

evanston!communityfoundation

2015 Grant Awards and Celebration

Wednesday, May 27
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! For the board and staff of Evanston Community Foundation, this is the happiest day of our year, celebrating with you the creative and meaningful work of many organizations. Tonight, we're excited to present the recipients of the nearly \$800,000 of competitive and strategic grants ECF is distributing in 2015. We are lucky to have such strong partners to jointly work toward our mission of helping Evanston thrive as a just, vibrant, and inclusive community.

This evening, we are announcing a record of nearly \$290,000 in responsive grants to 30 organizations, chosen from a very strong pool of 77 proposals. These grants are made possible in large part due to our generous grantmaking partners. We could not say yes as widely and deeply to organizations without Northwestern University Dance Marathon (NUDM) and the 18 other grantmaking partners whose commitment greatly increases the pool of grant dollars.

We thank our responsive grants committee and the committees which help select the grantees of our other programs:

- ◆ *root2fruit*, a partnership with the Mammel Foundation, building organizational capacity
- ◆ Communityworks, supported by ECF's Communityworks Fund, working to ensure that *every child is ready for kindergarten* and *every youth is ready for work*
- ◆ Partners for the Future, funded by an anonymous donor, helping organizations grow major gifts
- ◆ Community Catalyst, seeded two years ago with NUDM funds, allowing ECF to quickly respond to emerging and emergency needs.

Overall, ECF's work is supported through our endowed funds which are designed to allow us to draw annual spending while they also grow for the future. We hope you'll help us build these endowed funds so we can increase our ability to provide grants and support for important community work.

We thank our donors and funding partners for making ECF's grantmaking possible. We're delighted to be celebrating together.

Welcome

Sara Schastok, President and CEO, Evanston Community Foundation

Grantmaking Partners to Responsive Grants

Michael Brody, Chair, Evanston Community Foundation

A special thank you to Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2015 and the 18 other Grantmaking Partners whose generosity and commitment greatly increased the pool of dollars available to responsive grants.

Unrestricted Grantmaking Partners

supports the full slate of grants

Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2015

Anonymous (2)

Lisa Altenbernd and Steve Hagerty

William and Mary Ann McGrath Foundation

Grant-Specific Grantmaking Partners

Anonymous (2)

ABS Fund

Judith Aiello-Fantus and Maurice Fantus

Sue and Paul Brenner

Gratch Family Fund

Paul and Ty Harvey

Jon Kimmel Memorial Fund

Joe "Butch" Martin Fund

David Mulder Mental Health Fund

Plumtree Fund

Mary Laflin Rockwell Fund

Rubens Family Foundation

Weisblat Family Fund

Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund

Presentation of 2015 Responsive Grants

Lisa Altenbernd, Responsive Grants Chair, Evanston Community Foundation

Center for Economic Progress

\$12,000

Free Tax Services for Low-Income Residents
Helps 600 low-income Evanston households claim antipoverty tax credits and access additional financial services with trained and IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers during the 2016 tax season.

Center for Independent Futures

\$6,560
Funded with support from the Faith Vilas Fund for Youth and the Weisblat Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Promoting Self-Advocacy in Students with Disabilities
Develops a Student-Centered IEP Process (curriculum, resource material, facilitation) to help students with intellectual/developmental disabilities build self-advocacy and determination skills.

Warren W. Cherry Preschool

\$8,000

Website Upgrade Project
Updates current website to include online giving capabilities and links to local resources as well as provide Cherry's Latino families information in Spanish, making registration more accessible.

**The Chicago School of
Professional Psychology**

\$7,500
Funded with support from the David
Mulder Mental Health Fund of the
Evanston Community Foundation

*Mental Health Education for Evanston Township
High School Youth*
Trains youth mental health facilitators to conduct
youth-led anti-stigma programming among ETHS
students, using graduate level students under faculty
supervision.

CJE Senior Life

\$5,750
Funded with support from the Gratch
Family Fund and the Zunamon-Cunniff
Family Fund of the Evanston
Community Foundation

*Expansion of Adult Day Services (ADS) Evanston
Creative Arts Therapy Program*
Expands the ADS arts therapy program, which
provides seniors with physical, intellectual and social
experiences that intensify positive feelings and
exercise mind and body.

**Community Partners for
Affordable Housing**

\$3,000
Funded by Maury Fantus and Judy Aiello-
Fantus and the Balkcom Family Fund for
Literacy and Affordable Housing of the
Evanston Community Foundation

CPAH Technology Capacity Building Grant
Builds CPAH infrastructure to support long-term
growth with the purchase and implementation of
property management and donor management
software.

Connections for the Homeless

\$13,000

Child & Youth Services

Provides educational, healthcare, and socio-emotional developmental programming to address deficits for children of unstably housed families and prevent their future homelessness.

Curt's Café

\$13,000

Funded with support from the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation and Paul and Ty Harvey

Capacity Building Curt's Café South

Assists teen mothers and at-risk young women, especially those coming out of the prison system, build job and life skills, mentoring them to continued success.

Edible Evanston

\$4,940

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

Public Outreach Gardens

Expands growth of local food in underserved Evanston communities by building gardens, developing a design manual, and conducting educational workshops.

Erie Family Health Center	<p>\$10,000 Funded with support from an anonymous grantmaking partner and the Zunamon-Cuniff Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation</p>	<p><i>Care Management for Low Income Individuals to Improve Health Care Coordination</i> Establishes a Care Manager for the Outreach, Education and Care Coordination project to provide more intensive and comprehensive care for the highest risk patients.</p>
Evanston Art Center	<p>\$7,500 Funded with support from the Lydia Martin Memorial Fund for Children and the Arts, Evanston Realtors, and George Cyrus Memorial Funds of the Evanston Community Foundation</p>	<p><i>Manager of Public Programs and Community Engagement</i> Adds a part-time staff position to curate public programs and initiate programmatic community partnerships, ensuring awareness of EAC's relocation and expansion to multidisciplinary programming.</p>
Evanston Police Department, Youth Services	<p>\$9,050</p>	<p><i>Restorative Justice School Circles Project</i> Implements Restorative Justice Circles with School District 65 and trains community volunteers as an alternative to punishment-focused discipline.</p>

Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse

\$12,000
Funded with support from the Mary Laflin Rockwell Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse Workforce Training
Expands the current workforce training program in home repair, deconstruction and construction, lowering employment barriers for trainees to become nationally certified Deconstructors.

Evanston Scholars

\$12,000
Funded with support from the ABS Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Financial Literacy Program Expansion
Expands the Financial Literacy program to help students take ownership of their financial futures and prevents dropouts due to poor financial management.

Evanston Swims!

\$4,000
Funded by the ABS Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Evanston Swims Summer Expansion
Expands the summer program to provide 40 students most in need of swim instruction with free lessons, helping them reach the swim competency of their peers.

**Evanston Township High
School--Community Service
Department**

\$11,740
Funded with support from the Joe
"Butch" Martin Fund, Lorraine Hairston
Morton Fund for Youth, and the Plumtree
Fund of the Evanston Community
Foundation

After School Group Service Pilot Program
Pilots student service trips to local non-profits, led by
trained chaperones, to provide sustained volunteer
opportunities and student experiences that are
informed and impactful.

Family Focus

\$7,500
Funded with support from the Gratch
Family Fund of the Evanston Community
Foundation

Afterschool Bridge Funding
Provides bridge funding to continue after school
programming in the local African-American
community, and allows time to draft and implement a
plan to make the program sustainable.

**Farmworker and Landscaper
Advocacy Project (FLAP)**

\$2,300
Funded by an anonymous grantmaking
partner

Community Legal Education materials
Creates educational flyers in English and Spanish to
inform Evanston workers and their families about their
legal rights and the availability of free or affordable
legal resources.

The Harbour, Inc.

\$10,000

Funded with support by the Rubens Family Foundation and the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

In-House GED Program for Homeless Youth

Facilitates in-house GED training for homeless youth by Oakton Community College's Alliance for Lifelong Learning, and funds training materials and laptops.

Interfaith Action of Evanston

\$12,000

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

Gap Funding to Support Expanded Services to the Homeless and Plan For Future

Expands the daily hospitality center and emergency overnight shelter programs due to significant increase in demand of the chronically homeless in Evanston.

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy

\$15,000

Funded with support by the Natasha S. Deutsch Fund and the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Clean Slate Initiative

Educates youth in Evanston job training programs on the consequences of an arrest record, and provides legal assistance to youth with court records to expand education, housing and employment opportunities.

McGaw YMCA

\$18,000

Funded with support from Sue and Paul Brenner and the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Summer Learning Program

Provides free literacy and enrichment summer programming aimed at reversing summer learning loss among vulnerable students by improving their reading and writing skills.

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

\$10,000

Funded with support from the Arts in Community Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Sustaining Momentum with Expanded Development Staff Position

Extends contract for a part-time fundraising development position from July 1, 2015 to January 2016, when a three-year grant commitment to fund the position will begin.

Northlight Theatre

\$11,500

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

Northlight on Campus-Evanston Expansion

Expands arts education programming, in partnership with Y.O.U., into four Evanston schools: Walker, Oakton, King Arts and Chute.

Over The Rainbow Association	\$9,000	<i>Resident Services Program - Becoming CARF Accredited</i> Allows Over The Rainbow and its Resident Services Program to become CARF accredited (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities), which secures a sustainable funding source to expand the breadth of services offered.
PEER Services	\$10,000 Funded with support from the All Our Sons Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation	<i>Familias Unidas: Mobilizing family support to improve treatment outcomes for Latino youth</i> Engages Latino families to support their teens' success through support to parents individually, family therapy sessions and a new Latino parent support group.
Piven Theatre Workshop	\$8,000 Funded with support from the Sweers Fund for Children and The Arts of the Evanston Community Foundation	<i>Dead Man Walking Educational/Arts Project</i> Partners with local educational, artistic, and advocacy partners to explore Tim Robbins' play adaptation of Sr. Helen Prejean's <i>Dead Man Walking</i> and evoke community-wide discourse on the death penalty and social justice.

Youth Technology Corps	\$6,400 Funded with support from the Jon Kimmel Memorial Fund and the Plumtree Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation	<i>YTC Digital Media Program</i> Teaches students about video production, photography, computer graphics, storyboarding and computer refurbishment as they make how-to videos based on their lessons and projects.
YWCA Evanston/North Shore	\$15,000 Funded with support from the Fund for Women and Girls and the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation	<i>Housing & Employment Specialist Pilot</i> Adds a Housing and Employment Specialist to their Domestic Violence staff to pilot a program expanding services for the long-term self-sufficiency and independence of clients.

SPECIAL FOUNDATION INITIATIVES

Midwest Child-Parent Centers Expansion

\$15,000

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

Partners for the Future grant

Lisa Altenbernd, Responsive Grants Chair, Evanston Community Foundation

*Enables one Evanston-based nonprofit per year to raise between \$50,000 and \$100,000 in matching funds.
This project is intended to help the selected organization build its base of financial support, and increase its overall fundraising and organizational capacity.*

2015 grantee

Center for Independent Futures

***root2fruit* grants**

Ann Balusek, *root2fruit* Advisory Board Member, Evanston Community Foundation

Funded by the Mammel Foundation, the root2fruit program has benefited 42 organizations and awarded nearly \$1.2 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.

2015 grantees

Books and Breakfast
Warren W. Cherry Preschool
Curt's Café
Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP)
Frances Willard Historical Association
Literature for All of Us
Meals at Home
Muse of Fire Theatre Company
Piven Theatre Workshop

2015 alumni grantees

Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse
Infant Welfare Society of Evanston
James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy
The Musical Offering
Piccolo Theater

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 will be investing over \$260,000 in grants to sustain a network focused on home visiting, family support, and excellent early childhood education.

2015 grantees

Beyond the Baby Blues
Warren W. Cherry Preschool
Childcare Network of Evanston
Evanston Public Library
Evanston/Skokie School District 65
Evanston Two-Generation Initiative
Infant Welfare Society of Evanston
Literacy Works
Youth Job Center of Evanston, Inc.

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For eighteen 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 nearly \$93,000 from Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2015. 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, NUDM has contributed nearly \$1 million to Evanston through the Foundation, along with countless volunteer hours. We are most grateful to NUDM2015 Executive Co-Chairs Ander Aretakis and David Ryan for their leadership and exemplary service on our responsive grants committee.

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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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