



otto **SCHOITZ**  
**FOUNDATION**

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## Spring 2021 Grant Recipients

Details of the Foundation’s Spring 2021 awards include:

24/7 Black Leadership Advancement	\$50,000
Black Hawk County Health Department	\$50,000
Cedar Falls Schools Foundation	\$5,625
Cedar Valley Bicycle Collective	\$10,000
Cedar Valley Preschool and Child Care Center	\$10,000
Exceptional Persons, Inc.	\$15,000
Family & Children’s Council of Black Hawk County	\$45,000
Friends of the Family	\$893,000
Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois	\$20,000
Grin and Grow Ltd.	\$80,000
Hawkeye Community College Foundation	\$500,000
Inclusion Connection	\$15,000
Iowa Legal Aid	\$40,000
Lutheran Services in Iowa	\$10,000
National Alliance on Mental Illness of Black Hawk County	\$3,000
North End Cultural Center, Inc.	\$15,120
One City United	\$50,000
Riverview Center	\$9,475
SHIPHT Youth Opportunity Accelerator	\$20,000
SuccessLink	\$180,000
The Job Foundation	\$25,000
Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony	\$9,250
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,055,470</b>

**24/7 Black Leadership Advancement Consortium** will receive \$50,000 for the Black Business & Entrepreneurship Accelerator, a collaborative program supporting entrepreneurs and Black-owned businesses in ways that grow the local economy, reduce inequities and foster job creation.

**Black Hawk County Health Department** will receive \$50,000 to expand their Community Health Worker program to include culturally responsive COVID-19 vaccine education and mental health support for refugee, immigrant, and Black/African American communities with a history of distrust in the healthcare system.

**Cedar Falls Schools Foundation** was awarded \$5,625 for connect>CF, a program designed to address the homework gap by providing affordable at-home connectivity and internet access for students from income eligible households.

**Cedar Valley Bicycle Collective** will receive \$10,000 to increase bicycle education and safety, impact the environment through bicycle reuse and recycling, give individuals access to affordable transportation and bicycle maintenance skills and increase Waterloo's presence as a "bike friendly" community.

**Cedar Valley Preschool and Child Care Center** was awarded \$10,000 in operational support for their mission of supporting the social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth and development of each child, with no limit on enrollment for families receiving state childcare assistance.

**EPI | Exceptional Persons, Inc.** was awarded \$15,000 for the employment service continuum to help persons with disabilities find employment in the general workforce by providing job training, resume building, job interview preparation and support to on-board and maintain employment in the community.

**Family & Children’s Council of Black Hawk County** will receive \$45,000 to continue providing parent education using evidence informed curriculum and assessments to better support parents and caregivers and decrease adverse childhood experiences.

**Friends of the Family** will receive \$893,000 over a three year-period to develop, staff, and lead a collective team of support agencies to systemically address homelessness in Black Hawk County through safe and stable housing as well as support services.

**Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois** was awarded \$20,000 to eliminate barriers to participation for at-risk girls so that more can access the Girl Scouts Outreach Program and learn the skills to empower them as growing leaders.

**Grin and Grow Ltd.** will receive \$80,000 to provide childcare services for primarily low income families; thereby enabling parents to obtain or maintain employment and achieve greater financial stability.

**Hawkeye Community College Foundation** was awarded \$500,000 towards the renovation of Grundy Hall into a state-of-the-art Health Services facility which will expand training capacities, improve student educational outcomes, and help meet the urgent need for healthcare workers.

**Inclusion Connection** will receive \$15,000 for their Inclusive Employment Services which support individuals with diverse abilities to gain employment, successfully complete training and retain the job long term.

**Iowa Legal Aid** was awarded \$40,000 for the Parent Representative Project, a project that provides direct assistance and supportive services to low-income custodial parents who are at risk of being involved, or are already involved, in the juvenile court system, with the goal of keeping children in a stable family setting.

**LSI | Lutheran Services in Iowa** will receive \$10,000 for Healthy Families America-HOPES in Black Hawk County, a program that provides evidence-based prevention services to at-risk parents of children ages 0-5 in Black Hawk County and works to reduce abuse and promote healthy, safe and self-sufficient families.

**NAMI | National Alliance on Mental Illness of Black Hawk County** was awarded \$3,000 to continue providing free programs and services for people struggling with mental illness and mental health. Programs, along with advocacy and education, impact all including family, friends, professional providers, and the public.

**North End Cultural Center, Inc.** will receive \$15,120 for the Hip Hop Summer Literacy Program, a summer literacy program utilizing the medium of hip hop poetry and music to teach literacy skills and build self-confidence and educational engagement for students ages 10-15.

**One City United** was awarded \$50,000 to continue growing the Momentum program, an employment readiness program that helps individuals overcome multiple barriers through life skills workshops, employment training and placement assistance.

**Riverview Center** was awarded \$9,475 to continue providing important services for survivors of sexual assault including 24/7 access to in-person crisis response and certified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners at all Waterloo/Cedar Falls hospitals and the Child Protection Center.

**SHIPHT Youth Opportunity Accelerator** was awarded \$20,000 for SHIPHT, a program that intentionally engages youth of color in career, technical and entrepreneurship opportunities in partnership with Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the University of Northern Iowa John Pappajohn

Entrepreneurship Center.

**SuccessLink** will receive \$180,000 for Success Street, a program ensuring students have access to a comprehensive array of services including mental health, substance abuse, adolescent sexual health, and overall health directly within the school district to ensure access for low resource teens.

**The Job Foundation** was awarded \$25,000 to continue working with youth on financial education, stewardship training, academic achievement and attainment of other key resources to increase financial stability and reduce the risk of financial disadvantage.

**Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony** was awarded \$9,250 to support free performances at My Waterloo Days and the new Waterloo Neighborhood Outreach series which will include outdoor performances held in Waterloo neighborhoods throughout the summer.

## Fall 2020 Grant Recipients

Catholic Charities	\$50,000
Cedar Valley Angels	\$35,000
Communities in Schools of Mid-America	\$10,000
EMBARC	\$67,000
Eye of the Needle	\$25,000
Family YMCA	\$60,000
Friends of the Family	\$45,000
iJAG	\$20,000
Jesse Cosby Neighborhood Ctr	\$100,000
Love Inc.	\$10,000
North Star Community Services	\$15,000
Northeast Iowa Food Bank	\$50,000
Operation Threshold	\$50,000
Riverview Center	\$33,865
SuccessLink	\$20,000
Waterloo Schools Foundation	\$100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$690,865</b>

Details of the Foundation’s Fall 2020 awards include:

**Catholic Charities** will receive \$50,000 for Operation Help, a program designed to coordinate with other agencies to best meet the service gaps for those economically impacted by COVID-19.

**Cedar Valley Angels** was awarded \$35,000 to continue supporting children in foster care and their foster families through positive caring relationships as well as material supports, an area of need that has grown during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Communities in Schools of Mid-America** was awarded \$10,000 to continue their work at George Washington Carver Academy and Central Middle School connecting at-risk

students with community resources to overcome barriers and stay in school.

**EMBARC | Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center** will receive \$67,000 to engage youth from the refugee and immigrant community in becoming Youth Navigators. These Navigators will help families with digital literacy, online learning, and access to basic resources.

**Eye of the Needle** was awarded \$25,000 to provide emergency relief to those experiencing economic challenges or other serious hardships in their lives by providing emergency relief ranging from food and transportation assistance to work attire and school uniforms.

**Family YMCA of Black Hawk County** will receive \$60,000 to support operations and their ability to respond rapidly and effectively to the growing childcare needs resulting from the COVID-19 crisis.

**Friends of the Family** was awarded \$45,000 to support survivors of violence from experiencing homelessness and/or help shorten the time spent in homelessness by providing rapid rental and utility assistance.

**iJAG | Iowa Jobs for America’s Graduates** will receive \$20,000 to support underserved students through daily tutoring, counseling, and mentoring as they progress towards graduation as well as career and post-secondary planning.

**Jesse Cosby Neighborhood Center** will receive \$100,000 to increase staff capacity and provide essential assistance to families in need of safe and stable housing during the COVID-19 crisis.

**Love INC of the Cedar Valley** was awarded \$10,000 to help individuals in need of medical supplies, eyeglasses, and transportation to medical appointments as well as provide support with utilities and other essential needs.

**North Star Community Services** was awarded \$15,000 for technology and equipment updates that will allow them to better serve their clients through virtual means during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

**Northeast Iowa Food Bank** was awarded \$50,000 to help meet the growing meal gap and need for nutritious food for households in Black Hawk County that have been negatively impacted by the current public health crisis and subsequent economic downturn.

**Operation Threshold** was awarded \$50,000 to provide more in-depth assistance, case management or home visitation programming to help struggling households identify, prioritize, and access needed services.

**Riverview Center** was awarded \$33,865 to continue providing important services for survivors of sexual or domestic violence including 24/7 in-person crisis response and intervention at police stations and emergency rooms as well as ongoing advocacy, therapy, and gap assistance for basic needs.

**SuccessLink** was awarded \$20,000 for the Young Parents Together program, a program that supports teen parents experiencing food insecurity, barriers to transportation, mental health concerns and a lack of prenatal and parenting education and support.

**Waterloo Schools Foundation** was awarded \$100,000 to support the increased needs of students and teachers during this time, through adequate technology, social-emotional support and classroom supplies needed to ensure a safe learning environment for all.

## Spring 2020 Grant Recipients

Americans for Independent Living	\$5,400
Cedar Trails Partnership	\$20,000
Cedar Valley Bicycle Collective	\$10,000
Cedar Valley Hospice	\$200,000
EPI	\$15,000
Grin & Grow	\$80,000
Iowa Legal Aid	\$40,000
Junior League	\$6,000
North Star	\$100,000
One City United	\$30,000
Social Action Inc	\$22,100
SuccessLink	\$35,000
The Job Foundation	\$25,000
Waterloo Housing Trust Fund	\$20,000
Waterloo Writing Project	\$20,000
Winnebago Council Boy Scouts	\$10,000
Youth Art Team	\$30,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$668,500</b>

Details include:

**Americans for Independent Living** will receive \$5,400 for the “Furniture for Veterans” program. This program provides support to formerly homeless veterans who need basic home necessities.

**Cedar Trails Partnership** will receive \$20,000 for reconstruction of 1.5 miles of the Cedar Valley Lake Trail, ultimately reopening and improving this popular trail connection between Waterloo and Cedar Falls.

**Cedar Valley Bicycle Collective** was awarded \$10,000 to increase bicycle education, awareness, safety, recycling, and reuse, including through community-based programs such as Earn-A-Bike which allows individuals access to affordable transportation while also learning bicycle maintenance skills.

**Cedar Valley Hospice** was awarded \$200,000 towards construction of a new office building, providing the infrastructure to carry out hospice and palliative care services as well as extensive grief services and HIV/AIDS case management.

**EPI | Exceptional Persons, Inc.** will receive \$15,000 for the employment service continuum to help persons with disabilities find employment in the general workforce by providing job training, resume building, job interview preparation and support to on-board and maintain employment in the community.

**Grin and Grow Ltd.** was awarded \$80,000 to provide childcare services for primarily low income families; thereby enabling parents to obtain or maintain employment and achieve greater financial stability.

**Iowa Legal Aid** will receive \$40,000 to grow the Parent Representative Project, a project that provides direct assistance and supportive services to low-income custodial parents who are at risk of being involved or are already involved in the juvenile court system through a Child in Need of Assistance (CINA) proceeding.

**Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls** will receive \$6,000 to support League's Lockers, a project providing uniforms, school supplies and basic hygienic items in a discrete and respectful manner to local high school students who may not otherwise have access.

**North Star Community Services** will receive up to \$100,000 to complete repairs on their aging roof and continue the rehabilitative services that help individuals with disabilities live enriched, meaningful,

productive and independent lives in our communities.

**One City United** was awarded \$30,000 to launch an employment readiness program that helps individuals overcome multiple barriers through life skills workshops, employment training and placement assistance.

**Social Action Inc.** will receive \$22,100 for youth empowerment & employment programming to teach participants pertinent social and life skills. Youth involved will gain valuable lessons, such as money management and time management, equipping them with a positive work ethic and attitude of pride that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.

**SuccessLink** will receive \$35,000 to advance coordination of Success Street, a program ensuring students have access to a comprehensive array of services including mental health, substance abuse, adolescent sexual health and overall health directly within the school district.

**The Job Foundation** was awarded \$25,000 to continue working with youth on financial education, stewardship training, academic achievement and attainment of other key resources to increase financial stability and reduce the risk of financial disadvantage.

**Waterloo Housing Trust Fund** will receive \$20,000 to support affordable housing in Waterloo serving low to low-moderate income populations by focusing on emergency shelter, transitional housing, owner-occupied home repairs, and housing rehabilitation for accessibility.

**Waterloo Writing Project** will receive \$20,000 to continue serving as a creative sanctuary by providing program support, leadership development, and novel opportunities that build resiliency and communication capacity for youth.

**Winnebago Council/Boy Scouts of America** was awarded \$10,000 for the Multicultural Outreach program helping to remove barriers to success for coed at-risk youth while introducing them to Scouting activities and values.

**Youth Art Team** was awarded \$30,000 to grow programming that provides arts experiences and leadership opportunities for young artists in the Cedar Valley. The Youth Art Team model transforms minds and inspires changes in behavior among the artists and those who view their work.

## Fall 2019 Grant Recipients

Project details include:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa	\$36,400
Black Hawk County Health Department	\$83,500
Black Hawk Soil and Water Conservation District	\$5,000
Catholic Charities	\$20,000
Cedar Valley Angels	\$10,000
Cedar Valley Hospice	\$10,000
Community in Schools of Mid-America	\$10,000
EMBARC   Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center	\$89,750
Family & Children’s Council of Black Hawk County	\$45,000
Friends of the Family	\$48,000
Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa	\$20,000
Hawkeye Community College	\$50,000
I HOPE Chapter of AMBUCS	\$5,000
Inclusion Connection	\$15,000
iJAG   Iowa Jobs for America’s Graduates	\$15,000
Jesse Cosby Neighborhood Center	\$85,000
MercyOne Waterloo	\$33,750
North Star Community Service	\$40,000
Northeast Iowa Food Bank	\$40,000
Operation Threshold	\$15,000
Riverview Center	\$43,990
Small World Preschool	\$9,900
Tri-County Child and Family Development Council	\$46,000
Trinity Preschool and Childcare	\$17,000
University of Northern Iowa	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$803,290</b>

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa** received \$36,400 to support their work of matching youth who are facing adversity with volunteers for a successful one-on-one school or community mentor relationship.

**Black Hawk County Health Department** received \$83,500 to develop an integrated, immigrant-centered service model to meet the healthcare and employment needs of the African immigrant community.

**Black Hawk Soil and Water Conservation District** was awarded \$5,000 to support Cedar Valley EnviroFest, a learning event where all fifth-grade students from Waterloo Community Schools learn about the importance of caring for our water, soil, wildlife and other environmental resources.

**Catholic Charities** was awarded \$20,000 to provide immigration legal services in the form of free legal consultations and affordable legal services supporting the immigrant community in the Cedar Valley.

**Cedar Valley Angels** received \$10,000 for the Love Box Program, a program that supports children in foster care by providing holistic

support to the entire foster family.

**Cedar Valley Hospice** was awarded \$10,000 to support the Eucalyptus Tree Children’s Grief Program with new koala mascots that visit children and offer friendship, hugs and communication support between children and adults on topics that are often difficult to address.

**Community in Schools of Mid-America** was awarded \$10,000 to continue connecting at-risk students to specific resources to overcome barriers, stay in school and ultimately graduate.

**EMBARC | Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center** received \$89,750 to address social determinants of health for the immigrant and refugee community through collaborative interventions that include better chronic condition self-management, culturally responsive care from providers and increased employment opportunities.

**Family & Children’s Council of Black Hawk County** was awarded \$45,000 to continue providing parent

education using evidence informed curriculum and assessments to better support parents and caregivers and decrease adverse childhood experiences.

**Friends of the Family** was awarded \$48,000 to provide critical advocacy services for survivors of labor and sex trafficking as well as education and training to area businesses and community groups to better identify and report suspected human trafficking.

**Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa** received \$20,000 to eliminate barriers to participation for at-risk girls so that more can access the Character & Leadership Development Program and learn the skills to empower them as growing leaders.

**Hawkeye Community College** was awarded \$50,000 to launch WE Build Waterloo, a program designed to provide at-risk young people with education and vocational skill development to obtain employment in the construction field.

**I HOPE Chapter of AMBUCS** received \$5,000 to provide Amtrykes to local organizations serving adults with disabilities. Amtrykes are custom bicycles specially made to increase independence and physical activity for people with unique mobility needs.

**Inclusion Connection** was awarded \$15,000 for their Innovation Employment Services which support individuals with diverse abilities to gain employment, successfully complete training and retain the job long term.

**iJAG | Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates** was awarded \$15,000 to assist Waterloo students facing multiple barriers to graduate from high school and transition to continued education and careers through provision of counseling, mentoring, tutoring, career exploration and post-secondary planning.

**Jesse Cosby Neighborhood Center** received \$85,000 for much needed repairs to the Neighborhood Center and to support their core mission of keeping and enhancing the quality of life for neighborhood families through stewardship of resources and shared responsibility.

**MercyOne Waterloo** received \$33,750 to continue their Inpatient Rehabilitation Transportation Service with a new passenger bus, allowing long-term rehabilitation patients to pursue individual reintegration plans for their lives outside of the hospital.

**North Star Community Services** received \$40,000 to repair an aging roof and continue the rehabilitative services that help individuals with disabilities live enriched, meaningful, productive and independent lives in our communities.

**Northeast Iowa Food Bank** was awarded \$40,000 to meet the needs of senior citizens living with food insecurity. Over 1,900 seniors will receive assistance through their Elderly Nutrition Program and the Produce & Perishable Program.

**Operation Threshold** received \$15,000 to continue supporting healthy early childhood development through Home Based Parent Education that promotes awareness, positive parenting skills and healthy family functioning.

**Riverview Center** was awarded \$43,990 to increase support for sexual assault survivors by launching a

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program coordinated in partnership with area hospitals.

**Small World Preschool** received \$9,900 for capital improvements to the outdoor play area including the replacement of the playground surface and installation of new play equipment.

**Tri-County Child and Family Development Council** was awarded \$46,000 for essential kitchen improvements to the Maywood Head Start Center which serves nearly 150 children.

**Trinity Preschool and Childcare** received \$17,000 to increase safety for their youth by installing new fall-safe material on both their preschool and toddler playgrounds.

**University of Northern Iowa** was awarded \$10,000 to expand the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center's Kaleidoscope Series to all Waterloo elementary students, pre-kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> grade, for the 2019-2020 Season.

## Spring 2019 Grant Recipients

Cedar Valley Bicycle Collective	\$10,000
City of Waterloo/Leisure Services	\$100,000
City of Waterloo/Comm. Development	\$30,000
Exceptional Persons, Inc.	\$15,000
Family Management Financial Solutions	\$5,000
Friendship Village Foundation	\$150,000
FFA/BH County 4H	\$10,000
George Wyth State Park	\$15,000
Grin & Grow	\$75,000
House of Hope	\$27,000
Junior Achievement	\$10,000
KBBG-FM	\$25,000
Leader Valley Foundation	\$130,000
Love INC.	\$3,500
NAMI	\$3,000
Operation Threshold	\$45,000
QUOTA	\$5,000
Social Action, Inc.	\$52,936
Sunrise Children's Zoo	\$36,120
The Job Foundation	\$25,000
Waterloo Community Playhouse/BHCT	\$10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$782,556</b>

Project details include:

**Cedar Valley Bicycle Collective** received \$10,000 to increase bicycle education, awareness, safety, recycling, and reuse. The Collective also manages community-based programs such as Earn A Bike, allowing individuals access to affordable transportation while also learning bicycle maintenance skills.

**City of Waterloo/Leisure Services** received \$100,000 to enhance recreational options for youth by constructing a skatepark out of the floodway for greater longevity. Park design is being co-created with the Cedarloo Skateboard Association to accommodate skateboards, bikes, and sport wheelchairs.

**City of Waterloo/Community Development** was awarded \$30,000 for the Emergency Home Repair Program seeking to mitigate serious health and safety concerns by providing low-income households with rapid financial assistance for electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling, and roof related problems.

**Exceptional Persons, Inc.** received \$15,000 for the employment service continuum to help persons with disabilities find employment in the general workforce by providing job training, resume building, job interview preparation and support to on-board and maintain employment in the community.

**Family Management Financial Solutions, Inc.** was awarded \$5,000 to provide tools and resources – including payee services, credit counseling, mortgage foreclosure mediation, housing counseling, and more - to increase the financial stability of vulnerable individuals.

**Friendship Village Foundation** received \$150,000 to establish a new childcare center serving staff and the wider community. Childcare will be available for all shifts – 24/7. Services will include a sick-care option and the center will provide intergenerational programming with senior residents. Additionally, the center will offer childcare scholarships based on financial need to both employees and families within the community.

**Future Farmers of America Foundation & Black Hawk County 4-H** received \$10,000 to promote positive youth development through experiential learning; funds will go towards the development of a pole building and repairs to the current milking parlor.

**George Wyth State Park** was awarded \$15,000 to purchase a new floating dock and the shoreline work necessary for installation. The new dock, accessible for all ages and abilities, is estimated to serve nearly 50,000 visitors annually.

**Grin and Grow** received \$75,000 to provide childcare services for primarily low income families; thereby enabling parents to obtain or maintain employment and achieve greater financial stability.

**House of Hope** received \$27,000 to launch “Boost,” a job readiness and internship program for single mothers looking to reenter the workforce. Programming will be offered to women living in the organization’s transitional housing as well as other women who have been referred to House of Hope.

**Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa** received \$10,000 for financial literacy programming, whereby students learn from adult role models about foundational personal finance and work readiness skills.

**KBBG-FM/Afro American Community Broadcasting, Inc.** was awarded \$25,000 to support a youth-led radio program as a part of a larger vision of KBBG as a Community Learning Center. Elementary school students will read books, news, and other items live on air while older students learn about production.

**Leader Valley Foundation** was awarded \$130,000 to grow Leader in Me, a program that seeks to equip all students with leadership and life-readiness skills by positively impacting leadership culture.

**Love Inc of the Cedar Valley** was awarded \$3,500 for “Bridging the Medical Gap,” a project which provides medical equipment/supplies and medically-related transportation for the uninsured and under-insured, helping to improve the health and wellbeing of the individual while preventing further medical crises.

**National Alliance of Mental Illness of Black Hawk County** received \$3,000 to continue providing free programs and services for people struggling with mental illness and mental health. Programs, along with advocacy and education, impact all including family, friends, professional providers, and the public.

**Operation Threshold, Inc.** was awarded \$45,000 to support summer programming for Cedar Valley Readers, working to close the achievement gap, reduce high school dropout rates, and end inter-generational poverty by providing literacy support and resources before the end of third grade.

**Quota International of Waterloo** received \$5,000 for “Cops ‘n’ Kids Literacy Project”, promoting literacy through partnership with law enforcement officials in the classroom, at summer free lunch sites and from the officers' squad cars to distribute free books to over 6,000 students on an annual basis.

**Social Action, Inc.** was awarded \$52,936 to grow the “Back to Basics Youth Empowerment Program”; a series of community-based programming focused on involving African American youth in community gardening, healthy recreational activities, and youth employment.

**Sunrise Children’s Zoo, Inc.** received \$36,120 for capital improvements to the animal shed, barn, administrative building, and shade landscaping to continue offering a free opportunity for youth and families to see, learn about and interact with farm animals.

**The Job Foundation** was awarded \$25,000 to continue working with youth on financial education, stewardship training, academic achievement and attainment of other key resources to increase financial stability and reduce the risk of financial disadvantage.

**Waterloo Community Playhouse/Black Hawk Children’s Theatre** received \$10,000 to provide affordable theater performances and guided reflections for Grades 1-8 in the Waterloo Community School District with the aim of sparking curiosity and engaging students in literature through performance.

## Fall 2018 Grant Recipients

Fall 2018 Grant Recipients	
Amani Community Services	\$32,750
Black Hawk County Health Dept	\$51,000
City of Waterloo/Leisure Services	\$200,000
Covenant Foundation	\$86,000
EMBARC	\$59,250
Family YMCA	\$100,000
Grout Museum	\$30,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$50,000
Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates	\$15,000
Iowa Legal Aid	\$20,000
Jesse Cosby Center	\$45,000
North Star Community Services	\$10,000
Pathways Behavioral Services	\$22,500
SuccessLink	\$20,000
The Salvation Army	\$50,000
Tri-County Child & Family Develop.	\$99,000
Waterloo Writing Project	\$15,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$905,500</b>

Project details include:

**Amani Community Services** received \$32,750 to provide trauma groups for Amani clients with childhood trauma and health risk behaviors who will be referred to the groups and to smoking cessation programs and/or substance abuse treatment agencies.

**Black Hawk County Health Department** was awarded \$51,000 for its project Bridging the Gap: Removing Barriers to Health Equity. Black Hawk County Health Department will commission a needs assessment and do an asset mapping of the Liberian and Congolese communities. Community Health Workers will receive culturally specific training to improve the health of these newcomers.

**City of Waterloo/Leisure Services** was granted \$200,000 to make major improvements to the aesthetics and functionality of Lincoln Park. New lighting, walkways, seating, signage, interactive features, wiring, and plumbing will be completed.

**Covenant Foundation** received \$86,000 for the Covenant Medical Center Care-A-Van program, offering free and safe transportation to and from the health facilities to all patients in need of transportation.

**EMBARC | Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center** was granted \$59,250 for Project REACH | Refugee Empowered Access to Community Health. REACH, an interpretation and community health worker social enterprise, bridges the gap in healthcare services for refugees by increasing access to linguistic and culturally appropriate healthcare services and information in Waterloo.

**Family YMCA of Black Hawk County** was awarded \$100,000 for Project EXPAND (Expanding Physical Activity and New Dimensions). The purpose of Project EXPAND is to provide greater support and education to people with disabilities to support their pursuit of a healthy lifestyle. The programming will build health literacy and fitness for both individuals and their caretakers.

**Grout Museum District** received \$30,000 for the Youth Maker Exhibit Build, a collaborative project that strengthens adult/child mentorships, promotes volunteerism, inspires the study of the sciences, generates an interest in building and trades and creates a new exhibit for the Imaginarium.

**Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity** was granted \$50,000 to serve 15 families through the affordable homeownership and critical home repair programs, specifically in two target Waterloo neighborhoods for revitalization projects.

**Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates** received \$15,000 for its programming to help students facing

significant life challenges to overcome obstacles to success, graduate from high school and pursue post-secondary education, training or employment which leads to a living-wage job and economic self-sufficiency.

**Iowa Legal Aid** was awarded \$20,000 for the Parent Representative Project, which provides direct assistance and supportive services to low-income custodial parents who are at risk of entering the juvenile court system through, or already have children involved in, a Child in Need of Assistance.

**Jesse Cosby Center** was granted \$45,000 for its programming No One With Out A Home (NOWOAH) and Youth Empowerment Services (Y.E.S.). NOWOAH is a self-sufficiency program designed to serve 100 individuals and families; and Y.E.S. is an employment readiness program designed to service 75 to 100 youth in Black Hawk County.

**North Star Community Services, Inc.** was awarded \$10,000 for its Inclusion Through Theater project, bringing together people with disabilities and community peers to create quality musical theater, and celebrating diversity and the impact of arts on the wellbeing of the community and people with a wide range of ability.

**Pathways Behavioral Services, Inc.** purchased Naloxone kits and trained first responders and community members to use these kits to stop opioid overdose with its award of \$22,500.

**SuccessLink** was granted \$20,000 to promote its Success Street operations, connecting students to health related services directly within the school they attend.

**The Salvation Army of Waterloo/Cedar Falls** received \$50,000 for its Emergency Housing Services. The Salvation Army provides shelter and care management to those facing the crisis of homelessness with the goal of addressing the physical, emotional, and mental health needs of residents, helping them return to sustainable and secure housing.

**Tri-County Child and Family Development Council, Inc.** upgraded the playground infrastructures at two child development centers, Maywood and Lily, with its award of \$99,000. Tri-County serves 890 children and their families within its Head and Early Head Start programs. Over 190 children from birth (two weeks old) to age four are provided for at the Lily Ferguson and Maywood centers.

**Waterloo Writing Project** was awarded \$15,000 to increase its capacity to serve as a creative sanctuary by providing program support, leadership development, and novel opportunities to youth. Waterloo Writing Project is focused on building the resiliency and communication capacity of the youth.

## Spring 2018 Grant Recipients

Covenant Foundation	\$123,500
Diamonds and Fields	\$50,000
Exceptional Persons, Inc.	\$10,000
Family & Children's Council	\$30,000
House of Hope	\$100,000
Inclusion Connection	\$18,000
Junior Achievement	\$15,000
Love, Inc.	\$3,500
Lutheran Services in Iowa	\$10,000
North End Cultural Center	\$10,000
Northeast Iowa Food Bank	\$35,000
The Job Foundation	\$25,000
Waterloo Housing Trust Fund	\$20,000
Waterloo Schools Foundation	\$300,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$750,000</b>

Project details include:

Covenant Foundation was granted \$123,500 for its project "Taking Care of Your Family from the Beginning." The Otto Schoitz Foundation grant will help fund nine additional monitors and carts to equip all 19 labor rooms in the Family Birth Center with fetal monitor technology.

Diamonds and Fields was awarded \$50,000 for the All Play Ballpark located in Parkersburg – where all kids, no matter of ability or disability, play ball at the same complex.

Exceptional Persons, Inc. received \$10,000 for its employment service continuum to find persons with disabilities employment in the general workforce by providing job training, resume building, job interview preparation, and support to onboard and maintain a community job.

Family & Children's Council of Black Hawk County was granted \$30,000 for its programming designed to increase nurturing parenting techniques, provide formal social support, and create awareness of community resources and supports that can strengthen the family and aid in the prevention of child abuse.

House of Hope will expand its mission of providing homeless, single moms with transitional housing and individualized support to assist them achieve self-sufficiency with an award of \$100,000 from the Foundation.

Inclusion Connection received \$18,000 for its Inclusive Communication Services, the goal of which is to create a communication services department to provide Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) services especially supported typing that are not currently available in the Cedar Valley. AAC services will be available to individuals who have a communication disorder, including those diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder.

Junior Achievement of Eastern Iowa was awarded \$15,000 for its financial literacy programming, whereby students learn from adult role models about the foundational personal finance and work readiness skills needed to succeed. They also learn how education, career choice and finances are connected.

Love INC of the Cedar Valley was awarded \$3,500 for its project Bridging the Medical Gap, which provides medical equipment/supplies and medically-related transportation to vulnerable people, helping prevent worse health crises and improving the health and wellbeing of the client, their family, and the community.

Lutheran Services in Iowa was granted \$10,000 for Healthy Families America-HOPES in Black Hawk County. LSI's HOPES program provides evidence-based prevention services to at-risk parents of children ages 0-5 in Black Hawk County. The program works to reduce abuse and promote healthy, safe and self-sufficient families.

North End Cultural Center, Inc. received \$10,000 for the Hip Hop Summer Literacy Program, an eight-week summer literacy program utilizing the medium of hip hop poetry and music to teach literacy skills and build self-confidence and educational engagement.

Northeast Iowa Food Bank was awarded \$35,000 for the Black Hawk County Elderly Nutrition Program. The Elderly Nutrition Program offers elderly and homebound seniors supplemental food assistance through senior congregate meal sites and a partnership with the Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging.

The Job Foundation was awarded \$25,000 for its Financial Stewardship Mentoring Program, which teaches Cedar Valley K-12 students essential financial and leadership knowledge, skills, and tools to help them attain financial stability in adulthood. The Job Foundation works together in community to elevate the financial position of all children.

Waterloo Housing Trust Fund was given \$20,000 for its work in supporting affordable housing in Waterloo that serves low to low-moderate income population by focusing on three activities: funding shelters, owner-occupied home repairs, and housing rehabilitation for accessibility.

The Waterloo Schools Foundation received \$300,000 for Middle School Career and Technical Education (CTE) Exploration. This grant will be used to create a new, comprehensively-aligned exploratory program which expands CTE offerings to middle school students, directly aligned to enhance the 17 programs offered at the high school level.

## Fall 2017 Grant Recipients

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa	\$36,000
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Cedar Valley	\$1,000,000
House of Hope	\$200,000
Covenant Medical Center	\$250,000
EMBARC	\$30,000
Grin and Grow Ltd	\$10,000
Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity	\$25,000
Iowa Legal Aid	\$20,000
Junior League of Waterloo Cedar Falls	\$8,000
Leader Valley Foundation	\$100,000
NAMI Black Hawk County	\$3,000
Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging	\$6,600
Operation Threshold	\$16,800
Quota of Waterloo	\$5,000
UNI Center for Violence	\$35,000
Waterloo Writing Project	\$4,600
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,750,000</b>

Project details include:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa - \$36,000, to extend their programming of providing one-to-one mentoring to additional youth in the Cedar Valley.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Cedar Valley - \$1 million, to construct a new Teen Center in Waterloo, largely designed by input from our community's teenagers. The Teen Center will be located near East High School establishing dedicated space for tutoring, computer and digital graphics skill development, music creativity, SAT/ACT testing preparation, counseling, direct homework assistance and supervised recreational space.

Christian Community Development DBA House of Hope - \$200,000, to expand its mission of providing homeless, single moms with transitional housing and individualized support to assist them achieve self-sufficiency.

Covenant Medical Center - \$250,000, to renovate space within their emergency department to better serve stable behavioral health patients while they are awaiting acceptance to an inpatient setting; providing a safe and secure area to avoid or diminish escalating harmful behaviors in this vulnerable population.

EMBARC | Ethnic Minorities of Burma Advocacy and Resource Center - \$30,000, to support their efforts in developing an interpretation and community health worker social enterprise for refugees residing in Waterloo.

Grin and Grow - \$10,000, to provide upgrades in the learning environment and to meet both state and national standards for quality early childhood services.

Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity - \$25,000, to assist in the organization's Neighborhood Revitalization Project, focused on new construction homes or rehabs in the Church Row Historic and Walnut Neighborhoods of Waterloo and additional repair projects over the next year.

Iowa Legal Aid - \$20,000, to continue the Iowa Legal Aid Parent Representation Project, which provides free legal and supportive services to custodial parents who are at risk of being involved or are already involved in the juvenile court system through a Child in Need of Assistance (CINA) proceeding.

The Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls of IA - \$8,000, for its League's Lockers Project, providing uniforms, school supplies and basic hygienic items in a discrete and respectful manner to Waterloo high school students who may not otherwise have access.

Leader Valley Foundation - \$100,000, for the Leader in Me Project, to be implemented in all Cedar Valley schools by 2020, impacting every student in the metro area. Leader in Me shifts the culture of our schools in a way that creates leadership and future-ready opportunities for all children. Leader in Me helps all students develop both strong character & competence that ensures they have skills, attributes, and habits of personal effectiveness, leading to a more effective life.

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Black Hawk County - \$3,000, for its programmatic support of free classes, support groups, trainings and educational programs which help people who have mental illness and their families.

Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging - \$6,600, to develop, promote and implement a local fall prevention coalition; training both staff and interested volunteers to bring fall prevention programs - approved by the Administration on Community Living as evidence based - to more locations, particularly rural areas with under-served populations.

Operation Threshold - \$16,800, for its Home Based Parent Education Program, which provides parents with effective programming that supports child development knowledge and positive parenting skills and family supports.

Quota International of Waterloo - \$5,000, for its Cops 'n' Kids Literacy Program, a partnership with Quota, the Waterloo Police Department and the Waterloo School District which provides for distribution of books to youth at multiple events. Books are distributed at school events, summer free lunch programs, by police officers from their squad cars and from the Waterloo police station – creating a positive relationship between the youth and the officers.

University of Northern Iowa Foundation - \$35,000, for its work at the Center for Violence Prevention (CVP). The CVP's mission is to advance a comprehensive and systemic approach to preventing violence and all forms of abuse, harm, oppression and bullying across the state. The CVP, with a team of law enforcement and social service professionals, violence prevention specialists, victim service advocates and civic leaders, will begin implementation of a multi-tier prevention within the Waterloo community.

The Waterloo Writing Project - \$4,600, for its Youth Leader Project, intended to enhance its mission of providing space for youth authors/creatives to craft, collaborate, critique, and support each other. The Waterloo Writing Project believes that every student is an intellectual and has something to share, an idea to develop, an imagination to cultivate. The Project provides space that is focused on the creative aspects of writing, publishing and performing.