

## United Way of Southwest Minnesota Historical Small Grant Awards

*The Small Grants Program is an outreach of the Community Impact funding process. The available amount of grant dollars available each year is subject to change. One-time grants, up to \$5,000 can be awarded to projects/programs that align with UWSWMN's priority areas and are run by organizations who meet UWSWMN funding guidelines. Deadlines are August 31<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.*

### January 31, 2019 Grants:

**Grantee: Murray County Central Public Schools**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** MCC Backpack Program

**Purpose Statement:** Provide a meal when there might not otherwise be one.

**\$4,170 funding awarded to** help purchase food and baggies weekly for the backpack program to provide weekend meals for students in need at Murray County Central.

**Grantee: Westbrook-Walnut Grove Elementary School**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** Preventive Dental Care for Youth

**Purpose Statement:** Assist and encourage positive oral health behaviors in youth.

**\$4,877 funding awarded to** create a culture of awareness and importance around encouraging positive oral health behaviors for students at Westbrook-Walnut (WWG) Elementary. The requested funds will impact all 300 students at WWG and include age appropriate dental supplies, fluoride dental rinse every other week and oral health incentives.

### August 31, 2018 Grants:

**Grantee: Neighbors United Food Shelf**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** Personal Health Care Initiative

**Purpose Statement:** Neighbors United Resource Center hopes to provide personal hygiene items to families in need.

**\$4,658 funding awarded to** expand access to personal health care and hygiene items for individuals and families in need. They currently have an average of 156 families/440 individuals per month using the food shelf. With food being their priority they are currently able to provide a minimal amount of health care and hygiene items to our recipients. With an expansion of funds for this purpose, they would be able to add items like diapers and feminine hygiene products (not previously offered) in addition to expanding the minimal basic soaps and toilet paper they currently have.

**Grantee: Southwest Minnesota Opportunity Council (SMOC) Family Planning**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** Prenatal Vitamins & Folic Acid Education Initiative

**Purpose Statement:** To achieve a healthier start to life through preconception education; prenatal vitamins/educational materials.

**\$1,500 funding awarded for:** To be used to purchase preconception healthcare materials and prenatal vitamins with folic acid for one year.

United Way of Southwest Minnesota mission statement: Uniting people and resources to improve lives and strengthen communities in southwest Minnesota.

For a full information regarding Small Grant guidelines, funding requirements, priority areas, etc., please visit [UnitedWaySWMN.org/SG](http://UnitedWaySWMN.org/SG)



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## January 31, 2018 Grants:

**Grantee: Murray County Central Schools**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** Active Bodies Make Healthy Bodies

**Purpose Statement:** To enhance students physical education experience.

**\$3,000 funding awarded to** increase healthy behaviors and wellness through individualized physical activity goals for each student. Improvement in goal areas is having a direct correlation to student performance in the classroom. Grant funds would purchase priority equipment focused on different muscle groups to provide MCC youth with experiences to enjoy life long fitness. Equipment would also be able to be used by future students, community education, general community members and athletic teams.

**Grantee: Western Mental Health Center**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** Understanding Self and Others: DBT Adolescent Skills Group

**Purpose Statement:** To increase healthy behaviors and improve emotional health of adolescents.

**\$5,000 funding awarded to** pilot a summer Dialectical Behavioral Therapy skills group for adolescents (and their parents) with emotional and behavioral problems that are in need of extra services to assist them with getting along with others and regulating their emotions. The group will focus skills related to Interpersonal Effectiveness, Distress Tolerance, Mindfulness and Emotional Regulation and managing the risks of suicide.

**Grantee: Healthy56258**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** 2018-19 Health Core VISTA

**Purpose Statement:** Bridge campus and community efforts around mental health and nutrition.

**\$2,500 funding awarded to** support a VISTA (Volunteer in Service to America) position for 2018-19. This campus and community partnership will bridge community and institutional efforts around nutrition and mental health and assist in carrying out the SMSU Civic Action Plan. The two focal points of the position are Nutrition Network (healthy education and hunger alleviation) and Mental Health (health education; inclusive environment).

## August 31, 2017 Grants:

**Grantee: Greater Minnesota Family Services**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** Making Space for Mindfulness

**Purpose Statement:** Creating safe space for emotional management and refocus at MATEC

**\$1,500 funding awarded for:** Direct support in building a safe space for students to refocus their emotions and behaviors at school so they can then return to the classroom with more emotional stability and focus. Some students may need a place to calm their minds and body. Others may need a place to journal or draw about their anger. Some may be tearful, others angry or anxious. Having emotional blow ups in the classroom often leads to suspension, fear or worry in other students, and triggers trauma responses in multiple students which makes the direct learning environment disrupted. **RESTRICTIONS:** UWSWMN funding is to solely be used for supplies, mental health resources and materials only.

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**Grantee: Karen Organization of Minnesota**

**Priority Area:** Financial Stability

**Project Title:** Pathways to a Healthy Life

**Purpose Statement:** To assist the Marshall Karen community to make healthy decisions.

**\$2,600 funding awarded to** enable the Marshall office of KOM to schedule a series of meetings during the next nine (September, 2017-May, 2018) months. These meetings will serve the Karen population by educating them in ways to make better life decisions and healthier choices in food purchases and preparation, medical care, financial decisions, family care and promote physical fitness. At each meeting, a presenter from a local business, organization or non-profit will present salient information to the assembly. **RESTRICTIONS:** Funding from UWSWMN should solely be used for space rental costs, personnel, supplies, printing, etc. for sessions focused on financial literacy//stability efforts/programming. Funding from UWSWMN CANNOT be used to make a church contribution for space. Panel suggests other locations, another funding source or in-kind for that piece of the proposal.

**Grantee: Granite Falls Senior Advocacy Program**

**Priority Area:** Health

**Project Title:** Heart2Heart Memory Cafe

**Purpose Statement:** A safe place for individuals with memory loss and their caregiver

**\$1,000 funding awarded to** support the Heart2Heart Memory Café program. Our program unites people facing Alzheimers, Dementia and other memory concerns – both client and caregiver. Funds would support programming, equipment and supplies needed to facilitate the program.

**Grantee: Child Care & Nutrition, Inc**

**Priority Area:** Hunger

**Project Title:** Weekend Winners Backpack Program

**Purpose Statement:** Serve children food to take home on weekends during the school year.

**\$5,000 funding awarded for:** The Weekend Winners Backpack Program. The funds we are requesting from United Way will be used to purchase the food that is distributed to the children weekly in the Lincoln County schools of Lake Benton, Ivanhoe and Hendricks.

**Grantee: Marshall Food4Kids**

**Priority Area:** Hunger

**Project Title:** Marshall Food4Kids

**Purpose Statement:** Provide support by supplying nutritious snacks to hungry children.

**\$3,800 funding awarded for** the costs associated with: 501c3 application fees, finance personnel, software and professional fees only.

**Grantee: Neighbors United Resource Center Food Shelf**

**Priority Area:** Hunger

**Project Title:** Cooler needed for Neighbor's United Food Shelf

**Purpose Statement:** The food shelf needs funds to purchase a cooler for food storage.

**\$5,000 funding awarded to** purchase a new cooler to replace one which was previously donated to us and now does not work. It is too costly to repair. The cooler will assist us in food storage and ease distribution to families in need. It will be used to cool and store perishable food, ie. milk, eggs, butter, dairy, etc.

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**Grantee: WoMen's Rural Advocacy Programs, Inc. (WRAP)**

**Priority Area:** Safety and Well Being

**Project Title:** WRAP Marketing Outreach and Update

**Purpose Statement:** To advance the agency's mission, brand and message to the local communities

**\$2,500 funding awarded to** address the following key areas:

- 1) Updating of the [www.letswrap.com](http://www.letswrap.com) website to a more user friendly and esthetically pleasant platform that is compatible with mobile devices and tablets.
- 2) Updating WRAP's printed materials that are distributed to those receiving services to include materials, printed in both English and Spanish, with an abundance of information about domestic violence, how they can help themselves to remain safe and where to find local resources available to them.

**RESTRICTIONS:** UWSWMN grant funds are to be used for the following: \$1500 for the remainder of website costs and \$1000 to get them started on the update of needed printed materials.

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