



## **Sheltering Arms Foundation – Fact Sheet 2011-2012 Grantees**

### **What Is a Sheltering Arms Foundation Grantee?**

In fiscal year 2011-2012, 40 nonprofit organizations across the state of Minnesota will use a total of \$492,000 in grant money awarded by the Sheltering Arms Foundation (SAF) for programs benefiting children and their families in Minnesota who are most vulnerable, have least access to resources, and are least likely to have a wide array of choices about their future. For more, visit <http://sheltering-arms.org/>.

### **Counties Served by Sheltering Arms Grantees in 2011-2012**

Hennepin	Mille Lacs	Ramsey	St. Louis
Itasca	Mower	Rice	

### **Towns Served by or Headquartering Sheltering Arms Grantees**

Austin	Mahtomedi	Northfield
Duluth	Milaca	St. Paul
Grand Portage Reservation	Minneapolis	White Bear Lake
Grand Rapids	Moose Lake	

### **Ethnic Populations Served by 2011-2012 Programs**

African American	Latino	Somali	Sudanese
Karen (Burma)	Native American	Southeast Asian	

## **The grantees and the programs supported by SAF**

### **Augsburg College (Center for Democracy & Citizenship) (<http://actg.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Based in northeast Minneapolis, serves multiple counties. Grant supports the All Around the Neighborhood (AATN) Initiative, a community-generated initiative that has built a network of people and organizations working together to strengthen learning on St. Paul's West Side. The grant will help AATN expand its summer camps and school vacation day program, which serve kids in grades K-6, to the East Side through the Kid Venture program and also to the West Seventh/Summit Hill Area.

### **The Banyan Community (<http://www.banyancommunity.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Located in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis. Grant supports creation of a new staff position of youth development director for their successful after-school and summer programs. The programs' goals are to help the elementary-aged and older children succeed in school (with the long-range goal that they attend college) and to keep them clear of negative influences.

### **Bridges Kinship Mentoring (<http://www.bridgesmentoring.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in Grand Rapids, serves Itasca County. Grant supports student-to-student mentoring programs in grades 3-6 in two school districts (Grand Rapids and Bovey-Coleraine), which match elementary children

(more)

with high school and college students in an after-school program. It will also support a new middle school mentoring program that will focus on children in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades identified by the school as being two years below expected reading level. Kinship is the only mentoring program in Itasca County.

**Bright Water Montessori School (<http://www.brightwatermontessori.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Located in north Minneapolis. Grant supports a multi-pronged program to increase the capacity of the preschool's staff and parents to manage the emotional wellness of its students. Based on work of noted local psychologist Ann Gearity from Washburn Center, who counsels that children need to be reached as early as possible to receive help with emotional self-regulation.

**Camp Fire USA Minnesota Council (<http://www.campfireusa-mn.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in Minneapolis, serves statewide. Grant supports expansion of their club partnership programming at Lincoln Place affordable housing complex in Mahtomedi. This model was developed in 2005 and targets low-income youth, partnering with community-based organizations, schools, affordable housing complexes and churches that serve young people and that have an unmet need for youth services. Camp Fire will also enhance the academic portion of the youth club programs at 17 clubs.

**Center City Housing Corporation (<http://www.centercityhousing.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in Duluth. Grant supports the hiring of a Children and Family Services Advocate who will begin to implement early childhood programming for the children of formerly homeless families living in Center City's three supportive housing apartment buildings.

**Centro Guadalupano (<http://www.guadcenter.org/home>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in south Minneapolis. Grant supports adding nutrition education and expanding physical activities to its current after-school programming, which serves Latino children ages 5 to 15 from low-income families in the Phillips neighborhood.

**Child Care WORKS (<http://www.childcareworks.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Based in Minneapolis, serves statewide. Grant supports cultivation of a statewide parent voice for early childhood education and quality childcare using social media and in-person advocacy training to expand its base of advocates.

**Community Initiatives for Children ([www.community-initiatives.org/](http://www.community-initiatives.org/))—\$10,000 grant**

Located in Minneapolis. Grant supports the launch of a pilot summer program called STEP (Summer Transition to Elementary Progress). Serving children and their families who speak primarily Spanish and Somali, the program will run for six weeks starting in mid-July to get children ready to enter kindergarten in the fall. The program will include home visits to work one-on-one with the children and will offer parent enrichment sessions to support them as new parents of school-age children.

**East Metro Women's Council (<http://www.emwc.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in White Bear Lake. Grant supports the expansion of a one-on-one tutoring program held after school at East Metro Place, a supportive housing community for families who have experienced homelessness. The new Learning Coordinator's role will expand to allow time to coordinate with teachers at the local schools and bridge school-home in order to improve the children's academic outcomes.

**Family Housing Fund (<http://www.fhfund.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Based in Minneapolis, serves the seven-county metro area. Grant supports the Visible Child Initiative, to increase public awareness of homeless and formerly homeless children and to change policy on their behalf. Will build an advocacy coalition and bring children's issues into the statewide campaign to end homelessness.

**Grant Community School Collab. (<http://grantcommunityschoolcollaborative.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Located in and serving Duluth's inner-city East Hillside neighborhood. Grant supports expansion of 2 after-school academic (COMPASS) and cultural enrichment (P.A.C.E.) programs for at-risk K-5 youth in order to serve more children due to the merge of Grant Community School with Nettleton School.

**Joyce Preschool (<http://www.joycepreschool.org>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in South Minneapolis. Grant supports expansion of its pilot home visiting program with Latino families to understand the needs of its families, help build relationships and to provide new learning opportunities.

**Karen Organization of Minnesota (<http://www.mnkaren.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in St. Paul. The Karen Organization of Minnesota (KOM) was established in 2008 to serve the needs of the rapidly growing Karen refugee community, an indigenous ethnic minority from the mountains of Burma and Thailand, who have been fleeing from genocide in Burma and refugee camps in Thailand. St. Paul is now home to the largest population of Karen outside of southeast Asia. KOM has identified that an important part of the Karen's acculturation to the U.S. is to help them learn about opportunities for their youngest children. This grant will support the build up of an early childhood program, following the model set by Ready4K's Hmong early childhood outreach program.

**King Family Foundation Child Development Ctr (<http://www.bethel.edu/cdc/king/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in St. Paul, serves the Frogtown neighborhood. Grant supports a pilot before- and after-school program for children ages 5-12 who have been part of their preschool program. King Center is a lab school for Bethel College and has created a high-quality, NAEYC-accredited preschool. The new pilot is a result of parent requests to keep up the gains their children made during their preschool years. The program will incorporate an effective reading curriculum and have African American cultural elements.

**Kwanzaa Community Church (<http://www.kwanzaachurch.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in north Minneapolis. Grant supports the expansion of their Freedom School summer program, which reaches African American children ages 8-18 in a very troubled part of the city who are at risk of failing in school, from six to eight weeks. The high quality youth programming includes reading, cultural activities, violence prevention, and the Sidewalks Saving Lives project, and it serves both breakfast and lunch (lunch for the whole family, with many takers).

**Lifetrack Resources (<http://www.lifetrackresources.org>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in St. Paul, serves Ramsey County. Grant supports the Families Together in the Home Program, a home-visiting program for highly at-risk families with children ages 0-3. The program uses carefully selected curriculum to focus on parent-child interaction, parent education, and crisis management, with the goal of reducing each family's risk factors and effecting change in parenting behavior.

**MacPhail Center for Music (<http://www.macphail.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in downtown Minneapolis, serves Minneapolis and St. Paul. Grant supports enhancement of the Learning with Music Program with a multi-cultural curriculum that ties music to literacy with bilingual presentations in Hmong, Somali, and Spanish. The program is a partnership between MacPhail, Wilder Child Development Center in St. Paul, and five low-income early childhood centers in Minneapolis and St. Paul. The program's goal is to increase the use of music in early learning centers and prepare childcare center teachers to work bilingually so they can better develop preschool readiness skills in at-risk children and better manage the classroom environment.

**Mayflower Early Childhood Center (<http://www.mayflowerchildren.org/>)—\$12,000 grant**

Located in south Minneapolis. Grant supports expansion of the preschool's community outreach coordinator position to cultivate and maintain supportive relationships with prospective and enrolled low-

income families, as well as provide parent education classes in the community room of the neighboring affordable housing development that Mayflower Community Congregational Church recently established.

**Minneapolis American Indian Center (<http://www.maicnet.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in south Minneapolis. Grant supports expansion of the American Indian cultural teachings in their successful Ginew/Golden Eagle after-school program, which builds resiliency skills in youth ages 5-18 from several low-income neighborhoods. Expansion will include weekly Drum and Dance groups and Intergenerational sharing groups.

**Minnesota 4-H Foundation (<http://www1.extension.umn.edu/youth/Support/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in Minneapolis, serves statewide. Grant supports the next step in the Supporting Youth Success initiative of Youth Community Connections (YCC), which is Minnesota's statewide after-school alliance. Funding will enable YCC to take its newly created policy framework to five Minnesota communities to build local systems that support out-of-school time opportunities for children and youth: Brooklyn Park, Mankato, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and the state's 11 American Indian tribes.

**Minnesota Child Care Resource & Referral Network (<http://www.mnchildcare.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Based in St. Paul, serves statewide. Grant supports the "Building Quality: Making Good Things Better" project, which will educate childcare providers about opportunities to improve quality, empower parents to make quality choices and build capacity within the system regarding the importance of quality care. The goal is to help individual providers across the state, especially in non-English-speaking communities, get ready for expansion of Parent Aware, the statewide quality rating system for child care.

**Montessori Training Center of Minnesota (<http://mtcm.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in east St. Paul. Grant supports a parent education initiative for the families of children birth through five years old. The program includes parent and infant courses and individual mentoring, along with home visits. With the goal of making Montessori early childhood programming available to communities that do not usually have access to such services, this program is designed to be replicated, and elements of it are being tried at Little Earth of the United Tribes and in the Montessori program at Mayflower Church in south Minneapolis.

**Northfield Healthy Community Initiative (<http://northfieldhci.org/>)—\$15,000 grant**

Located in Northfield. Grant supports expansion of PRIMEtime Collaborative's after-school and summer programs for low-income youth in Northfield, increasing the numbers of children served. The town is seeing an influx of immigrant and refugee families (mostly Latino). Initiative is a good example of community collaboration, including all the local schools, to help a growing number of struggling children.

**Northland Foundation (<http://www.northlandfdn.org/>)—\$20,000 grant**

Based in Duluth, serves northeastern Minnesota. Grant supports the innovative Age to Age programs in Moose Lake and on the Grand Portage Reservation. Age to Age is the foundation's grassroots intergenerational initiative aimed at enhancing the educational and social skills development of at-risk children. The concept is to use the skills and energy of adults over 55 to benefit youth, with the knowledge that such activities will also benefit the older adults.

**Northside Achievement Zone (<http://northsideachievement.org/>)—\$15,000 grant**

Located in north Minneapolis. Grant supports second year of the Parent Academy, a 12-week course for parents of 0- to 5-year-old children that improves school readiness with access to community resources and education. Modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone, the Northside Achievement Zone was formed to build a culture of achievement in a 13x18 block zone in north Minneapolis, bringing together a broad group of community collaborators to change the high level of youth violence to a culture that supports all children in the area to graduate from college.

**Parenting Resource Center (<http://www.familiesandcommunities.org>)—\$13,000 grant**

Based in Austin, serves Mower County. Grant supports the Time Together III program, a pilot project for the Sudanese community that will provide community-based, multi-family programming for low-income children of single mothers. The program changes the mother-child relationship from a risk factor to an asset and strengthens each family's connection to community supports.

**Pearl Crisis Center (<http://www.pearlcrisiscenter.com/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in Milaca, serves Mille Lacs County. Grant supports the Safe Start Program that will provide direct services to children under age 12 who witness domestic violence. The center anticipates serving up to 600 children. The grant will also help provide education and a curriculum for parents, caregivers, and local educators to enhance their understanding, support and services to these children.

**People Serving People (<http://www.peopleservingpeople.org>)—\$12,000 grant**

Located in Minneapolis. Grant supports the Children's Development Center, helping it to expand the number of children served by its childcare center and early childhood programs. The center currently provides free early childhood education for 52 homeless children daily, and it is experiencing an unprecedented need for services for renters and families displaced by the foreclosure crisis.

**Plymouth Christian Youth Center (<http://pcyc-mpls.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in north Minneapolis. Grant supports development of a new writing component for its after-school and summer enrichment program that serves 150 low-income, mainly African American children in grades K-6. The program will include a partnership with the Minnesota Center for Book Arts to do paper-making and book-making workshops, to foster creativity while building an essential academic skill.

**Project for Pride in Living (<http://www.ppl-inc.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in Minneapolis, serves inner-city neighborhoods of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and first-ring suburbs. Grant supports expansion of programming for youth ages 5-12 at two housing developments that have recently been taken over by PPL (New Foundations in east St. Paul and Collaborative Village in south Minneapolis). Expansion will enable the programs to serve more children, as well as incorporate best practices from PPL's model into the existing programs at the two locations.

**Ready 4 K (<http://www.ready4k.org>)—\$15,000 grant**

Based in St. Paul, serves statewide. Grant supports the Parent Empowerment Program to educate parents and caregivers in five ethnic communities – Somali, Latino, American Indian, African American, and Southeast Asian – in the importance of early childhood health and early education for kindergarten readiness. Based on the success of the program model Ready 4 K developed in the Hmong community.

**Resources for Child Caring (<http://www.resourcesforchildcaring.org/>)—\$15,000 grant**

Based in St. Paul, primarily serves the seven-county metro area. Grant supports third year of a pilot project, now called Minneapolis Gets Ready, which is making quality improvements in child care centers and family child care programs in the Phillips, Powderhorn and near north neighborhoods of Minneapolis. The program is designed to increase school readiness by incorporating research-based strategies into existing childcare programming.

**St. Anne's Place (<http://www.stannesplace.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in north Minneapolis. Grant supports the emergency shelter's aftercare programs for children and parents, helping them establish themselves and avoid a return to homelessness. The programs include an after-school tutoring program using the curriculum developed by People Serving People, an ECFE model program for moms and younger children, and parenting support for moms.

**St. David's Center for Child & Family Development (<http://www.stdavids.net/>)—\$15,000 grant**

Based in Minnetonka, serves the Twin Cities metro area. Grant supports expanding the pilot for the Early Childhood Mental Health Outreach Program to include the YMCA Childcare Center in downtown Minneapolis, which has a highly transient population. Includes direct access to early childhood mental health services for distressed children ages 3-5; parent education, support, and skills training; and early childhood teacher consultation.

**St. Paul Area Council of Churches (<http://www.spacc.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in St. Paul. Grant supports expansion of the Freedom School, a summer program providing academic, cultural and social enrichment to low-income African American children in St. Paul, doubling the number of children served.

**Urban Strategies (<http://www.urbanstrategiesinc.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Based in St. Louis, MO, serving the Heritage Park affordable housing in near north Minneapolis. Grant supports the pilot of a summer program for 8- to 12-year-olds, mostly Somali and African American, in partnership with the U of M's Urban Youth Development Office and the Phyllis Wheatley Community Center. Urban Strategies and its two partners designed the program to meet residents' interests for its youth, including educational enrichment in science and math, nutrition, and leadership development.

**Wilder Foundation (<http://www.wilder.org/>)—\$10,000 grant**

Located in St. Paul. Grant supports the Incredible Years program for at-risk East Metro families, with a focus continuing to tailor the program to meet the cultural needs of Hmong and Karen immigrant/refugee families. The Incredible Years curriculum is one of the best available processes to help children develop healthy social and emotional skills. It is increasingly being used by other programs around the state.

**Youth Farm and Market Project (<http://www.youthfarm.net/>)—\$15,000**

Based in Minneapolis, serves Lyndale and Powderhorn neighborhoods of Minneapolis and West Side neighborhood of St. Paul. Grant supports expanding their successful after-school program, which focuses on cultural farming and leadership, to St. Paul's Frogtown neighborhood. This initiative is part of a larger expansion process, growing out of requests from a number of low-income neighborhoods.

**YWCA of Duluth (<http://www.ywca.org/site/pp.asp?c=crLSK5PFLqF&b=397145>)—\$15,000 grant**

Located in Duluth. Grant supports a new program at the Y's Spirit Valley Young Mothers Program, called Circles of Security, which will train caregivers at the Spirit Valley childcare to recognize cues and meet needs of its youngest children to help them improve their social and emotional outcomes. Staff will then train parents to help them understand their children's cues.