



News

For Immediate Release

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George Family Foundation awards \$1,244,000 in latest grant round

Annual giving tops \$4.7 million in 2018

MINNEAPOLIS (January 24, 2019) – The George Family Foundation announced today it has approved grants that will support equity and social justice programs, youth programs focused on the environment, mindfulness education, and educational efforts to help ensure improved end-of-life choices in Minnesota. The Foundation awarded \$1,244,000 to 40 organizations out of an annual giving budget of \$4.9 million.

In its latest grant round, the Foundation continued its support for integrative health and wellbeing programs, freshwater conservancy in Minnesota and outdoor educational opportunities for urban youth. The George Family Foundation also continued its general operating support of 22 organizations in the greater Twin Cities area.

“In 2018, the George Family Foundation surpassed its annual payout requirement to grantees by nearly \$1.8 million,” said Gayle Ober, president of the George Family Foundation. “There is great need in the communities we support, and we are grateful that our trustees are willing to stretch our grants budget so we can all do more.”

Other notable grants include \$100,000 to Marnita’s Table for general operating purposes, \$50,000 to support the FOODRx program at Second Harvest Heartland and \$25,000 to the Fund for Women’s Equality.

Founded by Penny and Bill George in 1994, the [George Family Foundation](#) is a \$60 million private family foundation that supports programs which promote integrative health and healing, authentic leadership, spirituality & mindfulness, youth development, the environment, and other select organizations in the communities where George family members live.

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The complete list of grants includes:

\$100,000 to **Compassion & Choices** to support general operations and educational efforts to help ensure that people in Minnesota and across America have the options they need to die in peace and with dignity.

\$100,000 to **Marnita's Table** to support general operations.

\$75,000 to **Project Success** to support general operations.

\$70,000 to **Eagle Valley Land Trust** to support the Land & Rivers Fund.

\$60,000 to **The Nature Conservancy** to support the Minnesota Freshwater Program.

\$50,000 to **Second Harvest Heartland** to support the FOODRx program.

\$45,000 to the **Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health** to support ACIH's active participation with the National Academy of Medicine Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education.

\$45,000 to the **Minneapolis Parks Foundation** to support general operations.

\$30,000 to the **Harvard Kennedy School Center for Public Leadership** to support the CPL Fellowship Alumni Reunion in December 2018.

\$30,000 to **MacPhail Center for Music** to support the North Minneapolis After-School Strings program and the MacPhail Northside Youth Orchestra on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

\$30,000 to the **Mindful Life Project** to support general operations on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

\$30,000 to **Wilderness Inquiry** to support Project FIT: Building Healthy Families and Thriving Communities through the Shared Outdoor Adventure program.

\$25,000 to the **Fund for Women's Equality** to support efforts to pass the Equal Rights Amendment in Minnesota.

\$25,000 to **Karuna-Shechen** to support Shechen clinics in Nepal.

\$25,000 to **Mayo Clinic** to support the Healthy Living Program.

\$25,000 to the **Mind & Life Institute** to support 2019 Mind & Life Dialogue.

\$25,000 to the **Penny George Institute Foundation** to support practitioner projects and educational opportunities.

\$25,000 to **The On Being Project** to support the Formation Project.

\$20,000 to **Big City Mountaineers** to support scholarships for girls to attend the Boundary Waters expeditions and camps program.

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\$20,000 to **Café Momentum** to support general operations.

\$20,000 to **Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa** to support the Conservation Corps Minnesota: Summer Youth Corps program.

\$20,000 to **Enriching Lives through Music** to support general operations on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

\$20,000 to **Inward Bound Mindfulness Education** to support scholarships for the Northern Teen Retreat on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

\$15,000 to **Audubon California** to support programs in the San Francisco Bay area.

\$15,000 to **Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative** to support Nicollet Square supportive services.

\$15,000 to **Children’s HeartLink** to support general operations.

\$15,000 to the **Eagle Valley Land Trust** to support general operations.

\$15,000 to **Global Minnesota** to support general operations.

\$15,000 to the **Minneapolis Institute of Art** to support the Annual Fund.

\$15,000 to **Pathways Minneapolis** to support general operations.

\$15,000 to the **Minnesota Orchestra** in honor of the leadership of Marilyn Carlson Nelson and Paula DeCosse.

\$15,000 to **Minnesota Public Radio** to support the Annual Fund.

\$15,000 to the **National Parks Conservation Association** to support NPCA’s Yellowstone work.

\$15,000 to **The Reciprocity Foundation** to support general operations on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

\$15,000 to **Twin Cities Public Television** to support the Annual Fund.

\$15,000 to **University of St. Thomas** to support the Annual Fund.

\$15,000 to **Walk-In Counseling Center** to support general operations.

\$10,000 to **Betty Ford Alpine Gardens** to support general operations.

\$10,000 to **The Dallas Foundation** to support general operations for Bonton Farms.

\$10,000 to the **Minneapolis College of Art and Design** to provide scholarships for the youth art programs on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

The Foundation also awarded \$89,000 to organizations designated by its board members.