



Women Leaders in Philanthropy

OAK PARK-RIVER FOREST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

2023 Causes

- Mental health interventions and/or preventative services.

GRANTEE: Children’s Research Triangle (Trauma Treatment Program), The Nehemiah Community Project (2-Gain)

- Reducing gun violence.

GRANTEE: Defy Ventures Illinois (pre- and post-release program), Institute for Nonviolence Chicago (general operating support)

- High quality early childhood education, and/or early childhood development services and interventions.

GRANTEE: Collaboration for Early Childhood (More Tools in the Toolbox: Building Early Childhood Educators’ Resilience in a Post-Pandemic Early Learning Setting)

- Food insecurity and/or “food deserts” (under-resourced areas in which it is difficult to buy affordable or good-quality fresh food).

GRANTEE: Cornerstone Academy (Healthy Foods Initiatives), Real Foods Collective (Mobile Produce Market)

2022 Causes

- Provide mental health interventions and/or preventative services specifically for youth, which address increases in anxiety and depression, substance abuse, lack of connection and familial support, and/or the effects of poverty.

GRANTEE: Children’s Research Triangle (Trauma Treatment Program), Youth Crossroads (Community Counselor)

- Provide housing security and/or rental assistance.

GRANTEE: Housing Forward (Bridge for Youth)

- Provide food security and combat hunger.

GRANTEE: Quinn Center of St. Eulalia (Hunger Ministry)

- Provide childcare opportunities for children from at-risk populations to mitigate academic and economic losses for families returning to work.

GRANTEE: Oak Park River Forest Day Nursery (Early Childhood Education – Financial Assistance to Families), West Cook YMCA (The Year-Round Youth Development Program and Services)

- Strengthen counseling and support networks for mental health promotion and suicide prevention, for any population.

GRANTEE: Thrive Counseling Center (Suicide Awareness & Prevention Workshops for Area Youth)



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Women Leaders in Philanthropy is a giving group of the Oak Park-River Forest Community Foundation

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2021 Causes

- Provide mental health care such as counseling, trauma services and wellness education to first responders, essential workers and others who are unable to afford care or for whom stigma has been a barrier to treatment.

GRANTEE: Proviso Partners for Health (True You racial healing), Smart Love Family Services (minority family program), Thrive Counseling Center (mental health services for LGBTQ+ youth and people of color)

- Support local programs which combat systemic racism within our community, for example, within education, housing, the criminal justice system, and/or other domains.

GRANTEE: Addressed by grantees across all the causes with emphasis given to groups which considered and amplified voices of color.

- Address food insecurity needs in all populations; note student population and youth/senior populations have been specifically targeted in the past.

GRANTEE: Beyond Hunger (home delivery program in Austin), Quinn Center of St. Eulalia (hunger ministry in Maywood)

- Support housing assistance for low-income and vulnerable populations; support is to be offered to housing support networks and not directly to families in need.

GRANTEE: SisterHouse (residential and behavioral health)

2020 Causes

- Address food insecurity needs in the student and senior populations.

GRANTEE: Quinn Center of St. Eulalia's Hunger Ministry for Maywood; Beyond Hunger's Direct Hunger Assistance for Seniors and Children

- Connect seniors, adults and youth with counseling and support networks for mental health promotion and suicide prevention.

GRANTEE: NAMI's Support 4U texting program; Thrive Counseling Center's Suicide Risk Prevention for Suicide Risk in Hard-to-Reach Populations

- Support programs which promote positive mental health and encourage community engagement, especially intergenerational relationships, for older adults, thereby reducing social isolation among older adults.

GRANTEE: Senior Services of Oak Park and River Forest's Creating Connectedness Project



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2019 Causes

- Support programs which prepare teens and young adults to enter the workforce, focusing on financial literacy and workplace behavior.

GRANTEE: New Moms' job training program, YEMBA's mentoring empowerment training

- Support efforts to recruit, train and support leaders of color in local schools, non-profits, government and other institutions.

GRANTEE: Collaboration for Early Childhood's parent leadership training

- Connect adults and youth with education, counseling and support networks for mental health promotion and suicide prevention.

GRANTEE: NAMI's Support 4U texting program

2018 Causes

- Addressing food insecurity among students.

GRANTEE: OPRF Food Pantry's Summer Meals; Beye School PTO's food backpack pilot

- Connecting youth/adults with counseling & support networks for suicide prevention & mental health promotion.

GRANTEE: NAMI's Support 4U texting program; Thrive Counseling safeTalk training

- Supporting the low income youth participation scholarship fund.

GRANTEE: Youth Engagement Scholarship Fund

2017 Causes

- Advancement of women and girls.

GRANTEE: The Viola Project

- Heroin/opioid, drug and alcohol awareness and addiction prevention.

GRANTEE: OPRF Opioid Prevention Initiative

- Establish low-income participation fee scholarship fund.

GRANTEE: Youth Engagement Scholarship Fund

2016 Causes

- Connecting youth, adults with counseling and support networks for a suicide prevention and mental health promotion.

GRANTEE: Thrive Counseling Center and NAMI West Suburban



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- Expansion of youth engagement in arts programs.

GRANTEE: Oak Park Area Arts Council

- Low-income youth participation scholarships (summer camps, after school programs, travel teams).

GRANTEE: West Cook YMCA



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