North Dakota Community Innovation Grant Program
Round #1, 2020
Grantee Information & Awards

CAWS North Dakota: $10,000
Linda Isakson, Interim Director / Dana Mees, Administrative Director
521 E. Main Ave, Suite 320
Bismarck, ND 58501
Being Connected: A project to enhance access to and availability of civil remedies for crime victims across North Dakota by increasing the collective understanding of current resources and service gaps that victims are experiencing.

Afro-American Development Association: $10,000
Hukun Dabar, Executive Director
1350 32nd St. S
Fargo, ND 58103
Youth in Action: A project to recruit, train, and support a group of Somali and South Sudanese Youth as they network and mobilize around a shared community issue.

South Sudan Lutheran Church: $10,000
Matuor Alier, Director
6074 59th St. S
Fargo, ND 58104
New American Women’s Cohort: A project assisting New American women organizing in the Fargo-Moorhead area to find sustainable solutions to issues impacting them enabling them to lead their communities and the larger-Fargo-Moorhead community toward a brighter, productive future.

The Arc of Bismarck: $10,000
Kirsten Dvorak, Executive Director
1500 E. Capitol Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501
ASD and Adults: A project to determine the gaps in services available to transition-age youth and adults diagnosed with Autism or a developmental delay through multiple focus groups (in-person and video-conferenced) across North Dakota.
Ministry on the Margins: $10,000
Sr. Kathleen Atkinson
201 N 24th St.
Bismarck, ND 58501

Center for Healing: A project to bring expanded and more organized vision services to youths and adults who fall through the cracks during times of transition, such as those who are uninsured and/or in social re-entry from prison through Ministry on the Margins or Heart River Lutheran Church’s Bridges of Hope.

Native Community Development, Inc.: $10,000
Fiscal Sponsor: Native American Development Center
Lorraine Davis, President and CEO
209 North 24th St.
Bismarck, ND 58501

Native Artist Program: A two-day training providing Native American artists the instruction, best practices, motivation, inspiration, and supportive network they need to manage and grow their entrepreneurial businesses.

Keeping the Promise/Poppy’s Promise: $5,000
Lorena Poppe, Executive Director
1221 W. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501

Adult Transition Program: A project that will explore various ways to implement adult transition services, including job skills training, for individuals with developmental disabilities at an earlier age and ways to support and empower parents/guardians of individuals with development disabilities during the adult transition process.

Cass Clay Community Land Trust: $10,000
Fiscal Sponsor Organization: Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation
Tim Beaton, Executive Director of Fargo-Moorhead Community Land Trust
409 7th St. S.
Fargo, ND 58103

CLT Homeowner Program: A project that will complete the creation of the home ownership program including homeowner education, selection, and stewardship and to build capacity for the Community Land Trust.

Missouri River Education Foundation (Central Regional Education Association): $10,000
Erin Oban, Director of Community Engagement
128 Soo Line Drive, Suite 102
Bismarck, ND 58501

Cultural Ecosystem: A collaborative project between the Central Region Education Association and Bismarck Global Neighbors to develop a culturally-informed process to organize and mobilize the greater Bismarck’s multi-cultural ecosystem that will first seek to understand the landscape of multi-cultural knowledge and availability of culturally competent services, and using that information to assemble a dynamic and sustainable multi-cultural coalition.
New American Consortium for Wellness & Empowerment: $10,000
Maryann Allen, Interim Director
15 21st St. S, Suite 102
Fargo, ND 58103

Refugee Women Empowerment: A project that will focus on New American women and their disconnect, lack of sense of belonging and control, and isolation by exposing them to financial management, business start-ups, connecting them to community networks, learn about health and well-being, and network with other women.

North Dakota Council on the Arts: $5,000
Kim Konikow, Executive Director
Fiscal Sponsor: North Dakota Assistive Technology
Mike Chaussee, Executive Director
2401 46th Ave. SE, Suite 203
Mandan, ND 58554

Accessibility Convening: A one-day free gathering at the State Historical Society and Heritage Center in Bismarck that will focus on accessibility within organizational operation, facilities, and programming, opening windows to accessible social media, and sharing best practices as part of the 30th Anniversary of the ADA.

Welcome Connection: $10,000
Fiscal Sponsor: St. Mark’s Lutheran Church
Joe Larson, Pastor
417 Main Ave., Suite 401
Fargo, ND 58560

Coalition Development: A project that will utilize facilitated conversations and forums to develop a coalition of faith-based and nonprofit organizations that work individually and collectively to strengthen the Fargo-Moorhead community through greater inclusiveness of LGBTQ individuals and their families, persons experiencing homelessness, and New Americans.

SUMMARY of Grant Round 1:
12 Grants for a total of $110,000
YMCA of Cass & Clay Counties: **$10,000**
Morgan Montgomery, Vice President of Financial Development
400 1st Ave. S.
Fargo, ND 58103

**COVID-19 Emergency Meals** — Consistent, healthy, nutritious evening and weekend meals, snacks, and educational activities provided to kids at mobile feeding sites during the COVID-19 pandemic and amid school closures.

The Arts Partnership: **$7,500**
Dayna Del Val, President & CEO
1104 2nd Ave. S., Suite 315
Fargo, ND 58103

**Diversifying Arts Boards** — This project will highlight the value of the arts sector and the importance of diverse boards, and teach how to increase the diversity of nonprofit boards through conversations with business and community leaders, three virtual board trainings (open to Arts Partnership members and other nonprofits), and by conducting surveys to capture plans for strategic development.

Women Initiative Network (WIN) of Liberia: **$10,000**
Precious Dweh, CEO
15th S. 21st St.
Fargo, ND 58103

**Leaning Towards Change** — Fargo-Moorhead community leaders will assist women and youth in the Liberian community build and develop stress management, goal setting, life planning, and other skills to better enable them to adapt to crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Native Artists United: **$10,000**
Holly Doll, Founder/President
Fiscal Sponsor: Sacred Pipe Resource Center
400 West Main Street
Mandan, ND 58554

**The Owášte Project (The Healing Project)** — A project to share the seven values of Lakota and Dakota cultures (Prayer, Respect, Caring and Compassion, Honesty and Truth, Generosity and Caring, Humility, and Wisdom) through art and storytelling with the Bismarck-Mandan community. It will encourage participants to engage in open and respectful dialogue to understand how these values guide the Lakota and Dakota way of life.
South Sudanese Foundation: $10,000
Matuor Alier, Assistant Director
6074 59th St. S
Fargo, ND 58104

*New American Response* — A collaboration of New Americans working together to develop an ongoing response to challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic that will include a distance learning coordinator to support students and families and a rapid response community coordinator to provide information, resources, and connections to households needing to safeguard their health and finances.

Western Wellness Foundation: $10,000
Kris Fehr, Executive Director
135 W. Villard St.
Dickinson, ND 58601

*Inclusive School Safety* — A community problem-solving process to arrive at a more inclusive and collaborative solution to the identified problem of school safety, which could modify Dickinson Public Schools’ Success Academy concept to a solution that would be more inclusive and less segregated.

Afro-American Development Association: $10,000
Hukun Dabar, Executive Director
1350 32nd St. S
Fargo, ND 58103

*COVID-19 Response* — A two-pronged approach to coordinate emergency financial assistance and culturally attuned resources to help New Americans impacted by COVID-19, and to assist New Americans in navigating furloughs, job loss, family illness, lost health insurance, and other shocks due to the pandemic.

ND Local Food Development Alliance: $10,000
Stephanie Blumhagen, NDLFDA Board Chair
1905 2nd St. SE, PO Box 982
Minot, ND 58702

*Expanding the ND Local Food Development Alliance* — Now established as a nonprofit, the coalition will move forward in bringing together key agricultural, natural resources, education, Indigenous, rural development, and hunger relief organizations to design a system and economic sector to support North Dakota growers and producers to more fully reach North Dakota’s own people with foods grown and produced in the state.

Plains Art Museum: $10,000
Andrew J. Maus, Director and CEO
704 1st Ave N.
Fargo, ND 58102

*Ubuntu: Mural for Justice* — The painting of a mural, led by Pasteur Mudende, respecting the diverse voices marching for justice around the country and in Fargo-Moorhead and featuring a portrait of James Baldwin, in conjunction with an exhibition titled “Ubuntu” curated by Aluel Maciek and other community members as part of a gallery space rethinking to create a project space for the Museum.
Sheyenne Valley Community Foundation: $10,000
Andrea Nelson, Director
250 West Main St.
Valley City, ND 58072
*Pilot Project to The Longest Table* — A multi-step investigation to identify community issues impacting Valley City/Barnes County and the interest and willingness of the community to discuss them during the Longest Table project conducted at a future time.

United Way of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks & Area: $10,000
Heather Novak, Vice President of Operations
1407 24th Ave S., Suite 400
Grand Forks, ND 58201
*Kidz Closet* — A new program to address the lack of resources for children experiencing poverty in the Greater Grand Forks community by collecting and distributing clothing, school supplies, hygiene products, and other items.

Mountain Plains Youth Services (Youthworks): $9,675
Kim Ekart, Program Manager
217 W. Rosser Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501
*Needs Assessment for Trafficked Youth* — A project to explore best practices in residential care for youth victims of human trafficking through a multi-disciplinary perspective and by utilizing youth input.

**SUMMARY of Grant Round 2:**
12 Grants for a total of $117,175
North Dakota Community Innovation Grant Program
Round #3, 2020
Grantee Information & Awards

**Amachi Mentoring: $15,000**
Brenda Bergsrud, Director
315 Fourth Avenue NE
Devils Lake, ND 58301

*North Dakota Peer Support Association*: Foster the growth and adoption of the newly created North Dakota Peer Support Certification and provide information, resources, and support for Certified Peer Support Specialists.

**Community Uplift Program: $13,000**
Cody Severson, Executive Director
624 Main Avenue, Suite 2B
Fargo, ND 58104

*Improving Outcomes for LGBTQ+ Youth*: Create infrastructure across North Dakota to ensure queer youth have places they can turn, and adults and schools have the necessary tools to support queer youth and to identify and prevent problems.

**High Plains Fair Housing Center: $15,000**
Michelle Rydz, Executive Director
406 Demers Road
Grand Forks, ND 58201

*Discrimination: Marginalized Populations*: Stop housing discrimination and promote equitable housing access for marginalized communities not protected by the Fair Housing Act (e.g., LGBTQ, public assistance, criminal backgrounds) through targeted education activities, victim advocacy, and coalition building.

**Indigenous Association: $15,000**
Chalsey Snyder, Executive Director
Fiscal Sponsor: The Human Family
Sean Coffman, Executive Director
PO Box 9468
Fargo, ND 58106

*Revitalization of Indigenous Programs*: Reinvigorate and reimagine Native-centric programming, create access and availability for the community to participate, and unify the Indigenous community through culturally appropriate programming.

**Jeremiah Program Fargo-Moorhead: $15,000**
Andrea Williams, Development Director
3104 Fiechtner Drive South
Fargo, ND 58103

*Jeremiah Program Virtual Expansion*: Advance virtual programming capabilities and utilize new technologies to reach single mothers and their children in geographically underserved areas, especially rural areas and Native Nations.
Keeping the Promise: $10,000
Lorena Poppe, Executive Director
1221 West Divide Avenue, Suite 2
Bismarck, ND 58501

*Parent & Caregiver Education Series:* Offer virtual education on guardianship, alternatives to guardianship, transition of health care from pediatric to adult services, housing, assistive technology, and finances to caregivers of youth with autism spectrum disorder and developmental disabilities, including space for self-advocates and caregivers to share their stories.

Minot Alliance of Nonprofits: $11,600
Scott Burlingame, President
Fiscal Sponsor: Independence, Inc.
Scott Burlingame, Executive Director
2000 Burdick Expressway East
Minot, ND 58701

*The Nonprofit Fragility Project:* Create an accessible, collaborative community conversation distributed publicly via video and podcast featuring local nonprofit leaders, government officials, granting agencies, donors, and other stakeholders seeking a solution to nonprofit fragility.

Mountain Plains Youth Services (Youthworks): $15,000
Brandon Baity, Mentor Coordinator
217 West Rosser Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58501

*N8V Youth Circle:* A program for older Indigenous youth (ages 18-24) organized by Indigenous staff to collaborate on cultural projects and share teachings from elders.

North Dakota Disabilities Advocacy Consortium: $7,500
Julie Horntvedt, President
PO Box 7472
Bismarck, ND 58502

*Virtual Legislative Training Institute:* Educate and empower citizens with disabilities to become more active participants in state government while in the midst of a pandemic.

North Dakota Women’s Network: $10,000
Kristie Wolff, Executive Director
1929 North Washington Street, Suite W
Bismarck, ND 58501

*NDWN Youth Advisory Council:* ND Women’s Network board members will serve as mentors to inspire, equip, and mobilize youth to become more civically engaged, and NDWN will gain perspective from youth advisors on how best to address challenges and opportunities facing youth and young adults.

**SUMMARY of Grant Round 3:**
10 Grants for a total of $127,100
SUMMARY of 2020 GRANTS:
34 Grants for a total of $354,275