North Dakota Community Innovation Grant Program
Round #1, 2021
Grantee Information & Awards

African Arts Arena $15,000
Grand Forks, ND
*Voices of the Silenced:* A team of Black/Indigenous/people of color instructors will teach African percussion and dance, poem writing, and storytelling to low-income and minority youth, helping them cope with the stress of the pandemic through exposure to culturally diverse art forms.

Afro-American Development Association: $15,000
Moorhead, MN
*Helping Families & Rebuilding Services:* Provide continuity to case management and employment programming for resettled refugees following the closure of Lutheran Social Services of ND, while seeking ways to rebuild resettlement services in collaboration with the State of North Dakota.

Beyond Shelter: $15,000
Fargo, ND
*An Affordable Vision for Downtown Fargo:* Evaluation, visioning, and implementation planning to meet the affordable housing needs of the diverse population seeking to live in downtown Fargo.

Center for Rural Health, University of North Dakota: $15,000
Grand Forks, ND
*Brain Injury in the Criminal Justice System:* Develop a strategic plan for the implementation of statewide brain injury screening, identification, referral, and assessment protocols for individuals within the North Dakota criminal justice system.

Dakota West Arts Council: $14,000
Bismarck, ND
*Finding Unity in the Arts Community:* Explore arts needs in Bismarck and the broader region by inviting community stakeholders to facilitated conversations, exploring how to collaborate on shared needs and problems, how to share space and resources, and how to unify and amplify the arts in the region.
**Down Home:** $13,350  
Fargo, ND

**Empower Up Program:** Provide cognitive behavioral and emotional intelligence training to people in Fargo-Moorhead who have experienced or are at risk for homelessness, in addition to transforming a priority space in their home.

**Great Plains Food Bank:** $15,000  
Fargo, ND

**Standing Rock Community Project:** Convene community members, leaders, and experts, including those with lived experience of food insecurity and poverty, in a broad-based community assessment to identify ways in which existing community assets can be leveraged and new solutions developed to advance food security.

**Heart-n-Soul Community Cafe:** $15,000  
Fargo, ND

**Gathering Together for Heart and Soul:** Partner with community neighborhoods to offer a Pop-Up Food Truck to serve nutritional, locally grown food in a variety of neighborhoods, providing meals and opportunity for social connections.

**HeartSprings Community Healing Center:** $15,000  
Fargo, ND

**COVID Crisis Care & Recovery Initiative:** Provide classes including trauma-sensitive yoga, T’ai Chi Chih, and meditation to Fargo-Moorhead area refugee families and to people in the Fort Berthold Diabetes Program of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation.

**Lake Region Community Shelter:** $10,000  
Devils Lake, ND

**Shelter Restart:** Determine a permanent 24-hour shelter location to serve the Devils Lake region following closure of the original shelter due to COVID-19 restrictions, and educate the community on homelessness, affordable housing, generational poverty, and cultural differences.

**Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa:** $15,000  
Belcourt, ND

**Turtle Mountain Recovery Center:** Provide culturally responsive drug and alcohol treatment services by hiring a project director to lead efforts in site design, implementing Medicaid billing for clients, and identifying staff needed for services.

**SUMMARY of Grant Round 1:**

11 Grants for a total of $157,350
North Dakota Community Innovation Grant Program
Round #2, 2021
Grantee Information & Awards

31:8 Project: $13,500
Bismarck, ND
*Empowering Human Trafficking Survivors:* A pilot project to provide victims of human trafficking across North Dakota with culturally relevant, trauma-informed, evidence-based services to enable them to successfully achieve self-identified life-skill goals.

Charles Hall Institute: $15,000
Bismarck, ND
*Charles Hall Institute Pilot Program:* Partner with United Tribes Technical College’s Theodore Jamerson Elementary School staff to develop educational programs and technology applications that promote healthy development, character, and self-valuing in children and adolescents.

New American Consortium for Wellness and Empowerment: $10,000
Fargo, ND
*Refugee and Immigrant Women’s Network:* Remove barriers to workforce reentry for immigrant women following the COVID-19 pandemic including access to childcare, budgeting skills, health education, and yoga and tai chi.

New Americans Integration Center: $15,000
Grand Forks, ND
*New American Job Skills Development:* Support recently arrived New Americans in the Grand Forks area with access to and training for jobs, including ESL communication support, computer skills, resume development, work culture training, using public transportation, and financial literacy.

North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation: $13,500
Bismarck, ND
*First Impressions Program:* Initiate a laser tattoo removal project to treat DOCR residents at all facilities who wish to remove exposed face/neck/hand tattoos, complementing existing re-entry programs to increase success in gaining employment, obtaining housing, and reconnecting with family, and to bolster community acceptance.

North Dakota Local Food Development Alliance: $11,500
Minot, ND
*Local Food Systems for ND Communities:* Mobilize alliance working groups to address producer support; aggregation, processing, and distribution; food charter; and Native American food sovereignty. Organize three local food planning summits to catalog the current needs, actors, and projects related to local foods.

Northlands Rescue Mission: $14,500
Grand Forks, ND
*Filling the Transportation Gap:* A collaborative project to survey the transportation needs of low-income families and individuals to ensure access to jobs and social service providers, and to develop a new transportation-on-request program for low- to moderate-income community members.
South Sudan READ: $15,000
Fargo, ND
Immigration Services Discussion: Contract with Board of Immigration Appeals–certified professionals to facilitate stakeholder discussions to assess needs and reestablish affordable and accessible immigration services following the closure of Lutheran Social Services of ND.

Southwest Area Career & Technical Education Task Force: $15,000
Fiscal Sponsor: Dickinson Public Schools
Dickinson, ND
Career & Technical Education (CTE): Engage industry, business, and community leaders in facilitated conversations to help determine strategy and provide input on educational programs to be offered at the CTE Center opening in 2023.

SUMMARY of Grant Round 2:
9 Grants for a total of $123,000
North Dakota Community Innovation Grant Program  
Round #3, 2021  
Grantee Information & Awards

All Parks Alliance for Change: $10,000  
St Paul, MN  
Statewide Manufactured Housing Association: Establish ND Manufactured Home Owners Association through outreach in Bismarck, Fargo, Grand Forks, and Minot to protect affordable housing for low- and moderate-income residents, with goals of strengthening resident rights, maintaining affordability, and preserving park communities.

Alzheimer’s Association, Minnesota–North Dakota Chapter: $7,000  
Edina, MN  
New Americans Alzheimer’s Awareness: Work with partners to reach populations of older New Americans in North Dakota and to identify linguistic and cultural barriers preventing early diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.

Cass Clay Community Land Trust: $15,000  
Fargo, ND 58103  
Sharia-Compliant Lending: Research Sharia-compliant lending, determine demand/unmet needs in our area, and potentially establish a Sharia-compliant lending vehicle to aid Muslim families in becoming homeowners.

Cultural Diversity Resources: $15,000  
Fargo, ND  
Financial Literacy Project: Assist poor and low-income individuals and families with improving money management by building knowledge of key financial concepts and developing skills in budgeting, savings, debt management, and investing for retirement.

Domestic Violence Crisis Center: $15,000  
Minot, ND  
Domestic Violence High-Risk Team Expansion: Implement a victim-centered offender intervention program and develop a trauma-informed soft interview room to promote victim safety in Ward County.

Essentia Health Foundation: $15,000  
Fargo, ND  
Improving Racial Economic Equity: Remove systemic and structural barriers that limit healthcare employment opportunities for immigrant and refugee people in Cass County (ND) and Clay County (MN) by testing and implementing solutions identified by the New American community.

Growing Together Community Gardens: $12,400  
Fargo, ND  
Growing Community Connections: Strengthen relationships with New American gardeners, including diversity training for organization leadership; recruiting board members, interns, and volunteers with diverse backgrounds; researching and purchasing seeds/plants of cultural relevance to community members; and creating multi-lingual marketing materials.
Jeremiah Program Fargo-Moorhead: $15,000
Fargo, ND
*Non-Residential Expansion*: Develop robust community partnerships and programmatic infrastructure to support non-residential families beyond the JP campus, providing resources and support for low-income single moms to achieve economic mobility.

Mental Health Advocacy Network: $15,000
Fiscal Sponsor: ND Protection & Advocacy Project
Bismarck, ND
*Mental Health Advocacy Network Podcast*: Develop a podcast to create awareness of the prevalence and challenges of mental illness, showcase local topics, explore best practices identified by experts, and introduce the public to North Dakota’s mental health programs and services.

North Dakota Human Rights Coalition: $15,000
Fargo, ND
*Intercultural Development Training*: Research, develop, and implement a training program for law enforcement, K-12 and higher education, health and human services, and public and private organizations to address the unique needs within North Dakota’s LGBTQ+, Black/Indigenous/People of Color (BIPOC), and refugee/immigrant communities.

Northern Plains Dance: $11,000
Bismarck, ND
*Community Need for Adaptive Dance*: Gauge the community need for and identify long-term partners in the development of inclusion-based dance programs to support youth with a wide range of cognitive abilities, learning disabilities, neurodiverse backgrounds, and behavior challenges.

Northern Plains Heritage Foundation: $15,000
Mandan, ND
*Community Design for Heritage Murals*: Engage communities in Burleigh, McLean, Mercer, Oliver, and Morton Counties in the design and creation of public art murals that draw inspiration from regional historic, cultural, and natural themes.

Standing Rock Community Development Corporation: $15,000
Fort Yates, ND
*Dakod Wokagniga Wowapi/Dakȟóta Dictionary of the Ancestral Dialect*: Revitalize and preserve the threatened Yanktonai “D” dialect by creating a dictionary with fluent/semi-fluent Dakȟóta speakers of the Cannon Ball area, enhancing existing language programs that convey cultural and traditional teachings.

USpireND: $15,000
Richardton, ND
*Supporting Incarcerated Parents*: Work directly with incarcerated parents and their children, partnering with institutions within the correctional system, to ensure optimal growth and development for the children of incarcerated parents.
Vision West: $15,000
Dickinson, ND

Creating Inclusion in Southwest ND: Provide education and training for manufacturers and large employers in southwest North Dakota on how to help new immigrant, foreign-born, and Hispanic American workers in their industries feel more included in the workplace.

Western Wellness Foundation: $9,233.73
Dickinson, ND

Kids' Mental Health Assessment: Address inequities in the diagnosis, referral, and treatment of mental health issues occurring among low-income and minority children by implementing a screening tool to assist in behavioral health outreach for families without access to mainstream health channels.

SUMMARY of Grant Round 3:
16 Grants for a total of $214,633.73

SUMMARY of 2021 GRANTS:
36 Grants for a total of $494,983.73