

evanston!communityfoundation

Photo: Bill Buringham



Students at Cherry Preschool,
a 2016 Communityworks
grant recipient

2016 Grant Awards Celebration & Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 26
5:30 pm

Crystal Ballroom at The Merion
529 Davis Street, Evanston

Evanston Community Foundation

We believe in a community empowered today for a stronger tomorrow, together!

Welcome! For the board and staff of Evanston Community Foundation, this is the happiest day of our year, celebrating with you the creative and meaningful work of many organizations. Tonight, we're excited to present the recipients of just over \$800,000 in competitive and strategic grants ECF is distributing in 2016. We are lucky to have such strong partners to work jointly toward our mission of helping Evanston thrive as a just, vibrant, and inclusive community.

This evening, we are announcing a record of nearly \$312,000 in responsive grants to 29 organizations, chosen from a very strong pool of 64 proposals. These grants are made possible in large part due to our generous grantmaking partners. We could not say yes as widely and deeply to organizations without Northwestern University Dance Marathon (NUDM) and the 20 other grantmaking partners whose commitment and thoughtfulness greatly increases the pool of grant dollars available to Evanston nonprofits.

We thank our committees which help select the grantees of all our grant programs:

- *root2fruit*, a partnership with the Mammel Foundation, building organizational capacity
- Communityworks, supported by ECF's Communityworks Fund, working to ensure that every child is ready for kindergarten and every youth is ready for work
- Partners for the Future, funded by an anonymous donor, helping organizations grow major gifts
- Fundraising Service Grants, funded by an anonymous donor, mentoring organizations to build a robust development program

Overall, ECF's work is supported through our endowed funds which are designed to allow us to draw annual spending while they also grow for the future. We hope you'll continue to help us build these endowed funds so we can increase our ability to provide grants and leadership support for Evanston.

We thank our donors and funding partners for making ECF's grantmaking possible. We're grateful to be celebrating together.



State of Evanston Community Foundation

Monique B. Jones, President and CEO

Communityworks grants

Diana Cohen, Vice Chair and Philanthropic Engagement Committee Chair

Funded by the Communityworks Endowment Fund established in 2003, our Communityworks initiative provides programmatic and grantmaking support toward the goal of ensuring every child is ready for kindergarten and every youth is ready for work. This year, we will be investing nearly \$230,000 in grants and programs to sustain a network focused on home visiting, family support, and excellent early childhood education.

2016 grantees

Beyond the Baby Blues
Warren W. Cherry Preschool
Evanston Public Library
Evanston/Skokie School District 65
Infant Welfare Society of Evanston
Literacy Works
Youth Job Center of Evanston

root2fruit grants

Ann Balusek, *root2fruit* Advisory Board Member

Funded by the Mammel Foundation, the root2fruit program has benefited 45 organizations and awarded more than \$1.3 million in grants since its inception in 2003. Designed to build the capacity of small to mid-size nonprofits in Evanston, the program provides grants renewable for three years and mentorship for grantees.

2016 grantees

Books and Breakfast
Chessmen Club of the North Shore
Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP)
Girls Play Sports
Literature for All of Us
Meals at Home
Muse of Fire Theatre Company
National Alliance on Mental Illness, Cook County North Suburban
Piven Theatre Workshop

2016 alumni grantees

Center for Independent Futures
Evanston Scholars
Mudlark Theatre
PEER Services

Partners for the Future grant

Mike Brody, Chair

*Enables one Evanston-based nonprofit per year to raise between \$50,000 and \$100,000 in matching funds.
This project is intended to help the selected organization build its base of financial support, and increase its overall fundraising and organizational capacity.*

2016 grantee

Evanston Scholars

Fundraising Service Grants

*Piloted by the Partners for the Future Fund, the program supports nonprofits in improving their capacity to fundraise.
In partnership with social venture firm DonorPath, it provides individual coaching, data analytics and technical tools to help build a robust and diverse development program for each organization.*

Actors Gymnasium
Civic Legal Corps
Evanston Scholars
Girls Play Sports Inc
Infant Welfare Society of Evanston
Interfaith Action of Evanston

Mental Health America North Shore
Mudlark Theater Company
Northlight Theatre
PEER Services
PrismPathways
Senior Connections

Jim Kogen Foundation Spirit Award Presentation

Mike Brody, Chair

*This award was established in 2004 to honor exemplary board service at the Evanston Community Foundation.
It is in the name of Jim Kogen, who served on our Board of Directors from 1998 to 2004. His generous gifts
of time, treasure, and talent were critical to the Foundation's growth.*

Past Winners

Kendal Gladish
2004

Ronna Stamm
2010

Mary Finnegan
2005

Kevin Mott
2011

Susan Manning
2006

Judith Aiello-Fantus
2012

Mark McCarville
2007

Judy Kemp
2013

Ralph Segall
2008

Diana Cohen
2014

Eleanor Revelle
2009

Pete Henderson
2015

Grantmaking Partners to Responsive Grants

Lisa Altenbernd, 2nd Vice Chair and Responsive Grants Chair

A special thank you to Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2016 and the 20 other Grantmaking Partners whose generosity and commitment greatly increased the pool of dollars available to responsive grants.

Unrestricted Grantmaking Partners

supports the full slate of grants

Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2016

Anonymous (2)
Tom and Barb Altman
Paul Bechtner Foundation
Judy Freitag and David D'Arcy
Lisa Altenbernd and Steve Hagerty
Rose and Andy Thomas Educational Fund

Grant-Specific Grantmaking Partners

Anonymous
ABS Fund
Judith Aiello-Fantus and Maurice Fantus
Paul Bechtner Foundation
Sue and Paul Brenner
Gratch Family Fund
Joe "Butch" Martin Fund
David Mulder Mental Health Fund
Plumtree Fund
Redbud Fund
Mary Laflin Rockwell Fund
Rubens Family Foundation
Weisblat Family Fund
Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund

Presentation of 2016 Responsive Grants

Lisa Altenbernd, 2nd Vice Chair and Responsive Grants Chair

Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County

\$5,000

Funded in part by Judith Aiello-Fantus and Maurice Fantus

Coordinated Entry for Homeless Services

Develops an efficient regional homeless coordinated entry system that makes homeless services and housing more easily accessible to especially vulnerable populations.

Center for Economic Progress

\$10,000

Funded in part by the Evanston Realtors Fund and George Cyrus Memorial Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Free Tax and Financial Services in Evanston

Provides free tax and financial services in Evanston for 625 households in 2017, and increases capacity by investing in program technology, volunteer training, and outreach.

Center for Independent Futures

\$13,000

Funded in part by the ABS Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Optimizing Postsecondary Employment Outcomes for Students with Disabilities

Pilots a "Person-Centered Employment Strategy" for students and young adults with disabilities (enrolled in ETHS and the Transition House) that complements Youth Job Center resources.

**Children's Advocacy
Center of North and
Northwest Cook County**

\$7,500
Funded in part by the Gratch Family
Fund of the Evanston Community
Foundation

Counseling for Child Victims of Abuse
Expands counseling services for child victims of
sexual abuse and their non-offending family members
living in Evanston by adding additional days and hours
of service.

**Connections for the
Homeless**

\$10,000
Funded in part by the Gratch Family
Fund and Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund
of the Evanston Community Foundation

EntryPoint Drop-In and Outreach
Identifies and links people in need of services into a
full range of programming provided by Connections
and other agencies.

Edible Evanston

\$5,725
Funded in part by the Green Communities
Fund and Redbud Fund of the Evanston
Community Foundation

Eggleston Orchard Food Forest
Transforms the Eggleston Anniversary Orchard into a
demonstration "Food Forest" that draws visitors and
provides an educational opportunity for residents.
Edible Evanston formed out of an Evanston150 idea.

Enrich Evanston

\$7,500

Funded by the Arts in Community Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Racial Equity Training

Undertakes racial equity training to make progress towards increasing diversity and inclusivity in each of the four founding organizations: The Actor's Gymnasium, Evanston Symphony Orchestra, Evanston Dance Ensemble, and North Shore Choral Society.

Erie Family Health Center

\$10,000

Funded in part by the Natasha S. Deutsch Fund and David Mulder Mental Health Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Expanded Behavioral Health and Psychiatric Services for Erie Evanston/Skokie Patients

Increases access to psychiatric services for patients at Erie Evanston/Skokie to support ongoing efforts to provide patient care management that addresses a range of social determinants of health.

Evanston Public Library

\$15,000

Funded in part by the Plumtree Fund and Weisblat Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Community Based Digital Literacy Pilot & Assessment

Pilots a Digital Literacy Program to respond to the digital divide in Evanston, including the circulation of Wi-Fi hotspots, a technology trainer, and an outreach vehicle to provide access in underserved areas.

**Evanston Rebuilding
Warehouse**

\$12,500

Funded in part by the Mary Lafflin
Rockwell Fund of the Evanston
Community Foundation

Development position

Hires an additional staff member to expand
fundraising efforts in order to continue to grow the
workforce training program.

Evanston Swims!

\$5,000

Funded by the ABS Fund of the
Evanston Community Foundation

Program Coordinator position

Hires a program coordinator who will raise aware-
ness about the Evanston Swims! program throughout
Evanston. An Evanston150 idea, Evanston Swims!
provides free swimming and water safety lessons to
District 65 second graders with the goal of ensuring
all Evanston youth know how to swim.

**Evanston Symphony
Orchestra**

\$4,000

Funded by the EDN Fund for Early
Childhood and the Lydia Martin
Memorial Fund of the Evanston
Community Foundation

Music in Your World

Expands the music education program for District 65
preschoolers, allowing more frequent access to
classes for students.

Family Focus

\$10,000

Funded in part by the Faith Vilas Fund for Youth and the Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Afterschool Bridge Funding

Continues funding to support program improvements and ensure sustainability of the afterschool program that has promoted increased academic achievement and social-emotional skills in students of the 5th ward community.

Family Promise Chicago North Shore

\$10,500

Funded in part by the Balkcom Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Next Steps Housing Support Program

Supports families transitioning from shelter care back into their own Evanston apartments. Provides home case management and financial support.

Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary

\$10,000

Evanston Freedom School

Reduces summer learning loss by engaging students with a multicultural curriculum, boosting reading, positive attitudes, leadership skills, and connections to their community.

**Infant Welfare Society of
Evanston**

\$10,000

Funded in part by the All Our Sons Fund,
EDN Fund for Early Childhood, and the
Joe "Butch" Martin Fund of the Evanston
Community Foundation

Young Parent's Empowerment Project

Empowers young fathers ages 17-25 to find their own
purpose and to fully engage in the Evanston
community, leading to fuller involvement with their
children and the community at large.

Interfaith Action of Evanston

\$10,000

Funded in part by the Gratch Family Fund
of the Evanston Community Foundation

Staff and Fundraising Development

Builds capacity in order to fill in gaps due to changes
in social services by providing new part-time staff to
oversee fundraising efforts and database upgrade.

**James B. Moran Center for
Youth Advocacy**

\$12,000

Funded by the Paul Bechtner
Foundation

Building Trauma-Informed Intercultural Competencies

Trains staff through a year-long facilitated process, so
they may provide more trauma-informed, culturally
competent services, and increase the organizational
capacity to respond to clients in an accessible,
inclusive, and therapeutically responsive manner.

Literature for All of Us

\$8,750

Funded in part by the Redbud Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Trauma-Informed Literacy Partnership with Curt's Cafe North and South

Provides weekly book groups at both Curt's Cafe sites to create a safe space where professionals utilize literature as an integral lens for participants to better understand the world and develop essential social-emotional and literacy skills.

McGaw YMCA

\$17,500

Funded in part by Sue and Paul Brenner

Power Scholars Academy Expansion

Expands free literacy and enrichment summer programming aimed at reversing summer learning loss among vulnerable students. The expansion will pilot this program at Walker School, which aims to close the achievement gap not only in reading but in the STEM fields.

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

\$5,000

Funded by the Rubens Family Foundation

Deconstructing Stereotypes: Top Ten Truths About Native Americans Traveling Exhibits

Partners with five Evanston venues to share this award winning exhibit to educate the community on common misconceptions about Native American people and their history in Evanston.

Northlight Theatre

\$10,000

Funded in part by the Arts in Community Fund and the Sweers Fund for Children and the Arts of the Evanston Community Foundation

Northlight Speak Up! Theatre for Social Change, in partnership with Y.O.U.

Connects Northlight's Speak Up! Program to Y.O.U.'s Project Based Learning Objectives. Elementary aged Evanston youth will benefit from this joint curriculum development and facilitator trainings.

Our House, a program of Connections for the Homeless

\$15,000

Funded in part by the All Our Sons Fund and Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Our House: Housing and Supportive Services for Young Adults

Provides housing and wrap-around supportive services to homeless Evanston youth between 18-24 years old, to move them toward recovery, long-term housing stability, and independence. Our House began as a Leadership Evanston 2014 small group project.

PEER Services

\$14,000

Funded in part by the Gratch Family Fund and Zunamon-Cunniff Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Saving Lives: Addiction Treatment for Young Adults

Implements a culturally competent treatment program for young adults struggling with substance abuse, including individual and family counseling.

Second Baptist Church

\$6,500

Funded in part by the Redbud Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Courageous Conversations Youth Initiative

Pilots an intensive cross-cultural program that brings diverse middle and high school youth together to learn how to overcome differences and successfully work together as a community.

Services for Adults Staying in Their Homes (SASI)

\$5,194

Funded by an anonymous grantmaking partner and the Gratch Family Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

Specialized Caregiver Training: Caring for Adults with Alzheimer's Disease

Provides specialized training for SASI professional caregivers, focusing on strengthening skills for working with older adults with dementia.

Y.O.U. (Youth & Opportunity United)

\$15,000

Funded in part by the Plumtree Fund of the Evanston Community Foundation

STEM is for Y.O.U. Initiative

Pilots programming for 200 youth ages 8-14 in the after-school and summer learning programs, allowing the implementation of a new comprehensive, project-based STEM curriculum that will meaningfully engage youth in STEM learning, fields, and careers.

**Youth Job Center
of Evanston**

\$12,000

Funded in part by the Lorraine Hairston
Morton Fund for Youth of the Evanston
Community Foundation

School to Career - ETHS

Provides support to graduating seniors at ETHS who
are without postsecondary plans. Skills include a set
of academic, technical and social skills to set them on
a clear path to a career and self-sufficiency.

YWCA Evanston/North Shore

\$15,000

Funded in part by the Gratch Family Fund
and The Fund for Women & Girls of the
Evanston Community Foundation

*Housing & Employment Coordinator - Expansion of
Services*

Expands the Housing and Employment services
position to full-time to better serve clients in the new
longer-term, housing program for whom self-
sufficiency and independence will be anchored in
successful employment.

SPECIAL FOUNDATION GRANT

Midwest Child-Parent Centers Expansion

\$20,000

PreK - 3rd Grade support to enhance achievement in low-income families

celebratedance!marathon

For nineteen years, NUDM has made contributions that support the full range of ECF grants without restrictions as to purpose. As the secondary beneficiary of NUDM since 1998, NUDM has contributed over \$1 million to Evanston through the Foundation, along with countless volunteer hours.

The Evanston Community Foundation happily acknowledges the contribution of over \$104,000 from Northwestern University Dance Marathon 2016. Their contribution supports our responsive grants, community catalyst grants, and program assistance for organizations that serve Evanston.

We are most grateful to **NUDM2016 Executive Co-Chairs Kevin Harris and Arielle Miller** for their leadership and exemplary service on our responsive grants committee.



NUDM students raising funds for
2016 ECF responsive grants

evanston!communityfoundation

Helping Evanston thrive now and forever as a vibrant, inclusive, and just community, the Evanston Community Foundation builds, connects, and distributes resources and knowledge through local organizations for the common good.

Together, we:

- build endowments for current and future opportunities
- foster private philanthropy
- focus the impact of collective giving
- find solutions to community challenges
- allocate grants
- provide leadership training

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