

2019

Strengthening our Community

Record grants of \$30.8 million

Grants to nonprofit organizations from charitable funds created by people, businesses and organizations, together, are making a difference throughout the Fox Valley region. By serving as a knowledge resource, catalyst, partner, convener, mentor and investor, your Community Foundation helps donors, professional advisors and nonprofit organizations improve the quality of life for all, forever. Want to join in the generosity? Contact us — we're happy to help! Enjoy reading a few examples of giving from the past year.

- » See our 1,214 grant recipients: cffoxvalley.org/CommunityReport
- » Learn about grant opportunities: cffoxvalley.org/Grants
- » The Community Foundation awarded 436 students scholarships from 203 funds totaling \$1.36 million!
- » See available scholarships at cffoxvalley.org/scholarships

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT



Nonprofit Leadership Initiative enters fourth year

The Nonprofit Leadership Initiative's programs provide opportunities for leadership development and learning to help nonprofits achieve their missions.

NPLI is a program within the Community Foundation, supported by more than a dozen Fox Valley-area nonprofits, funders, educational institutions and businesses dedicated to providing resources for effective nonprofit boards and executive leaders. To date, 39 nonprofit

leaders have graduated from NPLI's Leadership Institute program.

Community Foundation staff involvement on NPLI's leadership team and grants from the *Bright Idea Fund* and seven other funds within the Community Foundation have provided support since NPLI's inception three years ago, and our support will grow for the next three years. This is a long-term investment in nonprofit effectiveness. For more info, go to www.npleadershipfv.org.

EDUCATION



Home visits set the stage for success

Shawano County's most vulnerable families are now receiving in-home visits, mentoring support and access to services. Collaborators include ThedaCare, Family and Childcare Resources of Northeast Wisconsin and Shawano County Department of Human Services. Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin's Shawano Area Early Childhood Partnership project received \$238,523 in grants for young families in Shawano County from the following grant contributors: our affiliate Shawano Area Community Foundation, Mielke Family Foundation, the *Bright Idea Fund* and Basic Needs Giving Partnership, supported by the U.S. *Venture Fund for Basic Needs*, the J. J. Keller Foundation, Inc., and our other generous community partners.

ARTS



Voting for Change - 100 years later

Grants of \$7,000 from the *Bright Idea Fund* and *William and Helen Burger Memorial Fund* within the Community Foundation are helping to bring the history of the 19th Amendment to life at the Neenah Historical Society.

"Voting for a Change - The Impact of the 19th Amendment on our Community" is a celebration of the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote in the United States. The interactive, locally focused exhibit runs November 2019 through April 2020 and provides multiple opportunities for Neenah students and the Fox Valley community to learn more about this pivotal moment in our nation's history.

ENVIRONMENT



Trail extension increases safety

The City of Menasha Parks and Recreation Department has extended the Paper Trail, closing an unsafe gap and bringing two sides of the community together while encouraging outdoor recreation.

Known as the "emerald necklace," the Paper Trail is a 50-mile planned route through 11 Fox Cities communities and 20 area parks.

A grant, totaling almost \$10,000 from *Bright Idea Fund* within the Community Foundation, supported the new crossing to provide a crucial link between the west and east halves of Menasha at the intersection of U.S. Highways 10 and 114 that, until now, were extremely difficult to navigate safely by foot or bike due to the heavy traffic.


HUMAN SERVICES



Caring for the Homeless

Grants from charitable funds within the Community Foundation continue to support organizations eradicating poverty and homelessness, such as Pillars' single-room occupancy program that allows clients to share a home with affordable rent. Counseling and other services are provided by Pillars, which is the result of a merger of the Fox Valley Warming Shelter, Homeless Connections and Housing Partnership of the Fox Cities. The Community Foundation supported the merger with a \$9,600 grant from the *Bright Idea Fund*.

HEALTH



Understanding suicide attempts

One in eight of our high school students in the Fox Valley is attempting suicide, according to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's Youth Risk Behavior Survey. To understand and address this alarming concern, the N.E.W. Mental Health Connection, in partnership with United Way Fox Cities, is conducting a study of youth suicide-related behaviors, thanks to grants totaling \$10,000 from the *Bright Idea Fund* and the *Joyce Hoerig Memorial Fund* within the Community Foundation. Additional funders include the Wallace Family Foundation and ThedaCare Community Health.

The study will bring local youth and expert researchers from the Medical College of Wisconsin together to better understand why 12-18-year-olds in our region attempt suicide at nearly twice the rate of state and national averages.