

evanston!communityfoundation

2014 Grant Awards and Celebration

**Thursday, May 29
6:00 pm**

**One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue, Evanston
Third Floor Atrium and Auditorium**



Photo: Bill Burlingham

Evanston Community Foundation

We believe in Evanston: The strength of the individual. The power of community.

Welcome! We gather tonight to celebrate the many organizations that will be receiving competitive and strategic grants of nearly \$800,000 from the Evanston Community Foundation in 2014. Through our grantees, we are able to build, connect and distribute resources and knowledge for the good of Evanston. We cannot imagine an Evanston without all of you.

This evening, we are awarding \$258,330 in grants to 28 organizations covering a broad range of community endeavors. These grantees were selected from a strong pool of 73 proposals requesting a total of \$805,709. These grants would not be possible without the contributions of our generous grantmaking partners. A very special thank you to Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2014 and the 17 other grantmaking partners whose generosity and commitment greatly increase the pool of dollars available for grants this year.

We also celebrate the organizations supported by *root2fruit* and Communityworks grants in 2014. In the past eleven years, *root2fruit*, funded through a partnership with the Mammel Foundation, has provided more than \$1 million in capacity building support for small and midsize nonprofits. Since 2007, Communityworks grants of more than \$1.5 million have supported a network of partners whose collaborative efforts strengthen the early childhood system serving Evanston families. Together, we are working to ensure that *every child is ready for kindergarten* and *every youth is ready for work*.

In keeping with the Foundation's mission, the core resources for our competitive and strategic grants are our endowed funds, specifically our general endowment – the Fund for Evanston – and another dozen funds dedicated to more specific purposes, funds from which we draw an annual spending portion while the balances grow for the future. We look forward to building those endowed funds so in future years we can say “yes!” to more work that will benefit Evanston and its residents. If we had the resources, we would have awarded at least an additional 24 grants this year, and more than twice the dollars.

Our warmest thanks to all of the donors, non-profit organizations, funding partners, responsive grants committee, and our host, Rotary International, for making tonight's celebration possible.

evanston!communityfoundation

Helping Evanston thrive now and forever as a vibrant, inclusive, and just community, the Evanston Community Foundation builds, connects, and distributes resources and knowledge through local organizations for the common good.

Together, we:

- build endowments for current and future opportunities
- foster private philanthropy
- focus the impact of collective giving
- find solutions to community challenges
- allocate grants
- provide leadership training

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celebratedance!marathon

For seventeen years, NUDM has made contributions that support the full range of ECF grants without restrictions as to purpose.



The Evanston Community Foundation happily acknowledges the contribution of a record-breaking \$103,477 from Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2014. Their contribution supports our responsive grants, community catalyst grants, and program assistance for organizations that serve Evanston.

As the secondary beneficiary of NUDM since 1998, ECF has received \$1,031,587 from this extraordinary student organization. We are most grateful to NUDM2014 Executive Co-Chairs Josh Parish and Anna Radoff for their leadership and their participation on our grants committee.

2014 Grantmaking Partners

A special thank you to the 17 grantmaking partners whose generosity and commitment greatly increased the pool of dollars available to responsive grants.

Anonymous (3)
ABS Fund
Judith Aiello-Fantus and Maurice Fantus
Lisa Altenbernd and Stephen Hagerty
Sue and Paul Brenner
Diana Cohen and David Spitulnik
Gratch Family Fund
Jon Kimmel Memorial Fund
Joe "Butch" Martin Fund
David Mulder Fund for Mental Health
Plumtree Fund
Mary Laflin Rockwell Fund
Rubens Family Foundation
Weisblat Family Fund
Zunamon-Cuniff Family Fund

Welcome

Sara Schastok, President and CEO, Evanston Community Foundation

root2fruit grants

Kevin Mott, Board of Directors, Evanston Community Foundation

Funded by the Mammel Foundation, the *root2fruit* program has benefited 39 organizations and awarded over \$1 million in grants since its inception in 2003. Designed to build the capacity of small to mid-size nonprofits in Evanston, the program provides grants renewable for three years and mentorship for grantees. *root2fruit* grantee organizations have seen significant improvement in their budgets, fundraising and development capacity, boards, and ability to build their services.

2014 grantees

Curt's Café
Evanston Day Nursery
Evanston Scholars
Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP)
Frances Willard Historical Association
Literature for All of Us
Mudlark Theater Company
Next Theatre Company
Piven Theatre Workshop
Warren W. Cherry Preschool

2014 alumni grantees

Infant Welfare Society of Evanston
The Lilac Tree
Open Studio Project
The Recyclery Collective

special one-year grant
Child Care Center of Evanston

Communityworks grants

Diana Cohen, vice chair, Evanston Community Foundation

Funded by the Communityworks Endowment Fund established in 2003, our Communityworks initiative provides programmatic and grantmaking support toward the goal of ensuring *every child is ready for kindergarten and every youth is ready for work*. This year, we're investing nearly \$257,000 in grants to sustain a network focused on home visiting, family support, and excellent early childhood education.

2014 grantees

Beyond the Baby Blues
Child Care Center of Evanston
Childcare Network of Evanston
Evanston Public Library
Evanston/Skokie School District 65
Infant Welfare Society of Evanston
Literacy Works
Warren W. Cherry Preschool

Youth Job Center of Evanston, Inc.

\$15,000

Funded with support from the Lorraine
Hairston Morton Fund for Youth, the
Plumtree Fund of the Evanston
Community Foundation and David
Spitulnik and Diana Cohen

Career Pathways to Sustainable Employment
Connects vulnerable youth, ages 17-25, to relevant
post-secondary education and subsidized work
experience leading to permanent employment.

YWCA Evanston/North Shore

\$10,700

Funded with support from the Natasha
S. Deutsch Fund of the Evanston
Community Foundation

Racial Justice Program Capacity Building
Through its Racial Justice Program, the YWCA will
create and facilitate programs which encourage
dialogue, empathy and collective action around racial
equity.

SPECIAL FOUNDATION INITIATIVES

Midwest Child-Parent Centers Expansion

\$15,000

PreK - 3rd Grade support to enhance achievement in low-income families

Northlight Theatre

\$3,750

Funded with support from the Sweeters Fund for Children and the Arts at the Evanston Community Foundation

Speak Up/ AVID at ETHS

An in-class residency program focused on theatre for social change which is conducted in partnership with the ETHS AVID program, a college readiness program for underserved Evanston minority students. AVID students will share ideas about society by creating original theatrical pieces with a social message.

Warren W. Cherry Preschool

\$7,500

Funded by Dance Marathon 2014 and the Fund for Evanston

Fundraising and Donor Management Solution

Purchase of a new fundraising and donor management software to improve fundraising effectiveness and management of donor records.

Y.O.U. (Youth Organizations Umbrella)

\$11,000

Funded with support from the Jon Kimmel Memorial Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation and an anonymous grantmaking partner

Y.O.U.th Artists Initiative

Funds development and implementation of Y.O.U.th Artists program for 150 underserved elementary school-age youth through collaboration with outside arts providers to engage youth in visual arts, dance, music, theater, and poetry workshops at least twice a week.

Presentation of 2014 Responsive Grants

Michael Brody, vice chair, Evanston Community Foundation

Caring Outreach by Parents in Evanston

\$5,000

Funded by Lisa Altenbernd and Stephen Hagerty

COPE Grocery Program

Implement a service-learning/grocery delivery group at fifteen Evanston schools run by volunteers at each school.

Center for Economic Progress

\$12,500

Funded by Dance Marathon 2014 and the Fund for Evanston

Free Tax Services for Low-Income Residents

During the January - April 2015 tax season, clients will work one-on-one with trained and IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers to claim poverty-fighting tax credits and access beneficial financial services.

Center for Independent Futures

\$5,850

Funded with support from the Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Ability Awareness Online Modules Fostering

Employment of Persons with Disabilities/Marginalized
Creation of Ability Awareness Online Learning Modules to optimize participation of individuals with disabilities/marginalized across multiple integrated settings, especially the workplace.

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| Ciencia para Todos | <p>\$10,000</p> <p>Funded with support from Lisa Altenbernd and Stephen Hagerty and the Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation</p> | <p><i>Jugando con la Ciencia</i></p> <p>Offers science outreach program, presented largely in Spanish, to illustrate to Latino families that science is part of their daily life, not a foreign academic endeavor.</p> |
| CJE Senior Life | <p>\$4,500</p> <p>Funded By Dance Marathon 2014 and the Fund for Evanston</p> | <p><i>CJE SeniorLife Adult Day Services Evanston Arts Therapy</i></p> <p>Expands the ADS Evanston creative arts therapy program, providing clients with experiences that intensify positive feelings and exercise the mind.</p> |
| Community Partners for Affordable Housing | <p>\$10,000</p> <p>Funded with support from the Balkcom Family Fund for Literacy and Affordable Housing, the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation, and Maury Fantus and Judy Aiello-Fantus</p> | <p><i>Evanston Community Revitalization Partnership</i></p> <p>Adds, along with funding from other nonprofits, at least 10 units of permanently affordable housing for low-income households who live or work in Evanston.</p> |
| Connections for the Homeless, Inc. | <p>\$15,000</p> <p>Funded with support from the Faith Vilas Fund for Youth and the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation</p> | <p><i>Child & Youth Services</i></p> <p>Provides educational, psychosocial developmental, and healthcare support services to children of homeless families.</p> |
| McGaw YMCA | <p>\$15,000</p> <p>Funded with support from Sue and Paul Brenner</p> | <p><i>Summer Learning Program</i></p> <p>Provides literacy instruction and enrichment activities to first through third graders with low reading scores from Evanston Title 1 schools. It is designed to shrink the achievement gap and reverse summer learning loss that children from low-income families experience during the summer months.</p> |
| Mudlark Theater Company | <p>\$6,300</p> <p>Funded by Dance Marathon 2014 and the Fund for Evanston</p> | <p><i>Mudpie 2015</i></p> <p>Annual showcase adapted entirely from the creative writing of Evanston kids, and performed by their peers. The project has a writing phase as they gather submissions and conduct creative writing workshops, and a rehearsal phase to produce the play.</p> |
| Next Theatre Company | <p>\$5,000</p> <p>Funded with support from the Arts in Community Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation</p> | <p><i>Development/Marketing Assistant</i></p> <p>Hiring of a part-time development assistant to support the work of the Artistic Director and Marketing Manager in areas of development and marketing.</p> |

The Harbour, Inc.

\$10,000
Funded with support from the Fund for Women and Girls and the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Runaway and Homeless Youth Mentorship Program
Hiring of a part-time Volunteer Coordinator to implement mentorship program for youth in their care. The program provides a stable, supportive relationship for at-risk youth, while focusing on educational and employment skill development to foster self-sufficiency and success.

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy

\$10,000
Funded with support from the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Access to Education Initiative
Provides training and advocacy to low-income Evanston parents whose children need special education services.

Literature for All of Us

\$10,000
Funded with support from the All Our Sons Fund and the Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Books are Bridges: Pathways to Opportunity for Evanston's At-Risk Boys
Helps young Evanston offenders build new identities as readers and writers, develop their emotional resiliency and coping skills, and envision brighter possibilities for their futures.

Edible Evanston

\$5,000
Funded by an anonymous grantmaking partner

Eggleston Anniversary Orchard Expansion
Doubles the Orchard's physical size and number of fruit trees, nut trees, and berry bushes. In addition to design and construction, the project includes public outreach, workshops, and educational programs for children and adults.

Erie Family Health Center

\$10,000
Funded with support from the Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Expanded Outreach, Education & Care Coordination to Improve Health Capacity of Evanston
Hiring of a Community Health Educator and expansion of current Care Coordinator role to build community linkages, engage patients in the management of their health, and bring the most disenfranchised patients back into care.

**Erika's Lighthouse—
A Beacon of Hope for
Adolescent Depression**

\$4,730
Funded with support from the David Mulder Memorial Fund for Mental Health of the Evanston Community Foundation

Programs That Promote Good Mental Health for Evanston Students
Strengthens existing depression awareness programs at ETHS and District 65, including ongoing support of the ETHS Teen Club, support and training of the ETHS Panel Program, and introducing a new curriculum to the middle schools and ETHS.

Evanston Art Center

\$3,500

Funded with support from the Evanston Realtors and George Cyrus Memorial Funds of the Evanston Community Foundation

Art VanGo

Use of special art education van to provide under served constituents with art projects developed around 21st Century practices and ideals.

Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse

\$15,000

Funded with support from the Green Communities Fund, Mary Laflin Rockwell Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation, and an anonymous grantmaking partner

Workforce Training

Provides comprehensive and intensive training and job creation program. Participants will address their behavioral, educational, and physical challenges as they prepare for and find jobs.

Evanston Scholars

\$13,000

Funded with support from the ABS Fund, Joe "Butch Martin" Fund and Plumtree Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Summer College for All

Expands program from 11 participants to 27 students and will send all 27 junior scholars to summer college programs across the country.

Evanston Swims!

\$5,000

Funded by the ABS Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Evanston Swims! Expansion

Expands the initiative to provide swimming and water safety training to School District 65 children free of charge to ensure all kids in our lakefront community have access to learning basic life saving skills.

Evanston Symphony Orchestra Association

\$5,000

Funded by the Arts in Community Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Enhanced Data Management and Capacity for Operational Excellence

New data management system that integrates donor and patron info from diverse categories, enables improved segmentation for marketing and fundraising.

Family Focus

\$10,000

Funded with support from the Lydia Martin Memorial Fund for Children and the Arts of the Evanston Community Foundation and the Rubens Family Foundation

Youth Orchestra Partnership

Partners with The People's Music School to build an intensive youth development orchestra program for 30-40 young Evanston students.

Frances Willard Historical Association

\$5,000

Funded with support from the Fund for Women and Girls and the Weisblat Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

FrancesWillard@175

Programs and events to celebrate Frances Willard's 175th birthday, re-introducing her as a pioneering feminist social justice advocate. It will serve to build the capacity of the FWHA; strengthen relationships among Evanston women's organizations; and solidify support for women's history in Evanston.