FY 2022 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 justice. In fiscal year 2022 (April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022) WFMN has awarded $2,476,935 in grants to 236 community-based organizations leading solutions across Minnesota to create a world of opportunity for and with women, girls, and gender-expansive people.

**girls Building Economic Success Together (girlsBEST)**
In fiscal year 2022, The Women’s Foundation of Minnesota awarded 20 multi-year grants and three planning grants totaling $300,000 to nonprofit organizations through its girlsBEST (girls Building Economic Success Together) Fund. The sixth cohort of girlsBEST grantee-partners are receiving the second year of a multi-year grant through girlsBEST. Multi-year grants are renewed for up to three years, based on an annual grant review and progress towards goals. Seed grants, awarded to support planning, are limited to one year. The grant period for this funding is June 15, 2021, to June 14, 2022.

In 2020, WFMN shifted all grantmaking to general operations to allow organizations greater flexibility in a time of uncertainty and heightened need in response to the emergent needs of communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and racial injustice. In response to the many ways in which many grantee-partner organizations have been leading as first-responders in a crisis, general operations grants allow community partners to be responsive and flexible to address the rapidly changing needs in this environment. Further, as WFMN accelerates its commitment to racial justice, we are listening to communities and organizations most impacted and investing in increasing organizational capacity and healing spaces and services dedicated to Black women and girls and additional communities of color.

Launched in 2002, girlsBEST awards grants to girl-led programs that build the opportunity and future economic success of Minnesota’s girls, ages 12-18, particularly low-income girls, Native girls and girls of color, girls in Greater Minnesota, and girls experiencing disparities in academic and professional outcomes. Grantee-partners increase girls’ awareness of systemic gender and racial inequities, grow their sense of being change agents, foster their development as leaders, and build their capacity for individual and collective activism to increase girls’ readiness to achieve economic well-being. Since launching girlsBEST, WFMN has granted more than $5.1 million to 134 girl-led and girl-driven programs statewide.

**girlsBEST Multi-year Grantee-partners:**

**The ANIKA Foundation** (Minneapolis) | $14,000 — To support TEXTURE, a youth social enterprise program that teaches technical skills, provides wraparound support for soft skills, emotional, and spiritual development, and equips youth with financial wellness education to make sound personal and business decisions through their WE! program. The ANIKA Foundation promotes healthy equity, civic engagement, and economic empowerment.
Asian Media Access (Minneapolis) | $14,000 — To support the Asian Girls Empowerment (AGE) Project which trains Asian American girls in Asian dances and bicultural leadership to build cultural pride, enhance girls’ self-esteem, and develop skills. Asian Media Access supports creative solutions for problems facing the Asian American & Pacific Islander community through education, production, information technology, and community organizing.

Bagosendaan (Mahnomen) | $14,000 — To provide horseback riding experiences for low-income youth, ages 11 to 18, to engage their interest, provide motivation, and build competence. Bagosendaan builds self-esteem and promotes leadership among youth as they mature into successful adults by using talking circles, counselors, guest speakers, and horseback riding.

Centro Tyrone Guzman (Minneapolis) | $14,000 — To support Jóvenes Latinas al Poder which provides tools and opportunities to Latina teen girls and femme-identifying youth to exercise their leadership and collective power to advocate for justice, inclusion, and equity. Centro Tyrone Guzman helps Latina girls gain confidence in their ability to lead and advocate through self-confidence building, establishing professional networks, and preparing them for post-secondary education and career success.

Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) (Minneapolis & St. Paul) | $14,000 — To fund a leadership retreat for youth participants in the YA! and Entre Mujeres (“Between Women”) programs, both of which build power with Latinx youth from low-income households through activities including mentoring, leadership development, college access services, and safe and culturally anchored spaces for growth. CLUES connects individuals and families with services, resources, skills, institutions, and systems and creates an environment for people to be engaged and empowered.

Dakota Wicohan (Morton) | $19,000 — To provide the Dakota Wicohan’s Dakota Itancanpi Kte Unkhduwiyapi /Dakota Youth Leadership Program, the only year-round out-of-school youth program in the Lower Sioux area. Dakota Wicohan empowers Dakota youth and prepares them as culture bearers, positively connects them to their community, and grounds them in their Dakota culture to help them on a path to contribute to their community academically, economically, socially, and culturally.

Hmong American Partnership (HAP) (St. Paul) | $14,000 — To enable the Nthxais Hmoob Career Program (NHCP), modeled after a Learn & Earn framework, which combines career counseling, wraparound support services, individualized service plans, and connections to employers to support Hmong and Karen girls, ages 14 to 18. HAP empowers refugee and immigrant communities in the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Hnub Tshiab: Hmong Women Achieving Together (St. Paul) | $14,000 — To run the Girls Enterprise Zone (EZ), a social, entrepreneurial, and workforce development program that uses teaching and hands-on work experience with Hmong girls, ages 13 to 18, to explore, create, and market their own products for sale. Hnub Tshiab is a catalyst for lasting social, cultural, and institutional change to improve the lives of Hmong women.

Liberty Community Church, PCUSA (Minneapolis) | $14,000 — To administer the 21st Century Academy, which equips K–12 scholars, particularly girls and young women, to be accelerated learners, game-changing global leaders, and justice-oriented entrepreneurs through academic support, enrichment, STEM learning, nutrition, and more. Liberty practices radical hope through the healing of racialized trauma, academic excellence, artistic expression, and innovative activism.
The Link (Minneapolis) | $14,000 — To support the Career and Leadership Development program, which targets economic well-being, helping LGBTQ+ girls and young women of color to develop skills related to professionalism and the workplace, finance, and interpersonal abilities. The Link works with youth and families to overcome the impacts of poverty and injustice.

Men As Peacemakers (Duluth) | $14,000 — To support girls of color as they build power to change the systems impacting youth and to normalize the power, influence, and leadership of girls of color. Men As Peacemakers helps Native girls and girls of color navigate an environment where sexual violence and exploitation has become normal.

Project DIVA International (Minneapolis) | $14,000 — To fund the Business Academy 369, a program designed to allow Black girls the freedom to determine a career or business while allowing them to connect with successful women in those fields to learn more. Project DIVA guides Black girls throughout the Twin Cities to make informed decisions as they transition into adulthood through a supportive coaching program focused on economic literacy and five other key focus areas of development.

Project FINE (Winona & St. Charles) | $14,000 — To run the Girls Reaching Above and Beyond (GRAB) program, which supports and builds power with girls from refugee and immigrant families to help them discover their identities and create a road map to pursue their dreams. Project FINE strengthens and enriches the community by facilitating the integration of people who are ethnically diverse.

Range Engineering Council (Hibbing) | $14,000 — To run #night programming, which invites high school girls to come to the Iron Range Engineering (IRE) campus to learn about opportunities in engineering careers by experiencing hands-on projects, interacting with female college engineering students, and attending workshops led by female engineers from the industry. The Range Engineering Council supports and facilitates educational activities across the Iron Range that promote awareness of and encourage participation in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.

RECLAIM! (St. Paul) | $14,000 — To host the Queer & Trans Girls in Helping Professions group, which supports young people, ages 14 to 18, as they develop a group with therapeutic supports as well as career and professional development skill building. RECLAIM! works to increase access to mental health support so that queer and trans youth may reclaim their lives from oppression in all its forms.

Restoration for All (Inver Grove Heights) | $14,000 — To fund the Future Solution Now (FUSON) project to equip, train and support 15 African immigrant and refugee girls, ages 12 to 18, in ethnic entrepreneurship. Through the program, girls become aware of economic opportunities while recognizing personal skills needed to achieve economic self-sufficiency. Restoration for All nurtures and empowers individuals, organizations, and communities to discover, renew, and restore their cultural connections with improved socio-cultural well-being.

St. Catherine University—Minnesota Center for Diversity in Economics (MCDE) (St. Paul) | $14,000 — To administer a mentorship program for girls and young women called Cross-generational Female Economist Mentorship (C-FEM) for girls and young women from area high schools, ages 14 to 18. The MCDE promotes and supports gender and racial diversity in economics at every stage of the educational and career pipeline, while leveraging its position at a women’s college to design, implement, and study interventions.
**St. Paul Youth Services** (St. Paul) | **$14,000** — To support the YouthPower Leadership Institute, a year-round, youth-designed leadership program where Black girls ages 13 to 18 come together to discover, celebrate, and exercise leadership. St. Paul Youth Services (SPYS) is a leader in reimagining how community engages with and holds itself accountable for youth.

**uCodeGirl** (Fargo-Moorhead) | **$14,000** — To support Crack the Code: Mentorship, a program that provides supportive networking and STEM-focused events and opportunities for girls in the Fargo-Moorhead area. uCodeGirl builds a support system for teen girls to be nurtured for STEM academic success and to support students’ pursuit of their academic and career aspirations.

**United Community Action Partnership** (Marshall) | **$14,000** — To support Generation Next, which works with girls, ages 12 to 18, to build awareness of gender inequities and cultural competency as a group and in their schools and local communities. United Community Action Partnership eliminates poverty by empowering individuals and strengthening communities.

**Seed Grantee-partners:**

**Her Purpose** (Ostego) | **$5,000** — To seed work and help young women of diverse communities, ages of 16 to 25, who struggle with mental, physical, emotional health and substance use. Her Purpose will provide holistic programming for healing and help girls and young women build safety, self-esteem, and connections with caring adults.

**Minnesota African Women’s Association (MAWA)** (Brooklyn Center) | **$5,000** — To seed work with programming designed for girls ages 9 to 18 through African Girls’ Initiative for Leadership and Empowerment. AGILE builds girls’ self-esteem, reduces their isolation, helps them discover new friends, and reduces the effects of peer pressure.

**Radical Monarchs** (Minneapolis & St. Paul) | **$5,000** — To seed the work of the Twin Cities new chapter of the Radical Monarchs. Radical Monarchs creates opportunities for young girls of color to form fierce sisterhood, celebrate their identities, and contribute radically to their communities.

**WFMN Fund for Safety:**

In fiscal year 2022, the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota (WFMN) awarded eight grants totaling $205,000 to nonprofit organizations and the City of Minneapolis through its Fund for Safety. WFMN’s Fund for Safety resources innovation to end gender-based violence, a continuum that includes 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 transforms 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 is investing in the organizations, leaders, and the movement to create a Minnesota where women and girls are free from every form of violence and can experience their homes, schools, and communities as safe places.
Fund for Safety Grantee-Partners:

**Asian Women United Minnesota (AWUMN) (St. Paul)** | **$25,000** — To build organizational capacity as AWUMN evolves services during the COVID-19 pandemic by adapting their programming to spread awareness about the dynamics of domestic violence with a specific focus on the Asian immigrant and refugee experience. Asian Women United Minnesota is a leader in eliminating domestic violence in Asian and Pacific Islander communities through harnessing the strengths that are indigenous to Asian communities and sharing best practices with other community-based organizations.

**Casa de Esperanza (St. Paul)** | **$25,000** — To support Casa de Esperanza’s Fuerza Unida Amig@s program and to continue adapting and evolving community-based work through a mix of virtual adult and youth programs, and engaging in community learning through topical podcasts, webinars, and community connection drop-in calls. Casa de Esperanza mobilizes Latinas and Latin@ communities to end domestic violence.

**City of Minneapolis (Minneapolis)** | **$5,000** — To sponsor the seventh annual Trans Equity Summit for trans and gender nonconforming community members to connect 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 serve participants of the Northside Healing Space by providing programming and tools through a culturally relevant and strengths-based approach. Liberty practices radical hope through the healing of racialized trauma, academic excellence, artistic expression, and innovative activism.

**Men As Peacemakers (Duluth)** | **$25,000** — To support MAP’s programs to end gender-based violence through their Don’t Buy it Project, Girls Restorative Program, and Youth Restorative Justice programs. Men As Peacemakers helps Native girls and girls of color navigate an environment where sexual violence and exploitation has become normal.

**Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition (Minneapolis)** | **$25,000** — To implement a Survivor Advisory Board and to conduct 100 culturally respectful interviews with survivors of sex trafficking via Zoom. Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition builds resources to create awareness of and eliminate sexual violence against Indian women and children.

**Phumulani Minnesota African Women Against Violence (St. Paul)** | **$10,000** — To increase accessibility to Phumulani’s cultural tea ceremonies for African Immigrant women survivors of violence and to engage in a language-accessible sexual violence prevention campaign for all African languages that are represented in Minnesota. Phumulani provides culturally specific resources to women and girls of African descent to change the cycle of gender-based abuse in vulnerable populations.

**Rainbow Research (Minneapolis)** | **$10,000** — To convene a group of sex trafficking survivor-consultants and facilitators to make recommendations for the City of Minneapolis to improve the lives of survivors of sexual exploitation in Minneapolis, in partnership with the senior advisor for human trafficking at the City of Minneapolis. Rainbow Research engages in participatory, systems-oriented research and evaluation with a consistent focus on social justice.
The Link (Minneapolis) | $50,000 — To reinforce the leadership capacity of women of color and/or LGBTQ+ women while building internal capacity of the organization and leadership to be more effective leaders in the anti-trafficking field. The Link works with youth and families to overcome the impacts of poverty and injustice.

Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota (YWI MN)

In fiscal year 2022, the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota (WFMN) announced second-year renewal investments of $309,000 in general operating grants to 15 organizations serving 3,655 girls, young women, and gender-expansive youth ages 12-24. In addition, WFMN awarded a $142,500 grant to YWCA St. Paul to continue building leadership and advocacy skills with the Young Women’s Cabinet, which grounds 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 32 Cabinet members and strengthens engagement with the Young Women’s Initiative across the state. In total, the awards represent an investment of $451,500 through WFMN’s Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota.

“We invest in the power and potential of young women and gender-expansive youth in our state who are leading today. By investing in community-led organizations who hold the solutions, and expanding access and opportunities for young women, our future as a state looks brighter. When women and girls who have been pushed to the margins thrive, their families and communities thrive, and Minnesota will thrive,” said Gloria Perez, president and CEO of the Women’s Foundation 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 2020, WFMN shifted all grantmaking to general operations to allow organizations greater flexibility in a time of uncertainty and heightened need in response to the emergent needs of communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and racial injustice. The grant period for this second year of investments is March 31, 2021, through March 31, 2022.

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 all young women and gender-expansive youth thrive with economic opportunity, safety, and leadership. Total investments since the launch of YWI MN exceed $2.5 million.

YWI MN Grantee-Partners:

Asian American Organizing Project (AAOP) (St. Paul) | $15,000 — To fuel the Youth Program, which builds the power of youth as leaders capable of changing injustices and 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. AAOP holds the vision that Asian American individuals, families, organizations, and communities in Minnesota will affect long-term social change.

Augsburg University—MN Urban Debate League (MNUDL) (Minneapolis) | $25,000 — To create opportunities for young women to access higher paying jobs and develop young women’s leadership
through competitive academic debate where they become engaged learners, critical thinkers, and active global citizens who are effective advocates for themselves and their communities. MNUDL provides everything a school needs to support a debate team while also running tournaments and providing training and curriculum.

**Black Visions** (Minneapolis) | $25,000 — To support the facilitation of the 2021-2022 WFMN Innovators cohort and general operations. Black Visions is a Black-led, queer- and trans-centering organization whose mission is to organize powerful, connected Black communities and dismantle systems of violence.

**Casa de Esperanza** (St. Paul) | $25,000 — To continue support of 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. Casa de Esperanza mobilizes Latinas and Latin@ communities to end domestic violence.

**discapacitados abriendose caminos (dac)** (South St. Paul) | $19,000 — To continue programming for young girls and women, ages 14 to 24, who assist and support their families with knowledge to navigate systems, be economically stable, and improve the quality of life for family members with disabilities. dac works with family members of people who have a disability or critical health need, from newborns to elders.

**Family Tree Clinic** (St. Paul) | $15,000 — To continue offering virtual programming and peer education training for youth to ensure that everyone has the tools needed to make healthy and informed decisions about their relationships and sexual health. Family Tree’s health education programming advances outcomes by delivering comprehensive, science-based sexual health and healthy relationship education to young people in a variety of settings.

**Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin and River Valleys** (St. Paul) | $25,000 — To provide 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, while supporting families with additional financial assistance due to the continuing impacts of COVID-19. Girl Scouts’ ConnectZ is designed for girls from underserved communities with limited volunteer capacity, including communities of color, low-income communities, and immigrant communities.

**MIGIZI Communications** (Minneapolis) | $25,000 — To expand the service area and partnerships of the First Person Productions Media and Green Jobs Pathways programs to increase the presence of positive narratives, laws, policies, and behaviors for young American Indian women. MIGIZI Communications provides a strong circle of support that nurtures the educational, social, economic, and cultural development of American Indian youth.

**Minneapolis Public Schools—Office of Black Student Achievement (OBSA)** (Minneapolis) | $15,000 — To support the Queens Program at the Office of Black Student Achievement, which promotes healthy relationships and college and career readiness with Black girls and young women in grades 6 through 12. OBSA exists to awaken the greatness within Black students in MPS, to have them determined to believe and achieve success, as defined by their own values, and encourages a culture of sisterhood, leadership, and mentorship.
**Minnesota State Community & Technical College** (Moorhead) | **$15,000** — To fund the Steps to Success Program for women in greater Minnesota and the Fargo-Moorhead region with education and support for women considering college to placement in a career with economic and leadership growth opportunities. Steps to Success provides education and support services to women in business, engineering, and technology programs on M State’s Moorhead campus.

**Minnesota Youth Collective Education Fund** (St. Paul) | **$15,000** — To train participants to be their own advocates, whether through student government, on the local city council, or at the State Capitol. The Minnesota Youth Collective Education Fund uplifts and empowers young people throughout their lives by providing leadership development and civic engagement opportunities.

**OutFront Minnesota Community Services** (Minneapolis) | **$25,000** — To train leaders of all ages to advocate to improve systems at schools and workplaces and to train organizations on best practices for inclusive and equitable environments that impact policies and their implementation. Additionally, funding supports OutFront’s Youth Leadership Council to organize the annual Youth Summit, engaging LGBTQ+ young people from across the state. OutFront Minnesota creates a state where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people are free to be who they are, love who they love, and live without fear of violence, harassment, or discrimination.

**Pillsbury United Communities** (Minneapolis) | **$15,000** — To fund the Sisterhood Boutique, a social enterprise store that accepts donations of gently used clothing for resale and builds pathways to self-discovery and 21st century skills for East African girls and young women that honors their cultures and centers their personal goals. Pillsbury United Communities co-creates enduring change toward a just society.

**St. Paul Youth Services** (St. Paul) | **$25,000** — To continue supporting young Black women as they organize virtually and advocate for serious change on issues affecting their lives and growing digital engagement and storytelling while earning a living wage. St. Paul Youth Services improves our community’s collective ability to engage and support all youth by pioneering and sharing best practices.

**The SEAD Project** (Minneapolis) | **$25,000** — To support the SEA Change Lab and its alumni network, building the next generation of Southeast Asian (SEA) leaders through arts and storytelling for SEA youth, ages 12 to 25. The SEAD Project is committed to providing culturally safe and conducive learning environments to build key career pathways using cultural identity and social empowerment.

**Women for Political Change Education Fund (WFPC)** (Minneapolis) | **$25,000** — To facilitate small virtual gatherings of the YWI Network for the Young Women’s Initiative of Minnesota with programming relevant to disabled folks, rural communities, LGBTQ+ people, and Indigenous folks. WFPC holistically invests in the leadership and political power of young women, trans, and nonbinary individuals throughout Minnesota.

**Violence Intervention Project** (Thief River Falls) | **$15,000** — For the youth-led advisory panel to recruit young women and youth ages 12 to 18 in their 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 through digital outreach. The Violence Intervention Project serves victims of domestic and sexual violence through crisis call response,
emergency assistance, advocacy support, shelter, supervised visitation services, and other housing support.

**Ripley Memorial Foundation**

The Ripley Memorial Foundation, a donor advised fund of the Women’s Foundation of Minnesota, has awarded $117,000 in general operating grants to advance the work of 12 organizations. This represents a 29% increase in the amount of annual grantmaking by the Ripley Memorial Foundation. For the first time, these grants are multi-year investments. Organizations funded will promote access to women’s health education and services built on cultural and community strengths so that young women and gender-expansive youth know about their bodies and can make healthy, informed choices as they grow and age.

Ripley Memorial Foundation is part of a greater movement, engaging young women striving for and achieving positive change. The Foundation remains focused on building and sustaining community-centered, transformational relationships and funding organizations grounded in cultural and community strengths that serve populations experiencing disparities in health and well-being.

2021 Ripley Memorial Foundation Grantees:

**Annex Teen Clinic | Robbinsdale | $10,000** — To help young people take charge of their sexual health by providing confidential health services and education. Annex Teen Clinic’s is a catalyst for creating a community where all young people have the resources and support they need to successfully make the transition from adolescence to adulthood.

**Centro Tyrone Guzman | Minneapolis | $10,000** — To support youth from the Raíces Youth Development Program to work collaboratively to develop educational materials in Spanish on LGBTQ+ terminology, sharing their knowledge with elders, community members, and local school partners, to create more supportive environments for LGBTQ+ Latine youth. Centro Tyrone Guzman contributes to the well-being of Latines through education and family engagement.

**Comunidades Latina Undas En Servicio (CLUES) | St. Paul | $10,000** — To provide multigenerational sexual health education programs for Latinx families. CLUES advances the capacity of individuals and families to be healthy, prosperous, and engaged in their communities.

**Division of Indian Work | Minneapolis | $10,000** — To support the delivery of the Live It! Teen Pregnancy Prevention Curriculum, a holistic, Indigenous program, through a train-the-trainer model. Division of Indian Work’s supports and strengthens urban American Indian people through culturally based education, traditional healing approaches, and leadership development.

**Family Tree Clinic | Minneapolis | $10,000** — To deliver comprehensive sex education in Twin Cities Metro area schools with the goal of positively influencing sexual health outcomes among teens. Family Tree Clinic cultivates a healthy community through comprehensive sexual healthcare and education.

**Hispanic Advocacy and Community Empowerment through Research (HACER) (St. Paul) | $10,000** — To work in concert with the Latine community to access, generate, and disseminate credible and relevant research studies in order to inform institutional decisions and public policy. HACER will expand the Lateen Moms program, to support pregnant Latine teens and Latine teen moms.
Just The Pill | Minneapolis | $8,000 — To bring healthcare services, including telehealth visits and pop-up clinics, to people in ways that are more comfortable to them. Just The Pill was founded in April 2020 to bring sexual and reproductive healthcare to communities.

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota | St. Paul | $10,000 — To support the Seeing and Exploring Life’s Future (SELF) pregnancy/STI prevention program which teaches self-advocates in the disability community about sexually transmitted infections, consent, and sexual health, including youth of all backgrounds who identify as having a disability and who pursue individualized education programs.

Minnesota African Women’s Association (MAWA) | Brooklyn Center | $9,000 — To promote the health and well-being of African refugee and immigrant women and their families in the Twin Cities’ area through research, education, advocacy, and programming. MAWA’s programmatic core goals ensure community integration, positive development, educational and career achievement, economic self-sufficiency, and teen pregnancy prevention for Pan-African girls.

Our Justice | Minneapolis | $10,000 — To foster a world developed by Black women where everyone, including young people, has the power and autonomy to decide if, when, and how they want to start or grow their families.

Way to Grow | Minneapolis | $9,150 — To fund the DreamTracks™ teen parenting program which works with teen parents and their extended families to break the cycle of teenage pregnancy and poverty to move teens towards self-sufficiency. Way to Grow works closely with parents and communities to ensure children within the most isolated families are born healthy, stay healthy, and are prepared for school.

YWCA of Minneapolis | Minneapolis | $10,000 — 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. YWCA of Minneapolis eliminates racism, empowers women and girls, and promotes peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

Community Response Fund
The Women’s Foundation of Minnesota in partnership with Grantmakers for Girls of Color awarded eight grants totaling $50,000 to individuals, organizations, and programs that center young women of color and gender-expansive youth of color and align with the Foundation’s mission to invest in innovative solutions to drive gender and racial equity.

Through its Community Response Fund, WFMN invests in timely solutions that are critical to the safety and well-being of women, girls, and gender-expansive people in our state. Funded community investments include convening people to strategize and create community solidarity, developing innovative programming and organizations, and supporting organizing in response to policy changes that harm communities. Funded organizations and individuals are led by and center Black, Indigenous, and women, girls, and gender-expansive people and youth of color.

WFMN has shifted all grantmaking to general operations to allow organizations greater flexibility in response to the emergent needs of communities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and
racial injustice. As grantee-partner organizations continue to lead in their communities, responsive general operations grants allow community partners to address the rapidly changing needs in this environment. Further, as WFMN accelerates its commitment to racial justice, we are listening to communities and organizations most impacted and investing in organizational capacity and healing spaces and services dedicated to Black women and girls and additional communities of color. This work was made possible through the support of Grantmakers for Girls of Color, a sponsored project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors.

Grantee-partners:

**Change Starts with Community** (Minneapolis) | $7,500 – To support a gender-based violence prevention summer camp including field trips, mentorship, sex education, and life skill lessons for Black, Indigenous, and girls of color in Minneapolis and Hennepin County communities. Change Starts with Community is a public health, gender based violence prevention program through health, wealth, and social changes for women and girls in the City of Minneapolis.

**Kitana Holland** (Minneapolis) | $2,500 – To fund INHALE JUSTICE EXHALE PEACE, a 75-minute flow session including meditation, hot flow yoga practice, and time for gratitude. Pay-as-you-wish proceeds were directed to Chyna Whitaker, the mother of Daunte Wright, Jr.

**Leslie Barlow** (Minneapolis) | $2,500 – To enable girls and gender-expansive youth of color to create public art pieces at Daunte Wright’s memorial site and to provide youth a space to engage on topics including community solidarity, care, justice, and art’s relationship to memorializing and healing, and to process violence and grief in unity.

**Project DIVA International** (Minneapolis) | $7,500 – To support and serve Black girls age 12-18 from Minneapolis, St. Paul, and surrounding suburban communities with an intensive one-year personal and professional development coaching program. Project DIVA International involves families and other members of the community to give girls role models of success and culturally significant experiences concerning their own heritage, self-worth, and empowerment.

**MN8** (St. Paul) | $7,500 – To facilitate ReGenerate, a pilot youth program to create space for Southeast Asian girls to build power through building relationships, healing from trauma, and developing healthy coping mechanisms. MN8’s mission is to provide direct support to Southeast Asian families impacted by detention and deportation through community organizing and leadership development to bring about social and political change.

**SHEletta Makes Me Laugh** (Minneapolis) | $7,500 – To support the Teens Talk Tour program across Minnesota that provides teen girls free listening sessions with a counselor to discuss their mental health and challenges that affect their overall well-being. SHEletta Makes Me Laugh is a podcasting platform that centers stories of young black teens, families with autistic children, grieving parents, and folks who just need a good laugh.
Sisters In Christ Global (Coon Rapids) | $7,500 – To fund Girl Fit—Transforming Lives through Movement, Mindset, and Mentorship Program, which works with girls, particularly Black, Indigenous, and girls of color, to transform negative emotions of pain and repressed traumas into positivity using fitness activities. Sisters In Christ Global works to achieve social equity and justice for women and girls.

The Fields at Rootsprings (Annandale) | $7,500 – To support Black, Indigenous, and people of color who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community by providing a healing retreat space in the greater Minnesota area. The Fields at Rootsprings aims to nurture artistic and spiritual development especially for artists, activists, and healers through a foundation focused on building relationships between people and the land for healing.