

**Basic Needs - Housing Stability - CAC \$5,000.00**

The project will provide direct rental or utility assistance to low-income households. The WINGS funds will be designated for female-headed households who are at imminent risk of homelessness. This assistance will prevent eviction or utility shut-offs for these families with youth.

**TORCH Summer Camps & Experiences - Northfield HCI \$4,000.00**

This project will address the opportunity gaps among youth in the Northfield community. Low-income youth have limited access to extracurricular and enrichment activities, including summer camps and experiences. Summer experiences, ranging from experiences on college campuses to outdoor adventure camps, provide opportunities for youth to gain academic and socioemotional skills, explore their interests, expand their perspectives, and clarify their future college and career paths. WINGS funds will be used to make summer experiences more accessible by providing tuition support and transportation to and from camp. Access to summer experiences helps ensure that all Northfield youth have equitable opportunities to develop leadership and teamwork skills, enhance feelings of self-confidence and self-efficacy, take healthy risks, discover new interests, and explore varied educational and career paths.

**Teen Clinic Services and Northfield Expansion - HealthFinders \$4,000.00**

HealthFinders Collaborative (HFC) combines clinical care, community engagement, patient advocacy, and wellness education to improve health care access and outcomes for underserved populations in Rice County. Our new Northfield teen clinic provides care and serves as a hub for our community-based school clinics and teen wellness and education program. This project will also extend the impact of HFC's HealthRise care coordination program by employing community health workers to extend care beyond the clinic setting. WINGS funding supported the launch of the Northfield clinic, successfully leveraging statewide funds, which opens opportunities to be ever more responsive to the women and youth needs it has uncovered.



**Youth Outreach Collaborative  
Northfield Union of Youth \$25,000**

NUY will use the WINGS Dare to Dream Bigger funding to collaboratively expand the community's safety net for the most vulnerable, isolated, and least supported youth in Northfield. For years, NUY, Northfield ALC, and TORCH have been overcoming obstacles facing underserved youth throughout Northfield. However, there are still youth who fall through the cracks. Dare to Dream Bigger funding will empower these three organizations to collaboratively provide an integrated outreach approach to address the staggering need for supportive services and academic assistance among Northfield's least supported youth. Separately, each organization has found effective methods of engaging the youth they serve. NUY has provided power and voice to area youth since 1993, recently launching a host of supportive services. Northfield ALC was awarded ALC of the Year in 2016 by the Minnesota Association of Alternative Programming. TORCH is the beacon of success in helping low-income students graduate from high school and access post-secondary opportunities. However, there are students with needs that span across these programs and Dare to Dream Bigger funding will improve integrated outreach by funding a cross-program, community-based social worker at NUY. Increased collaboration between these organizations will change lives and transform our community for Northfield's most at-risk youth.

WINGS awarded \$85,824.00 in this year's grant cycle.



# GATHER TO CELEBRATE!



## Congratulations to the 2018 WINGS grant recipients

WINGS has given out \$975,000 in grants to date.

**Bereavement Support Packets - Infants Remembered in Silence \$500.00**

Provide books, brochures, and other printed materials for 150 Bereavement Support Packets. In Northfield, approximately 150 packets are given out each year in the Northfield Hospital, Northfield Clinics, Northfield funeral homes, and through requests to IRIS.

**Roger Jenni Instruments for All Program - Northfield Fine Arts Boosters \$1,000.00**

In the past year, there has been significant demand for funds from the Instruments for All program. We were able to refurbish seven donated string instruments and eleven donated band instruments. WINGS funding will help us attain our mission to get an instrument in the hands of each student who would like to participate in band or orchestra. Just getting an instrument in the hands of a student is not enough; this fund has also paid for lesson books and summer lessons to keep skills sharp and at their grade level. Last summer we saw an increase in scholarship requests for summer lessons. We are looking for more funding sources and this grant will help support our students who may come from a family that lacks the finances to pay for expenses related to fine arts participation.

**Creating Community - Northfield Arts Guild \$1,000.00**

The Guild's Creating Community Club program serves teens (14+) and young adults living on the autism spectrum with three annual courses that focus on the development of social communication and interactive skills through individual and group art making activities and education. The most common challenge across the autism spectrum is building meaningful social interactions and relationships. Art making provides a dynamic outlet for personal growth and creative expression. Specifically, the Creating Community Club program provides collaborative and solo art making projects that enable students to practice and increase their aptitude for team work, networking, creative problem solving, peer learning, collaboration, turn-taking, respecting differences, self-expression and improved comprehension of other people's perspectives and emotions.

**Transitional Shelter Program - Ruth's House of Hope \$2,144.00**

The Transitional Shelter Program provides safe shelter and supportive services to women and children who are struggling with homelessness due to domestic violence, financial instability, disability or other oppressive life circumstances. Each adult receives case-management services to assist them in creating and implementing self-sufficiency plans and to help them address challenges and successes. With the collaboration of local service agencies, we are able to form connections and provide adequate referrals. Ruth's House strives to provide programming that is beneficial for resident success. Current programming at Ruth's House includes: an early childhood group, a cooking class, a budgeting class, and a housing assessment. Funds from WINGS will be used to defray the costs of providing utilities at the Shelter including heat and electricity.

**Advance Care Planning Community Initiative - Northfield Hospitals & Clinics \$1,500.00**

WINGS funding will be used to support the Advance Care Planning (ACP) Initiative, based at Northfield Hospital & Clinics, which has become a new movement in Northfield. In partnership with Honoring Choices Minnesota, the Northfield Advance Care Planning Advisory Council was formed to extend the initiative into the community. The ACP initiative creates avenues to learn about end-of-life options, to engage in conversations about meaning, quality of life, and personal values, and to take steps to ensure these will be honored if we can't speak for ourselves. Advance care planning promotes and protects patient choice and prevents unwanted (or protects wanted) medical intervention at the end of life. The ACP initiative is creating consistent information, resources, and opportunities and is facilitating a "culture change" around meaningful conversations about end-of-life experiences and preferences.

**Northfield Youth Sports Collaborative Challenge Grant - CAC \$5,500.00**

The Northfield Youth Sports Collaborative provides scholarships to local youth from low-income families to help alleviate the registration fee for local sports. This collaborative scholarship fund has provided more than 2,500 scholarships to local children. To help ensure that the Collaborative does not have to turn away kids in need, the WINGS funding will be used as a challenge grant to help spur additional local commitments by matching dollar-for-dollar any donations up to \$6,000.

**Family School Transportation - Dakota Prairie Basic Education \$2,000.00**

Family School is a collaboration between Dakota Prairie ABE and Northfield Early Childhood Family Education. It is a free education program that integrates English Language Learning, Parenting Education, Childhood Literacy, and Kindergarten Readiness. Family School is a bridge to the public school system for Northfield residents who are new to the United States or who are learning the English Language. WINGS funding will be used for student transportation costs to and from classes at the Northfield Community Resource Center.

**Camp FRIENDS - Northfield Public Schools \$2,000.00**

Camp FRIENDS will provide social, recreational and educational programming for middle school and high school students with disabilities. WINGS funds will be used for a summer camp.

**Core Service Provision - HOPE Center \$3,280.00**

HOPE Center will be utilizing the funding given to supplement our core service provision. We will be focusing on helping our Northfield clients with basic needs such as gas cards to get to court and our office, grocery cards to get food and other essentials as well as providing Trac Phones for our clients whose phones have been destroyed, left behind, or taken as evidence as part of the reporting process.

**High School Reading Mentors - Northfield HCI \$5,000.00**

Data has shown time and time again that youth in families that struggle financially lag their peers on meeting important milestones, the milestones that make up the core of Northfield Promise. WINGS funding will support the new High School Reading Mentors program, which aims to address three of these milestones head-on. By engaging high school youth from families that show financial strain and training them to become Reading Mentors to elementary afterschool PLUS program participants (while also engaging the PLUS program teachers to act as mentors to these high school youths), we hope to positively influence the following Northfield Promise Benchmarks: Reading at Grade Level by Third Grade, Feeling good about myself in high school, and Feeling connected and engaged to my community.

**Rice County Dispute Resolution Program - Community Mediation and Restorative Services \$1,500.00**

WINGS grant funding will be used to continue our work in the school system. We want to continue working with our youth and their families to foster healthy communication and effective conflict resolution. We would like to continue our work at the elementary level with the Peer Mediation and Leadership Program, while furthering our efforts in bringing Restorative Practices to all the schools and the community at large. We would like to expand our ability to work with and train staff and teachers in Restorative Practices and provide direct services to students and youth.

**Pizza en el Parque - Northfield HCI \$2,000.00**

Growing Up Healthy seeks to foster health equity and social connectedness among Latino community members in Rice County by promoting grassroots-led systems changes, with a focus on women and children. Recognizing the power of food at community gatherings, GUH seeks funding to expand the availability of healthy food during its weekly evening summer neighborhood meetings/events at Viking Terrace (held in Dresden Park) and Northfield Estates. Building on the success of last summer's Pollo en el Parque program, and in response to feedback from the women and children in both neighborhoods, GUH staff will offer Pizza en el Parque, providing pizza, fresh produce and beverages for families while they participate in family-oriented activities. WINGS funds will be used for food and beverages over the course of the 10-week program.

**After School Mentoring Collaboration - Project Friendship \$1,600.00**

WINGS funding will help implement an expansion program for group mentoring off the college campus. Our mentors will be trained for the unique needs of mentoring in a group setting. By partnering with established community activities, such as Greenvale Park Community School, Accelerate Northfield and evening youth activities, we will meet youth where they already are (during one of the activities they already attend), reaching children who are currently not able to participate in our program due to some sort of access barrier such as lack of transportation or limited after school time. These children will be identified as someone who needs personalized attention to curb behavioral problems that can lead to academic concerns or someone who is struggling with issues of self-esteem and a changing self-identity.

**Greenvale Park Community School Sustainability Project - Northfield Community Services NPS, Northfield HCI \$8,000.00**

The Greenvale Park Community School initiative was catalyzed by the WINGS Dare to Dream grant and now the program has grown beyond anyone's expectations. Our main source of funding is limited to K-12 students, but pre-kindergarten and adult-age participation have increased over the years. Maintaining healthy growth of the existing free, out-of-school-time programming for students and their families requires more resources for early learners and adults, including additional

staff and supplies. WINGS funds will be used for these early learner resources which cannot be funded by our 21st Century Community Learning Center grant.

**Community Action Center - Northfield Works: Career Training & Education Opportunities - CAC \$2,000.00**

This grant will serve low-income Northfield area women facing multiple barriers to employment with educational and basic needs support services. Participants will have the opportunity to obtain training and credentials that support identifying and entering a career pathway best suited for their unique set of skills and interests. The project provides individualized employability (work readiness) skills, placement, and retention opportunities with Northfield Works Partner Employers. Participants also receive employment retention services and training in computer skills, financial literacy, ESL for the workplace, and other basic work skills.

**Y Scholarships for Low-Income Families - Northfield Area Family YMCA \$1,000.00**

At the YMCA, we believe that communities are successful if everyone is given the opportunity to be healthy, confident, connected and secure. Annually, the Y raises funds to provide program and membership financial assistance. Our goal is that no one is turned away and funding from WINGS helps to ensure that anyone, regardless of their financial ability can participate. Scholarships ensure anyone can participate and has access to open and lap swim, group and aqua exercise, the indoor track, weight and cardio equipment and drop-in babysitting as well as programs such as sports programs, swimming lessons, youth in government, personal and nutrition training and local summer camp participation. Our goal is that NO ONE is turned away due to inability to pay.

**Vegetable Production Training Workshops for Aspiring Latina Farmers in Northfield - Main Street Project \$2,300.00**

In 2017, Main Street Project managed a two-acre garden that produced five fruit and vegetable crops for low-income Latino community members to harvest and take home as part of our Sharing Our Roots (SOR) program. In response to input from past participants, this year we are expanding SOR. Latino residents (women in particular) are interested in learning more about vegetable production, as this is something they have a personal and cultural connection to. WINGS funds will help with the program expansion, which will include a series of educational workshops and hands-on training for Latinas to gain practical farming and small business skills. During the conclusion of this year's training, graduates and their families will harvest the food produced.

**TORCH Education Fellows Pathway - Northfield HCI \$4,000.00**

WINGS funding will help support recent high school graduates of the Northfield TORCH Program in an on-the-job training program through the Minnesota Reading Corps, while simultaneously supporting these students' enrollment in college courses through Riverland Community College. Riverland has recently partnered with TORCH to offer classes in Northfield. This combination will allow students to earn an Associate of Arts degree while earning a salary, gaining workforce skills, and building a community of young professionals in Northfield. It is our hope that this experience will ensure that more TORCH graduates, and especially TORCH graduates of color, will elect to pursue a career in education and return to Northfield to start their careers.

**Northfield YouthBank - Northfield HCI \$1,000.00**

Northfield YouthBank is a youth-led grant-making initiative that channels money into projects that will improve the quality of life in our community. It is a process and way of working with young grant-makers that encourages and trains them as they develop essential life and job skills. YouthBanks are run by young people for young people in their community. The Northfield YouthBank team members are supported by adults, but the youth make the decisions as to what projects they choose to carry out and how the money they have is spent. The YouthBank model is unique in that it puts money directly into the hands of youth who decide on how it will be awarded. WINGS funding be used to help pay staff and administrative costs for this program.

**English Learner (EL) Preschool section at Northfield Community Resource Center (NCRC) - Northfield Public Schools \$500.00**

Our goal is to offer a new EL preschool class three-afternoons per week for those children ages 3-5 who are Spanish speaking dominant. Currently, we do not have adequate supplies and materials to support children's learning in an EL preschool. The WINGS grant will be used to help fund culturally diverse, bilingual materials for this classroom as well as to provide materials to support the continuation of learning at home with families.

Thank you to these great organizations who are making a difference in our community.