75,000 from the Dr. Louis & Violet Rubin Fund

Thank you for reading. If you have questions about this document or wish to receive an additional copy, please contact:

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