



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2, 2014

Contact: Max Evans

Telephone: 507-424-2404

Email: max@rochesterarea.org

Rochester Area Foundation's weGive365 Announces Inaugural Grant Cycle Awards

weGive365 is a membership fund through the Rochester Area Foundation. Members donate \$1/day through a \$365 annual donation and come together to vote on how the funds are to be disbursed. Fifty percent of the donations are given out as grants and fifty percent are retained as an endowment pool which will grow over the years to enhance the grant pool opportunity.

weGive365 was started in 2013 and this year will be our first grant making opportunity. We are pleased to announce 8 awardees of \$1000 grants for each organization. The 2014 awardees are:

Elder Network – to fund a pilot program for 9 clients offering support to older individuals with the assistance needed to stay in their own homes

The Women's Shelter – Expansion of their early childhood services that support children who have witnessed or who have been battered

Rochester Public Library – development of a Sensory Storytime program for children 9 and under who are on the Autism Spectrum, have developmental disabilities, or have a difficult time focusing in group situations done in partnership with Rochester Center for Autism

Sing Out Loud – fund a partnership singing program with Minnesota Children's Museum Rochester that will be student led.

The Reading Center – provide training to preschool teachers and parents to support reading and writing skills in this age group

Channel One Food Bank – a backpack food program which the \$1000 will support 13 children on the weekends for an entire school year

Rochester Rotary Risers – My Book Day program expanded in elementary schools to an additional 3 schools with the \$1000

SEMCIL – an adaptive garden for people with disabilities which will be placed at their downtown property

We are looking to grow weGive365 and we hope you will join us. Check us out at www.weGive365.org or call Ann Fahy-Gust at 507-242-2417.

About the Rochester Area Foundation. Since 1944, 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. We are proud to be entering our 70th year serving the Rochester area; helping to build better communities for all. 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