

## 2019 Grantee-Partners

Through our grantmaking, we fund systems change. We fund programs, research, policy and advocacy, and strategic communications that result in shifts in individual, cultural, and community attitudes and behaviors, and shifts in institutions and policies that serve as barriers to gender and racial equity. In fiscal year 2020 (April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020) WFMN has awarded \$1,995,054 in grants to community-based organizations leading solutions across Minnesota to create a world of equal opportunity for and with women and girls.

### [girls Building Economic Success Together \(girlsBEST\)](#)

The Women's Foundation of Minnesota awarded 18 multi-year grants and five planning grants totaling \$301,000 to nonprofit organizations through its girlsBEST (girls Building Economic Success Together) fund. The grant period is June 15, 2019, to June 14, 2020, and represents the last renewal of a multi-year grant from girlsBEST. Multi-year grants are for up to three years, based on an annual grant review and approval of progress towards goals. Planning grants are limited to one year. The next grant round for girlsBEST will open with a request for proposals in the spring of 2020.

Launched in 2002, girlsBEST awards grants to programs that build the opportunity and future economic success of Minnesota's girls, ages 12-18. Priority is given to programs that include outreach to underserved, underrepresented populations around the state, including low-income girls, girls of color and American Indian girls, and girls from Greater Minnesota.

### Multi-Year Grantee-Partners:

**Bagosendaan** (Mahnommen) | **\$14,000** – To support year-round programming that ensures that young women remain in school and avoid drugs and alcohol.

**Best Academy, Inc.** (Minneapolis) | **\$18,000** – To support SISTER Academy, an all-girls education and enrichment program for grades 5-8, designed to build, nurture, and strengthen academic, moral and social development in preparation for a successful transition into high school, college, and career.

**Centro Tyrone Guzman** (Minneapolis) | **\$14,000** – To support Jóvenes Latinas al Poder, a Latina leadership training program that supports advocacy for justice, inclusion, and equity in the Twin Cities.

**Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio, Inc. (CLUES)** (St. Paul.) | **\$14,000** – To support Jóvenes en Acción – ¡YA! (Youth in Action Program), a holistic, culturally appropriate leadership development and college access preparation program.

**Dakota Wicohan** (Morton) | **\$14,000** – To support the year-round Dakota Youth Leadership Program, which connects Dakota youth to their community and helps prepare them to contribute academically, economically, socially, and culturally.

**Girl Scouts – Dakota Horizons** (Sioux Falls, S.D.) | **\$18,000** – To support hands-on learning with a focus on life skills, STEM (science, technology, science, and engineering), the outdoors, and financial literacy.

**HAP (Hmong American Partnership)** (St. Paul) | **\$14,000** – To support the needs of a new generation of Hmong girls and women with group mentoring and an internship program that includes stipends, financial literacy training, and career exploration.

**Isuroon** (Minneapolis) | **\$14,000** – To support culturally appropriate employment preparation, sexuality and AIDS education, mentoring, and academic achievement training for African immigrant girls in programming that includes family and other caring adults.

**Liberty Community Church, PCUSA** (Minneapolis) | **\$18,000** – To support the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Academy, which provides quality learning and mentoring, developmentally appropriate activities, and leadership development for girls. The program emphasizes reading, writing, math, and technology.

**The Link** (Minneapolis) | **\$14,000** – To support the Career and Leadership program to increase girls' leadership skills, provide mentoring partnerships, and prepare them for paid internship opportunities.

**Men as Peacemakers** (Duluth) | **\$18,000** – To support the Girls Restorative Program (GRP) in expanding leadership opportunities and skill-building through education and career preparation.

**Neighborhood House** (St. Paul) | **\$14,000** – To support the Gang Reduction and Intervention Program (GRIP) and the Girls Realizing Our Worth (GROW 2.0) group in preparing young women for economic readiness and financial stability through training in confidence, cultural awareness, critical thinking, and life skills.

**OutFront Minnesota** (Minneapolis) | **\$18,000** – To support a youth-led statewide Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) network, which will support adult advisors of GSAs and LGBTQ+ youth; train and support Minnesota educators to create inclusive school environments; and advocate for public policies and practices that affirm and support LGBTQ+ students.

**Peacemaker Resources** (Bemidji) | **\$18,000** – To support the Girls Lead on the Go program, which includes community-based leadership development to build community and advocate for change.

**Project FINE** (Winona) | **\$14,000** – To support economic development and education for youth from refugee and immigrant families through the Girls Reaching Above and Beyond (GRAB) program.

**Range Engineering Council** (Hibbing) | **\$14,000** – To support #EngineerLikeAGirl, a girl-led, overnight awareness and mentorship program with a series of outreach events, including job shadowing and Engineering Mentor Night.

**uCodeGirl** (Fargo, N.D.) | **\$14,000** – To support Crack the Code: Summer Technology Camp and Shape the Future: Inspire and Nurture Her program that include one-on-one mentoring and technology education from industry professionals.

**United Community Action Partnership** (Marshall) | **\$14,000** – To support the Generation Next program, with a focus on building the economic stability of girls through leadership, mentorship, skill-building, and financial literacy.

**Planning Grants:**

**BOLD, Inc.** (Lake Shore) | **\$5,000** – To support the research-based BOLD curriculum in the Brainerd Lakes area for middle and high school girls to build self-esteem and pursue their goals.

**Coalition for Asian American Leaders (CAAL)** (St. Paul) | **\$5,000** – To support Making Our Voices Effective for Equity (MOVEE), a leadership program to support, develop, and sustain Asian social justice movement leaders in Minnesota, including girls and young women.

**RECLAIM** (St. Paul) | **\$5,000** – To support Passages, a program that aims to change the cultural and systemic landscape of healing for LGBTQ+ and people of color and Indigenous (POCI) individuals and communities through supporting practitioner development with youth, ages 12-18.

**Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for Empowerment (RISE)** (Minneapolis) | **\$5,000** – To enhance youth curriculum for empowerment and advocacy trainings for Muslim girls so they help expand district policies that support religious accommodation and cultural competence training of educators.

**Sisters-N-Technology** (Minneapolis) | **\$5,000** – To support the expansion of after-school coding classes in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

### [WFMN Fund for Safety:](#)

The Women's Foundation of Minnesota awarded eight grants totaling \$190,000 to nonprofit organizations and the City of Minneapolis through its Fund for Safety. The Women's Foundation of Minnesota's Fund for Safety resources innovation to end gender-based violence, a continuum that includes including sex trafficking, domestic violence, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment. The Fund for Safety continues and expands upon the investments made through the Women's Foundation of Minnesota's MN Girls Are Not for Sale campaign.

In partnership with community leaders, WFMN follows an ethos of listening and responding to community concerns to drive strategic, cross-sector plans and create collective impact. As WFMN has transformed our role from a catalytic leader with MN Girls Are Not For Sale to supporting partner, we continue to expand our strategic focus on safety and work with communities to end gender-based violence. WFMN will invest in the organizations, leaders, and the movement to create a Minnesota where girls and women are free from every form of violence and can experience their homes, schools, and communities as safe places.

### **Grantee-Partners:**

**Asian Women United** (St. Paul) | **\$25,000** – To support language advocates through capacity building to better serve individuals who are recent immigrants or refugees in Minnesota.

**Casa de Esperanza** (St. Paul) | **\$25,000** – To resource Fuerza Unida (United in Strength), an initiative that incorporates a cultural strengths perspective, leadership training, and teaches program participants, known as Amig@s, how to recognize unhealthy relationships and respond to domestic violence and sexual assault.

**City of Minneapolis** (Minneapolis) | **\$5,000** – To sponsor the sixth annual Trans Equity Summit for trans and gender nonconforming community members to resources and each other, and for potential allies to

learn more about issues impacting the trans/GNC Community and how to integrate community visions through an equity lens.

**Liberty Community Church, PCUSA** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To support the Northside Healing Space, formerly the Northside Women’s Space, for survivors to heal from the traumas of commercial sexual exploitation.

**Men as Peacemakers** (Duluth) | **\$25,000** – To support and strengthen systems and infrastructure to sustain the movement to end sex trafficking and to elevate leaders and organizations working with communities of color, in particular American Indian communities.

**Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To support research focused on sex trafficking of LGBTQ+ and Two Spirit relatives in the Minneapolis metro area and great Minnesota.

**Phumulani Minnesota African Women Against Violence** (St. Paul) | **\$10,000** – To support convenings of multiple African communities and contextualize the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault within the cultural history and values of participants.

**The Link** (Minneapolis) | **\$50,000** – To support the leadership and convene organizations in the anti-sex trafficking movement and for Safe Harbor advocacy and lobbying.

### [Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota \(YWI MN\)](#)

The Women’s Foundation of Minnesota (WFMN) invested \$364,000 in general operating grants to 18 organizations serving girls and young women, ages 12-24. In addition, WFMN awarded a \$150,000 grant to YWCA St. Paul to continue building leadership and advocacy skills with the [Young Women’s Cabinet](#), who ground the Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota in the lived experiences and expertise of young women and communities. The grant provides \$15/hour payment to all 31 members for participation on the Cabinet and strengthens engagement with the Young Women’s Initiative across the state. In total, the awards represent an investment of \$514,000 through the Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota.

Awarded through the Foundation’s *Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota* (YWI MN), the [grants support front-line organizations](#) working in the intersecting areas of economic opportunity, safety, and leadership *with* and on behalf of young women and girls to advance key [YWI MN Blueprint for Action recommendations](#).

In addition, WFMN awarded 33 new and returning [WFMN Innovators](#) — young women, ages 16-24, whose leadership, ideas, and solutions advance key recommendations in YWI MN’s *Blueprint for Action*, with a one-time \$2,500 grant. These investments totaling \$82,500 represent the Foundation’s direct investment in the leadership and innovative ideas of young women.

Launched in 2016, YWI MN is a multi-year, multi-million-dollar investment and public-private partnership with the Governor’s Office of the State of Minnesota to achieve equity in opportunities *with* and for young women of color, American Indian young women, young women from Greater Minnesota, LGBTQ+ youth, and young women with disabilities. YWI MN is on a mission to create a Minnesota where every young woman thrives with equal access to economic opportunity, safety, and leadership.

### Grantee-Partners:

**Asian American Organizing Project** (St. Paul) | **\$15,000** – To build the power of youth in the youth program to see themselves as leaders capable of changing the injustices that they see, and to support the Gender Justice Program which builds power in young Asian people, especially in queer and trans youth, women, and girls to combat sexual violence and recognize their bodily autonomy through a four-month long cohort.

**Augsburg University—Urban Debate League** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To advance the *Blueprint for Action* through creating access for young women to higher paying jobs and developing young women's leadership through competitive academic debate.

**Black Visions Collective** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To support the Black Arts and Organizing cohort of the Black Visions Project, a nine-month arts learning and grassroots organizing program for eight Black queer and trans youth, ages 18 to 24.

**Casa de Esperanza** (St. Paul) | **\$25,000** – To support Fuerza Unida Youth Amig@s program, which engages Latin@ youth (ages 11 to 16) in leadership training and mentoring to develop the skills and resources to create healthy relationships and sexuality, support friends and family who experience abuse, and challenge the systemic forms of oppression that perpetuate violence. The youth group will create and implement a new youth participatory action research project to investigate and document how Latin@ youth experience mental health issues using photography and the Photovoice technique.

**Cedar Riverside Community Council** (Minneapolis) | **\$15,000** – To continue the Young Women's Wellness and Leadership Initiative (YWWLI) in partnership with the BeautyWell Project which trains young Somali women (ages 14 to 18) and other African women to take the lead in their health and well-being, gain policy and advocacy skills, and create a social media advocacy campaign to address skin-lightening practices, self-esteem, and reproductive health.

**discapitados abriéndose caminos** (South St. Paul) | **\$19,000** – To support youth programming for young girls and women ages 14 to 24 who are assisting and supporting their families with knowledge to navigate systems, be stable economically, and improve the quality of life for family members with disabilities.

**Family Tree Clinic** (St. Paul) | **\$15,000** – To support Family Tree's health education program which advances outcomes by delivering comprehensive, science-based sexual health and healthy relationships education to young people in a variety of settings and ensures that everyone has the tools they need to make healthy and informed decisions about their relationships and sexual health.

**Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin and River Valleys** (St. Paul) | **\$25,000** – To fund the Girl Scouts ConnectZ program, designed for girls from underserved communities where there is little or no volunteer capacity and whose curriculum drives gender equity by providing girls with knowledge and skills in the areas of STEM, financial literacy, and college and career readiness, as well as physical health and safety, mental health, and healthy relationships.

**MIGIZI Communications** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To advance the system of education, leadership, and youth employment for the American Indian community across the Twin Cities through the First Person Productions Media and Green Jobs Pathways programs and increase its service area and partnerships to

increase the presence of positive narratives, laws, policies, and behaviors for young American Indian women.

**Minneapolis Public Schools—Office of Black Student Achievement** (Minneapolis) | **\$15,000** – To support the Queens Program at the Office of Black Student Achievement which focuses on Black girls and young women (ages 12 to 18) and values healthy relationships and promotes college and career preparation by increasing feelings of self-esteem and self-worth, increasing cultural awareness and identity specific to Black girls, and developing and encouraging a culture of sisterhood, leadership, and mentorship.

**Minnesota State Community & Technical College** (Moorhead) | **\$15,000** – To continue the Steps to Success Program, created with funding from WFMN's Pathways to Prosperity Fund, which supports women from greater Minnesota and the Fargo-Moorhead region by providing education and support for women in the region who are considering college to successful placement in a career with economic and leadership growth opportunities.

**Minnesota Youth Collective Education Fund** (St. Paul) | **\$15,000** – To serve as a political home for young people in the state, particularly those who often do not see themselves reflected in power structures, including young people of color, young women and non-binary folks, and young LGBTQ+ people and to train them to be their own advocates.

**OutFront Minnesota Community Services** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To support LGBTQ+ girls and women to use their voice and agency to advocate against discrimination and bullying while building healthy peer relationships as they navigate their most difficult years in school.

**Pillsbury United Communities** (Minneapolis) | **\$15,000** – To fund Sisterhood Boutique, a social enterprise store that builds pathways to self-discovery and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills for East African girls and young women in a way that honors their cultures and centers their personal goals.

**St. Paul Youth Services** (St. Paul) | **\$25,000** – To support the YouthPower program where young women in a cohort participate in three program elements: Healing and Identity, Exploration and Innovation, and Creating Policy Change.

**The SEAD Project** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To fund the SEA Change Lab, a program aimed at building the next generation of Southeast Asian (SEA) leaders through arts and storytelling for SEA youth, ages 12 to 25.

**Women for Political Change Education Fund** (Minneapolis) | **\$25,000** – To facilitate YWI Network convenings for Young Women's Initiative of Minnesota program participants and to facilitate the YWI Network pop-up events, open to all young women and trans and non-binary individuals for networking, professional development, and movement building.

**Violence Intervention Project** (Thief River Falls) | **\$15,000** – To recruit young women and youth ages 12 to 18 in a five-county service area to create awareness and develop strategies to reduce violence and exploitation in schools and communities, and support young women to find and share their voices as they build their sense of agency and power.

### Ripley Memorial Foundation

The Ripley Memorial Foundation, a donor advised fund of the Women's Foundation of Minnesota, awarded \$74,500 in grants to 10 organizations. The grant period is January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020.

Over the past year, in response to the changing landscape for adolescent sexual health, Ripley Memorial Advisors have adopted a new funding statement for 2020, simplified operations, and aligned with the Young Women's Initiative of Minnesota (YWI MN), a partnership between the Women's Foundation of Minnesota and the Governor's Office of the State of Minnesota to create a state where all young women thrive.

Ripley Memorial is engaging with recommendation #15 of the YWI MN's [Blueprint for Action](#) to promote access to women's health education and services built on cultural and community strengths so that young women know about their bodies and can make appropriate and healthy choices as they grow and age.

### Grantee-Partners:

**Annex Teen Clinic** (Robbinsdale) | **\$8,000** – To provide comprehensive sexuality education in Northwest Hennepin County.

**Centro Tyrone Guzman** (Minneapolis) | **\$6,000** – To support Raíces Youth Development Program's work on supporting activities prioritized by the LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee that will develop posters in Spanish on LGBTQ+ terminology.

**Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio** (CLUES) (St. Paul) | **\$8,000** – To fund the multi-generational sexual health education program for Latinx families.

**Division of Indian Work** (Minneapolis) | **\$8,000** – To support the delivery of its Live It! Teen Pregnancy Prevention Curriculum through a train-the trainer model.

**Family Tree Clinic** (St. Paul) | **\$8,000** – To support the delivery of comprehensive sex education in Metro area schools, aiming to positively influence sexual health outcomes among teens.

**FamilyWise Services** (St. Paul) | **\$5,000** – To support the Bright Beginnings program for teen parents ages 14-22 with a history of out-of-home placement or justice system involvement.

**Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota** (St. Paul) | **\$8,000** – To support the Seeing and Exploring Life's Future (SELF) pregnancy/STI prevention program, focused on educating self-advocates in the disability community, including youth of all backgrounds who identify as having a disability and who are on Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

**Way to Grow** (Minneapolis) | **\$7,500** – To support the DreamTracks™ teen parenting program, working with teen parents and their extended families to break the cycle of teen pregnancy and poverty to move teens toward self-sufficiency.

**YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities** (Minneapolis) | **\$8,000** – To support the Teen Outreach Program (TOP) club programming for youth, ages 12-18, which includes teen pregnancy prevention.

**YWCA of Minneapolis** (Minneapolis) | **\$8,000** – To support Contact Plus, a high-quality youth development program, offering comprehensive sexual health education, leadership development, and school connectedness to youth in Minneapolis Public Schools.