



For Immediate Release

July 25, 2013
Contact: Max Evans
Telephone: (507) 282-0203
Email: max@rochesterarea.org

ROCHESTER AREA FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES LATEST GRANT CYCLE AWARDS

The Rochester Area Foundation has determined its 2013 Cycle 2 Grant Disbursements. A total of \$44,500 will be granted to nine local community organizations to improve the overall quality of life in the greater Rochester area. The Foundation also thanks our donors who partnered with us in making these grants possible. The following are the names of the organizations, their given grant amount, and the initiative the funds will be used for.

- A. Channel One Food Bank – A grant for expansion of the repack room, cooler, warehouse and community kitchen to serve the increased distribution needs. The Foundation is prepared to move forward with a grant of \$11,000.
- B. Community Dental Clinic – A grant to purchase equipment in order to support the patients seen at the Rochester clinic. The request is for sterilization cassettes, a Panorex x-ray machine, and cabinetry for equipment and support for patient outreach. The Foundation is prepared to move forward with a grant of \$9,000.
- C. Legal Assistance of Olmsted County – A grant to provide legal advice to Women’s Shelter clients on site as well as provide training to the Women’s Shelter staff on assisting clients with legal issues. The Women’s Shelter has indicated that getting to the LAOC office as a barrier to getting help for their clients. The Foundation is prepared to move forward with a grant of \$5,000.
- D. Mixed Blood Theatre – A grant to fund a program which provides culturally specific plays to Rochester and surrounding area schools through their travelling theatre program. The plays support positive interactions and situations promoting cultural competence in the community. The Foundation is prepared to move forward with a grant of \$2,000.
- E. NAMI Southeast Minnesota – NAMI, Kasson Mantorville High School, Mayo Clinic and Sealed MINDSET are partnering to produce a curriculum for middle school and high school students supporting leadership and addressing issues of suicide prevention, self-harm, and substance abuse. The program provides for curriculum development, staff training and community awareness. It also will be a research opportunity for this curriculum. The Foundation is prepared to move forward with a grant of \$2,500.
- F. Rochester Civic Theatre – A grant to provide access to theatre arts curriculum for female detainees. The program is designed with and for the Olmsted County Detention Center and will be integrated into the ongoing education programs offered there. The Foundation is prepared to move forward with a grant of \$4,000.

- G. Bear Creek Services – A \$6,750 grant to support an innovative program that addresses the change in state funding for group home support. This program is modeled on some successful operations in the Twin Cities where a staff person, lives with and trains 2-3 disabled adults, who are capable of living on their own, how to accomplish daily living tasks. The training takes 3-6 months before the program graduates are moved to apartments within the same complex.
- H. Southeast Service Cooperative – A \$1,500 grant to support a parent training session for gifted and talented youth. They already have successful teacher training sessions and this will be an expansion of that program. This funding will subsidize the fees that would normally be charged to these families.
- I. Wabasha County Historical Society – A grant of \$2,750 for the restoration of Reads Landing Schoolhouse built in 1870 and converted to a museum in 1965. Exterior maintenance is required to halt deterioration and preserve the building for the future. The Distribution Committee saw this as an opportunity to strengthen awareness of the Area Foundation within its 30 mile radius service area as well as assist in important historical preservation.

About the Rochester Area Foundation. For more than 68 years, the Rochester Area Foundation has partnered with donors to improve the quality of life, promote greater equality of opportunities, and develop effective methods to assist those in need in the greater Rochester area. To find out how the Foundation can connect you with the causes you care about most; call (507) 282-0203 or visit online at www.rochesterarea.org

###