



# 2016

## Grantees

In October of 2016, Youthpraise's Board approved 40 grants totaling \$320,000. The goal of our 2016 capacity building grantmaking is to increase the ability of organizations to participate in expanded learning systems and authentically engage youth. Youthpraise coordinated a community-led panel grant process that included interviews with applicants and used criteria to make recommendations aligned with our goals. A racial equity lens was used to

1. Identify organizations with board and staff that are representative of its community;
2. Evaluate organizations' efforts to ensure inclusion and diversity; and
3. Align distribution of grants with concentrations of underserved youth.

**Our deepest investment continues to be in culturally specific organizations. The following observations are consistent with outcomes from past grants in this area:**

- 63% are ethnic-led organizations (33% African American, 15% African, 3% Asian American, 5% Latino, 8% Native American);
- 28% are first-time recipients of funding; and
- 55% of organizations are from Minneapolis, 38% from Saint Paul, and 8% from suburban areas, with multiple organizations serving youth in both cities.

**40 Organizations**

**\$320,000**

**Africa Reconciliation and Development Organization, Inc. Minneapolis**

ARDO is a youth-serving organization for African and other cultural minorities with the mission of preventing conflict in the African Diaspora through development and education and by facilitating localized and regionalized conflict resolution models. Funding will be used for Youth Advisory Council implementation; internship program implementation; and board and executive director training. \$7,500

**ARTS-Us Saint Paul**

ARTS-Us serves African-American artists and multicultural educators. Funding will be used for OST opportunities for Saint Paul youth that combine academic, cultural enrichment, recreational activities, and access to high quality art and academic support. \$7,500

**Asian Media Access Minneapolis**

Asian Media Access is a multimedia education/production agency serving disadvantaged youth. Funding will be used for the Youth Entrepreneurship through Multimedia Technology project that will include a Youth InCharge Lab featuring rap, hip-hop dance, media production/animation training, developing youth-produced syndicated TV, radio, and stage shows. \$10,000

**Aurora/St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Corporation Saint Paul**

ASANDC serves Saint Paul's Frogtown/Rondo community by creating affordable housing, advancing economic development, fostering civic engagement, and promoting youth achievement. Funding will be used for Youth Count, which engages youth ages 8 to 18 in one-on-one mentoring, a life-skills and leadership curriculum, and community advocacy and participation to increase their academic involvement, boost their confidence and responsibility, and guide them into a stable adulthood. \$7,500

**Center for Multicultural Mediation Minneapolis**

Center for Multicultural Mediation (CMM) is a Somali organization using traditional mediation to strengthen community conflict resolution skills and involvement with public systems by diverting youth from the juvenile justice system and educating professionals and families. Funding will be used for the Somali Youth Engagement Project, which recruits Somali youth to design an expanded program to serve all youth experiencing conflicts with families, peers and the community. \$7,500

**Center School, Inc. Minneapolis**

Center School is located in the Phillips neighborhood and serves the Native American community by providing indigenous cultural activities for students struggling in a traditional academic environment. Funding will be used for its A Brighter Future program to provide comprehensive OST work-readiness and post-secondary preparation and an arts therapy program that increases the odds of future success for our students. \$10,000

**Community Mediation & Restorative Services, Inc. New Hope**

Community Mediation & Restorative Services, Inc. is committed to systematically replacing punitive school disciplinary/police/juvenile justice practices with community-based inclusive restorative practices. Funding will be used to cultivate critically needed youth leadership in the restorative justice movement, build community and tap into the wisdom of the collective through restorative circles, and address harm and conflict through restorative conferencing. \$7,500

**ComMUSICation Saint Paul**

ComMUSICation is a youth development and music organization that empowers youth with life skills through music, service, and community. Funding will be used for hiring an Operations Manager to build capacity, strengthen day-to-day operations and create a more systematic operation, and strengthen our coordination with Sprockets and quality improvement. \$5,000

## Connections to Independence

Minneapolis

Connections to Independence serves youth in the foster care system. Funding will be used to support partner collaboration in OST services and promote engagement in coordinated OST networks for teens and young adults connected to the foster care system.

\$10,000

## Cycles for Change

Saint Paul

Cycles for Change uses bicycles to support young people in gaining the competence, confidence and community they need to be successful learners and engaged citizens. Funding will be used for its apprenticeship program which will employ 20 youth over the course of a year, during which time they learn bicycle mechanics, ride bikes together as a team, explore careers in the bicycle and transportation field, and think critically about bicycling as a tool to promote health equity and build sustainable, economically vibrant communities.

\$7,500

## Dream of Wild Health

Minneapolis

Dream of Wild Health fosters social entrepreneurship through youth-adult partnerships developing and operating food-related enterprises growing specialty agricultural crops and indigenous foods. Funding will be used for programs that address employment, education, food access and community change.

\$10,000

## Elpis Enterprises

Saint Paul

Elpis Enterprises provides a paid work experience and employment readiness training to young people between 16 and 23 years of age who are homeless. Funding will allow trainees to be more involved and assume a greater leadership role in managing and growing our enterprises, as well as provide them with marketing, sales, and customer service skills and experience that will make them more competitive in the job market.

\$7,500

## Family Values For Life

Saint Paul

Family Values for Life helps low-income Saint Paul families chart a path from crisis to stability through parent workshops and mentoring, youth programs, and community events that address four “pillars” of wellbeing: physical fitness, spiritual empowerment (emotional health), mental alertness, and financial stability. Funding will be used to expand staffing and youth leadership for the U-Turn 180 Youth program, which offers homework help, creative workshops, mentoring, and summer camps for East Side youth.

\$7,500

## IFP Minnesota

Saint Paul

IFP Minnesota is an artist services organization that supports media artists at all phases of their professional development, including Youth Media Education. Funding will be used to improve our data collection protocol for IFP MN’s after school and summer camp programs, establishing an online data collection tool to streamline the process, and having an outside consultant assess IFP MN’s programs using YPQA to create a baseline of data for future comparison.

\$7,500

## Impact Living Christian Center (We IMPACT!)

Minneapolis

We IMPACT! solves problems, improves communities and inspires hope. Funding will be used to expand the INNOVATE 2 ELEVATE technology creation program for youth of color from an overnight hackathon to a year-round CoderDojo (global movement) and expansion of its financial literacy programming with Operation Hope (a national organization) to include more sites and a 2017 IMAGINE IMPACT Urban Youth Leadership Forum focused on financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

\$5,000

## In Progress

Saint Paul

In Progress provides opportunities for young people to develop their skills as storytellers, artists, and leaders through the use of digital media. Funding will be used for Digital Journeys, a component of Studio 213 focused specifically on building the professional skills of youth leaders within the north end neighborhood of Saint Paul and documenting the model for public use.

\$10,000

## **Indigenous Peoples Task Force**

**Minneapolis**

The Indigenous Peoples Task Force is dedicated to improving the health and education of Native American people across Minnesota through efforts focused on reducing health disparities including HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, tobacco-linked diseases and obesity-linked diseases. Funding will be used for the Native Youth Live Project that addresses the intersection of youth engagement through theater performance and the employment gap for young people of color using Youth are Change Makers curriculum focused on youth-adult partnership.

\$7,500

## **Intermedia Arts of Minnesota, Inc.**

**Minneapolis**

Intermedia Arts builds understanding among people through art by catalyzing individuals to make positive changes in their lives and communities. Funding will be used to increase the number of youth participants, deepen relationships with partner organizations, and expand pathways to participation that we provide through the activities of the Media Active job training program and artistic development events put on by the Youth Leadership Council.

\$15,000

## **JK Movement**

**Saint Paul**

The JK Movement is a vehicle through which youth, particularly youth of color have the opportunity to discover, embrace and work towards manifesting their best selves through research based activities and meaningful interaction with caring adults. Funding will be used for afterschool program in areas of leadership, teamwork, and healthy living through sports activities, experiential education and practical application via youth designed community service projects.

\$5,000

## **La Oportunidad**

**Minneapolis**

La Oportunidad offers six inter-connected programs for under-served Latino families including early literacy, after school for K-12 students, career preparation and parental involvement. Funding will be used for youth programs that serve approximately 500 Latino immigrant youth by providing them with bilingual, culturally competent school-based weekly groups, and mentoring or other connections to empower and support them to build social and emotional leadership skills to strengthen education and career outcomes.

\$12,500

## **Mentoring Young Adults**

**Saint Paul**

Mentoring Young Adults is a community-based organization and a walk-in center providing crisis management for vulnerable youth. Funding will be used for core activities that include the following OST opportunities for low-income youth: 1) housing and economic stability support for homeless youth 2) social and leadership development support, and 3) academic support (dropout prevention coaching or GED training).

\$7,500

## **Minnesota African Women's Association**

**Brooklyn Center**

Minnesota African Women's Association serves over 600 Pan-African girls and women annually in the areas of youth leadership and college attendance for girls and employment and job readiness for women. Funding will be for an after-school STEM pilot to engage young African girls in the design of STEM programs that motivate them through workshops, field trips and shadowing women in STEM jobs.

\$7,500

## **New American Academy**

**Edina**

New American Academy is a community-based organization that works with East African youth/families, providing vital culturally relevant programs and service and working with four major school districts. Funding will provide authentic out-of-school time activities in areas of academic enhancement, mentoring, leadership, entrepreneurial, and work readiness skills.

\$12,500

## **Opportunity Neighborhood**

**Minneapolis**

Opportunity Neighborhood partners with residents living in affordable housing communities and area organizations to identify and implement onsite programs, including out-of-school time activities. This request tests authentic youth engagement through a three-part program encompassing the body, mind and spirit while acknowledging the disparities of good health in North Minneapolis and engaging youth in finding sustainable solutions. \$7,500

## **Penumbra Theatre**

**Saint Paul**

Penumbra is the only African American Theatre in Minnesota and preeminent in the nation, having created 40 seasons of theatre rooted in the Black Arts Movement, and launched the careers of such notable artists as two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, August Wilson. Funding will be for a Summer Institute (SI), which is a 3-year arts and leadership training program where students, ages 13-19, use art to actualize their civic responsibility, come into critical self-awareness, and begin to think about community and coalition. \$5,000

## **Redeemer Center for Life**

**Minneapolis**

Redeemer Center for Life invests in the people who make Harrison a great place to call home. Funding will be used for its Youth Entrepreneurship work and leveraging its YouthBank site to strengthen and expand youth engagement. \$7,500

## **Somali American Parent Association**

**Minneapolis**

Somali American Parent Association serves the Somali and East African community in the greater Twin Cities Metro area and surrounding suburban communities. Funding will be used to support the design, creation and implementation of an enhanced electronic system for organizing and making better use of SAPA's multiple data sets from multiple out-of-school time program locations. \$7,500

## **Saint Paul Urban Tennis**

**Saint Paul**

Saint Paul Urban Tennis provides year-round OST Tennis/SPIRIT Life Skills programming to 3,000 plus K-12 youth in every neighborhood of Saint Paul. Funding will support staffing costs associated with the growth of its programming and participation in the Sprockets Network as an Activator. \$7,500

## **Tennis & Education, Inc**

**Saint Paul**

Tennis & Education Center is a community center dedicated to offering accessible tennis opportunities to everyone in the Twin Cities, especially youth from under-resourced communities. Funding will be used to support Serving Up Science, a new FWTEC program for middle and high school youth pairing tennis-related STEM experiments, tennis instruction and leadership opportunities. \$7,500

## **Centro Tyrone Guzman, Inc.**

**Minneapolis**

Centro Tyrone Guzman is a multi-service Latino organization, serving more than 7,000 individuals per year. Funding will be used to pilot a new podcast program for Latino teens, which will provide a replicable model for supporting engagement of Latino youth leaders in conversations about community issues and systems that impact youth. \$10,000

## **Urban Arts Academy**

**Minneapolis**

Urban Arts Academy invests in South Minneapolis youth through culturally-inclusive, arts-infused education that arises from community need and involvement. Funding will be used to engage high school youth leaders in the planning, development, partnership-building, and launch of a new Youth Social Entrepreneurship Program, through which they will be paid to create and sell their artwork in the community. \$7,500

## **Urban Boatbuilders**

**Saint Paul**

Urban Boatbuilders is a youth development organization focused on empowering youth to develop the skills they need to succeed in school, work, and life through the building and use of wooden boats. Funding will be used to build its capacity to engage with Sprockets and integrate a newly-developed internal evaluation system for learning and continuous program improvement. \$7,500

## **WE WIN Institute, Inc.**

**Minneapolis**

WE WIN Institute, Inc. provides a girls mentoring program, Women of Distinction. Funding will be used to increase access to quality youth programs, improve outcomes for Minneapolis youth, and increase coordination of its work within OST networks.

\$7,500

## **WellShare International**

**Minneapolis**

WellShare International improves the health of communities through community-based programs built on best practices and rigorous monitoring/evaluation. Funding will be used for the WellShare Somali Young Achievers Capacity Building Project to increase access to quality OST programs for immigrant/refugee youth in Minneapolis by helping build a coordinated OST system.

\$7,500

## **West Bank Athletic Club**

**Minneapolis**

The West Bank Athletic Club promotes youth development, leadership and empowerment through intensive sports programming and out-of-school time (OST) evidence-based multi-programs. Funding will be for programs in the areas of sports leadership activities, Youth Council development, and to build community resilience and engagement.

\$7,500

## **Women's Initiative for Self Empowerment**

**Saint Paul**

Women's Initiative for Self Empowerment's mission is to empower immigrant women and girls to succeed. Funding will be used to support a parent and youth engagement initiative and core GGAL curriculum for the 2016-2017 school year and summer session, including staffing costs, participant transportation, programming supplies, and snacks.

\$7,500

## **Youth Determined to Succeed, Inc.**

**Minneapolis**

Youth Determined to Success, Inc. provides youth development, health and athletic programs and services to assist youth develop effective leadership and life skills to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood. Funding will be used for the Youth Leaders for Change pilot program and the Youth Engaged in Leadership and Learning (YELL) curriculum.

\$5,000

## **Youth Farm**

**Minneapolis**

Youth Farm is a youth development organization that uses food to engage youth ages 9-24 in neighborhood-based social change work. The primary activities of our proposal will focus on testing and further developing the innovative aspects of our Farm Stewards program, focusing on increased quality youth engagement throughout all levels of our programming, skill development of Farm Steward participants/staff, and more diverse leadership and perspectives at all levels.

\$7,500

## **YouthCARE**

**Minneapolis**

YouthCARE is dedicated to providing high-quality education, employment, and leadership development opportunities to diverse youth, 7-18 years old, during critical out-of-school time hours. Funding will be used to support YouthCARE's participation in a coordinated OST system through the Sprockets Cityspan database, participation in YPQA and Survey of Academic & Youth Outcomes (SAYO), and the staff time needed to participate in these systems.

\$7,500

## **youthrive**

**Minneapolis**

youthrive will strengthen meaningful participation by youth grades 6-12 in our Youth Cabinet working with adult partners to prepare key parts of our Being the Change (BTC) OST program. The BTC network serves 4,400+ youth at 164 sites; 1,025+ youth participate at 40+ OST sites. Funding will be used to update and renew iBook learning resources, and implement two annual convening events.

\$7,500