



The
**Sheltering
Arms**
Foundation

2025 - 2026 Annual Report



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Our Mission

The Sheltering Arms Foundation's mission is to invest in the lives of Minnesota's children so that they reach their full potential.

We fund non-profit organizations and support policies that benefit children and their families who have the least access to resources.

Our Vision

The Sheltering Arms Foundation envisions a Minnesota that is a vibrant, thriving state where the opportunity gap for children is closed and all children have high-quality lives, including broad and equitable access to the following:

- childcare and early childhood education
- high-quality out-of-school time (OST) programming
- mental, physical, social, emotional, and intellectual wellbeing
- supportive opportunities for families and communities.



Dear friends,

The past year reaffirmed an enduring truth: when communities come together, remarkable things happen. Despite ongoing challenges, our grant partners continued to provide critical support where it was needed most. Together with our donors, grantees, and community partners, we remain committed to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

One of the highlights of this fiscal year was spending the month of October traveling across Greater Minnesota on our organization's first statewide listening and relationship-building tour. I had the privilege of visiting Episcopal faith communities and grant partners in the places they call home, including Duluth, Ely, Hibbing, Chisholm, Grand Rapids, Kasson, and Faribault.

These visits provided invaluable opportunities to listen, learn, and better understand the unique strengths and challenges facing communities throughout our state. I heard inspiring stories of resilience, innovation, and hope from those working every day to create opportunities for children and families. The relationships strengthened, new connections formed, and insights gained during these conversations will help inform and guide our work in the years ahead.

We are deeply grateful to our donors, whose generosity makes this work possible. Your support empowers our partners to create lasting change for the children and families they serve.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report belong to the communities, organizations, and leaders who bring this work to life each day. We are continually inspired by your creativity, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to children and families. Thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey and for the impact you make in communities across Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Diane Grossman
Executive Director

Heidi Kim
Board President,
2025-2026



Early Childhood

**Montessori American
Indian Childcare Center**
Second Children's House
St. Paul Metro Area
\$10,000

Established in 2014, the Montessori American Indian Childcare Center (MAICC) has been a steady presence in the Twin Cities American Indian community, walking alongside children and families as they build a foundation of cultural identity and school readiness. As the only American Indian- directed and managed preschool for Native children in Ramsey County and Minnesota, they work with families and community partners to revitalize Indigenous language and culture, address the academic achievement gap, and create pathways to lifelong learning.

Sheltering Arms Foundation is proud to support MAICC's expansion of a second Children's House, an indigenized Montessori classroom for children ages 3 to 5 that will double the number of children served and expand access to a proven educational model that integrates Association Montessori International standards with Ojibwe and D/Lakota language and culture.

maiccmn.org

The impact is remarkable. Through Children's House, young children show growth across multiple areas: psychological, social-emotional, physical and cognitive development, alongside a strengthened cultural and Indigenous language identity. Families join in that growth too, from Powwow dancing to community performances at Indigenous People's Day, carrying that foundation forward for generations to come.

Sheltering Arms celebrates MAICC's visionary work and is honored to support its mission of nurturing American Indian children and families through language, culture and early learning in the Twin Cities.



Early Childhood Grants

A Chance to Grow
SMART Steps Expansion
Minneapolis • \$10,000

Banyan Community
Seedlings Program
Minneapolis • \$10,000

Centro Tyrone Guzman
*Siembra Montessori
Early Learning Program*
Minneapolis • \$10,000

Change, Inc.
Alianza - FFN Program
Southern MN • \$7,000

**Children's Theatre
Company & School**
Creative Play
St. Paul • \$8,000

CHUM
*Steve O'Neil Apartments
Early Childhood Education*
Duluth • \$10,000

Domestic Abuse Project
Early Childhood Program
Statewide • \$10,000

Ellison Center
Infant Mental Health
St. Cloud Region • \$10,000

Emma Norton Services
*Early Childhood
Program Development*
St. Paul • \$8,000

The Family Partnership
*Four Directions
Developmental Therapies*
Minneapolis • \$10,000

Invest Early
*Early Edge -
Conscious Discipline Training*
Itasca County • \$10,000

**Jewish Family and Children's
Service of Minneapolis**
Parent Child +
Statewide • \$8,000

Morning Glory Montessori
Intergenerational Program
Minneapolis • \$7,500

**Northeast Youth
and Family Services**
Early Childhood Mental Health
7-Co. Metro Area • \$12,000

**Northfield Healthy
Community Initiative**
Growing Up Healthy Program
Northfield & Faribault • \$10,000

Northland Foundation
Thrive Initiative
Duluth + Arrowhead Region
\$12,000

Northside Achievement Zone
Home Visiting Program
Minneapolis • \$7,500

Nurse-Family Partnership
Home Visiting Program
Greater Minnesota • \$7,500

Pillsbury United Communities
*Pillsbury House + Theatre Early
Education Arts Initiative*
Minneapolis • \$10,000

Project FINE
Early Learning Program
Winona • \$12,000

Rise Early Learning Center
Professional Development
St. Louis Park • \$10,000

Simpson Housing Services
Family Spirit Home Visiting
7-Co. Metro Area • \$12,000

**Southside Family
Nurturing Center**
Early Childhood Music Therapy
Minneapolis • \$10,000

Urban Ventures
*Leadership Foundation
Cornwell Early Learning Center*
Minneapolis • \$10,000

Washburn Center for Children
*Mental Health Home
Visiting Program*
7-Co. Metro Area • \$12,000

Way to Grow
Parent Engagement Program
Minneapolis • \$9,500

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
*St. Paul Promise Neighborhood -
Thrive by Five Initiative*
St. Paul • \$10,000

Youth Development

Greater Minneapolis
Council of Churches
Lake Street Youth Labs
Minneapolis • \$10,000



Lake Street Youth Labs STEAM Summer Camp, a program of GMCC (founded as Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches), launched in 2021 and now serves more than 80 children each summer and 275 elementary students year-round in South Minneapolis's Phillips neighborhood. The free, full-day, five week summer program tackles summer learning loss while helping young people build STEAM skills and deepen connection to community.

Sheltering Arms' support makes this program possible for underserved students in grades 1 through 7. In a safe, nurturing environment, these young learners experience:

- * Hands-on STEAM learning in robotics, coding, and other academic topics that build critical thinking and problem-solving skills
- ✕ Individualized tutoring to strengthen academic performance and confidence

gmcc.org/youth-programs/

- ✿ Digital learning experiences where creativity and exploration go hand in hand
- * Adult mentors and teen Apprentice Guides model growth and guide students through every activity
- ✕ Social-emotional learning through mindfulness and connection with licensed therapists
- ✿ Field trips - for many students, their first time outside the city

This multifaceted approach does more than prevent summer slide. It helps children thrive: 98 percent of campers said they learned new things, 96 percent made new friends, and every family surveyed said their child felt safe and cared for. These students find a welcoming place where they belong, where they can discover new worlds and where caring adults invest in helping them succeed.



Youth Development Grants

826 MSP

Afterschool Writing Lab

Minneapolis • \$10,000

ACES

Afterschool Program

Minneapolis • \$10,000

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Free Arts Program

7-Co. Metro Area • \$10,000

Boys & Girls Club of the Twin Cities

Little Earth Literacy Program

Minneapolis • \$7,500

CommonBond Communities

Study Buddies

7-Co. Metro Area • \$10,000

ComMUSICation

RISE Choir

St. Paul • \$8,000

COMPAS, Inc.

*Youth & Family Wellness
through Art*

7-Co. Metro Area • \$9,700

East Side Neighborhood

Service, Inc.

Afterschool Program

Minneapolis • \$10,000

FamilyMeans

Youth Development Program

Stillwater & Landfall • \$7,500

Fred Wells Tennis & Education Center

*TennisWorks Youth
Development*

7-Co. Metro Area • \$8,000

Friends of the Children Fargo-Moorhead

Mentoring Program

Moorhead • \$7,500

Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies

Harmony Program

St. Paul • \$10,000

Interfaith Action of Greater St. Paul

*American Indian Youth
Enrichment*

St. Paul • \$10,000

Keystone Community Services

Family Engagement Program

St. Paul • \$10,000

Mentor North

Mentor Duluth

Duluth • \$13,000

The Park Place

Educación Afterschool Program

Minneapolis • \$8,000

Plymouth Christian Youth Center

Summer Freedom School

Minneapolis • \$10,000

Project for Pride in Living Child and Family Art Therapy

7-Co. Metro Area • \$10,000

Relentless Academy

SMART Summer Program

7-Co. Metro Area • \$10,000

United Way of Northeastern Minnesota

Lunch Buddies

Chisholm • \$7,500

Urban Strategies, Inc.

Green Garden Bakery (Sprouts)

Minneapolis • \$9,000

Watercourse Counseling

*Immigrant & Refugee Children's
Leadership Circle*

Minneapolis • \$10,000

YMCA of the North

Beacons Culinary Arts

St. Paul • \$8,000

YWCA of Minneapolis

*Beacons Program at Hmong
International Academy*

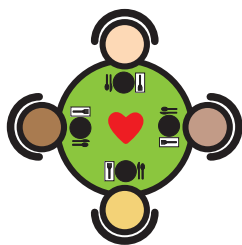
Minneapolis • \$9,000

Episcopal Faith Community Grants

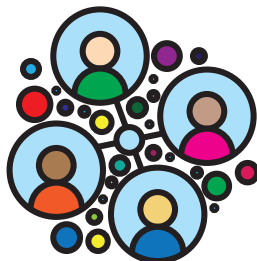
Through small grants to Episcopal faith communities across Minnesota, the Sheltering Arms Foundation supports programs, outreach, and advocacy efforts that improve the lives of vulnerable children and youth. Funded projects strengthen congregations' ability to

address educational, developmental, and basic needs while fostering opportunities for children, families, and communities to thrive.

Episcopal Faith Community grantmaking included:



**Cathedral of our
Merciful Savior
Community Café**
Faribault • \$1,000



St. John's Episcopal Church
Fe y Justicia Partnership
St. Cloud • \$1,000



St. Peter's Episcopal Church
A Place at the Table
Kasson • \$1,000



St. John in the Wilderness
Kids Hope Mentoring Program
White Bear Lake • \$1,000



St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Ely Youth Alliance
Ely • \$1,000



University Episcopal Center
Rural Youth Vocation Retreat
Litchfield, Long Prairie and
Rushford • \$1,000

Advocacy Grants



The Sheltering Arms Foundation complements its direct-service grantmaking with advocacy that advances policies and systems supporting Minnesota children, youth, and families.

Through advocacy grants and coalitions, we work to expand access to high-quality early childhood and out-of-school time opportunities. Our advocacy grantmaking for 2025-26 included:



Transforming Minnesota's Early Childhood Workforce (TMECW) advances policies that strengthen and sustain Minnesota's early childhood workforce. As the state's only collaborative focused exclusively on educators, TMECW promotes workforce, financing, and regulatory reforms that expand access to high-quality, culturally responsive care and improve outcomes for young children. Serving statewide with a \$10,000 grant.



The FamilyWise Parent Leadership Program aims to empower parents as community leaders and advocates and helps develop parent advocacy skills through activities like strategic storytelling training, NEAR Science education, partnership building, and policy education. Serving the Metro Area with a \$10,000 grant.



Ignite Afterschool is working to close the opportunity gap for children without access to high-quality out-of-school time programming through policy and partnerships, creating a collective voice and strengthening afterschool in Minnesota. Serving statewide with a \$12,000 grant.



MCFHV is a coalition of home visitors, advocates, and community partners working to make sure every Minnesota family has the support they need to thrive. From the first days of pregnancy through the early years, home visiting builds connection, confidence, and opportunity. Serving statewide with a \$10,000 grant.



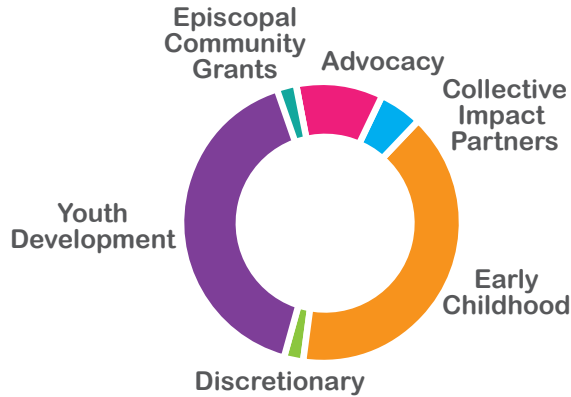
Sheltering Arms is an active member of the Start Early Funders Coalition, a coalition of Minnesota funders focused on advancing public policy and community support for affordable, accessible, high-quality care and education in Minnesota so all children have a strong and healthy start in life. Serving statewide with a \$20,000 grant.



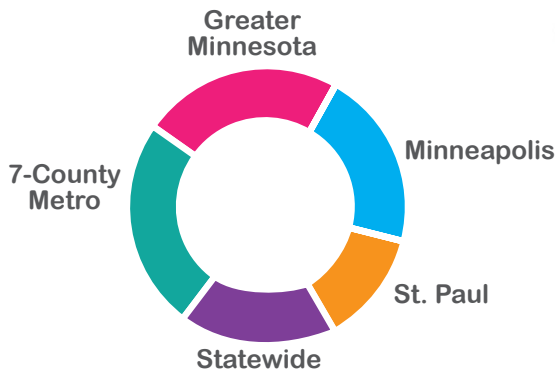
Think Small advocacy initiatives strengthen Minnesota's child care system. Through collaboration with parents, providers, state agencies, and policymakers, they are working to improve access to culturally responsive, high-quality early learning programs, elevate the voices of families and educators, and advance policies that support affordability, quality, and sustainability across the sector. Serving statewide with a \$10,000 grant.

Grantmaking

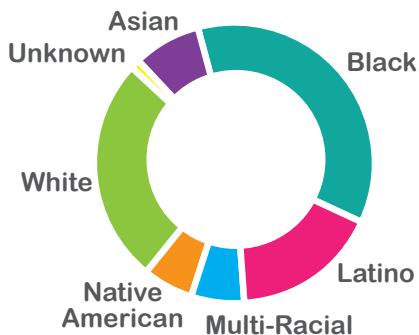
Focus Areas



Geography



Populations



Friends

Donors of Financial Support



Chigozie Achike
Kasiemobi Achike
Malobi Achike
Marsha Anderson
Anonymous
Jeannette Bach
Brittany Beach
Deborah Belfry
Cynthia Beukema
Sue Bizal
Linda Bracken
Philip Bradley and
 Jan Frankman
Leslie Brunfelt
Janet Burns
MerLynne and Patrick Byrne
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Renee Campion
Laura Capaldini
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Chris and Essie Commers
Cecily Cutshall
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Barbara Ford
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Linda Garrett
Shelly Gill Murray and
 Brian Murray
Susan Gillette

Christabel Grant
Judy Gregor
Diane Grossman and
 Dean Topliff
Joan Gudorf
Julia Gutz Moller
Bob and Darlene Hays
Carrie Heft and
 James Hanton
Julie Hicks
Hilligoss Family Foundation
Lucy Hogan
Dave and Cara Holmberg
C. Powell Hutton
Ifeyinwa Ikegwuani
Nancy Jackson
Wendy Johnson
Judge David and Mary Doty
 Fund 2 of the Minneapolis
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 Sally Johnson
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Phyllis Lehmberg
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Sherry Lund
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Katie Madsen
George and Caroline Martin
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Roseanne McCullagh
Edie Meissner
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Bruce and Ann Nerland
Kris Newcomer

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Tina Pfau Gonzales
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Fiona and Ravi Pradhan
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Emily Reichenbach
Sally Reynolds and
 Hampton Smith
Linda Rosedahl
Kathryn Schlafge
Beverly Schulte
Kathy Schweikart
Seiler Family Foundation
Elizabeth Shipton
Bronwyn Skov
St. John's Episcopal Church,
 Mankato
Suzanne Steinhaer
Alex Stephenson
Jacqueline and John Sullivan
Barbara Swan and
 Paul Stephenson
Cynthia Swan and Robert Gage
Thomas and Katherine Swan
Jill Thompson
Mary Tingerthal and
 Conrad Soderholm
Lisa Westberg
Katie White and
 Nick Minderman
Margaret Wirth-Johnson
Kim Wiseman

Legacy Leaders



Sister Annette Relf SAF Sustainers' Circle

Sister Annette Relf founded Sheltering Arms in the late 1800's, and the Foundation we have today is her legacy. We have named our sustaining membership in her honor. You can become part of the Sustainers' Circle simply by making a monthly donation of any amount. This is now your legacy, too.

A special thank you to our Sustainers' Circle members for your continuous support!

Brittany Beach
Sue Bizal
Leslie Brunfelt
Merlynne and Patrick Byrne
Renee Campion
Cecily Cutshall
Barbara Dennis
Nancy Diener
Marisa Gage
Christabel Grant
Diane Grossman and
Dean Topliff
Joan Gudorf
Julia Gutz Moller
Wendy Johnson
Heidi Kim
Kay Kramer and
Sally Johnson
Phyllis Lehmborg
Katie Madsen

Denise Mayotte and
Warren Hanson
Maria Mitchell
Edward and Sarah Murray
Elizabeth Olson
Judy Parr
Tina Pfau Gonzales and
Victor Gonzales
Fiona and Ravi Pradhan
Emily Reichenbach
Bronwyn Skov
Suzanne Steinhauer
Barbara Swan and
Paul Stephenson
Cynthia Swan and
Robert Gage
Jill G Thompson
Lisa Westberg
Kim and Gregory Wiseman

Sheltering Arms Legacy Society

The names listed below represent those individuals who have designated The Sheltering Arms Foundation as a recipient of a charitable bequest in their estate planning. We thank you for your ongoing commitment to our mission.

Susan Dingle
Christabel Grant
Diane Grossman
Margo Herman
Jacqueline Sullivan
Denise Mayotte
Edie Meissner
Cynthia Swan
Jill Thompson
Joyce Walker

• With the generous support
• of these individuals,
• The Sheltering Arms
• Foundation is able to make
• a difference in the lives
• of children and families in
• the state of Minnesota. All
• gifts, regardless of size, are
• important to The Sheltering
• Arms Foundation and its
• future. We make every
• effort to ensure that
• each donor is properly
• recognized. Please let us
• know of any omission or
• corrections.



Donations in Memory

Peggy Larson and Marnie Lind
by Lucy Hogan

Marguerite Lundeen
by Gail Lundeen Brand

Dan Panshin
by Patricia Panshin

Donations in Honor

Amanda Campbell
by IMEG Corp.

Diane Grossman
by Anonymous
by Dean Topliff

Dave and Cara Holmberg
by Bill and Gail O'Keefe

Ifeyinwa Ikegwuani
by Malobi Achike
by Kasiemobi Achike
by Chigozie Achike

Barbara Swan
by Thomas and Katherine Swan

Cynthia Swan
by Carrie Hefte and James Hanton
by Thomas and Katherine Swan



Leaders

Donors of Time and Talents

2025-2026 Board of Trustees

President
Heidi Kim

President-elect
Catherine Cella

Secretary
Bronwyn Skov

Treasurer
Catherine Cella

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Sue Bizal
Nancy Diener
Susan Gillette
Ifeyinwa Ikegwuani
Katie Madsen
Elizabeth Olson
Emily Reichenbach
Suzanne Steinhauer
Cynthia Swan
Lisa Westberg

Staff
Diane Grossman,
Executive Director



FY 2026 Financials



Statement of Activities

Revenue

Investments, net	\$2,076,347
Contributions	\$50,114
Miscellaneous.....	\$9
Total Revenue and Support	\$2,126,470

Expenses

Program Expense (Grants Awards).....	\$633,400
Program Expense (Advocacy & Grants Mgmt) ...	\$156,663
Total Program Expenses	\$790,063

Management & General	\$138,470
Fundraising	\$6,525
Total Expenses	\$935,058

Change in net assets

Net increase in assets w/o donor restriction...	\$1,191,412
Net increase in assets w/ donor restriction.....	\$142,132
Total Change in net assets	\$1,333,544

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

Cash.....	\$113,672
Investments.....	\$15,961,498
Beneficial Trusts.....	\$1,828,881
Other Assets	\$6,410
Total Assets.....	\$17,910,461

Liabilities

Grant Commitments	\$586,500
Other Liabilities	\$3,699
Total Liabilities	\$590,199

Net Assets

Unrestricted Net Assets.....	\$15,491,381
Other	\$1,828,881
Total Net Assets	\$17,320,262

Total Liabilities & Net Assets..... \$17,910,461

Complete audited financial statements are available upon request from the Foundation office. Audit performed by Boyum Barendsheer.

