

OTTO BREMER FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact

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Otto Bremer Foundation Awards 85 Grants Totaling 4.6 Million

SAINT PAUL, [October, 2011] - The Otto Bremer Foundation awarded 85 grants totaling \$4,596,386.00 in September, 2011. Sixty-Six grants totaling \$3,900,314 support programs and organizations in Minnesota; 10 totaling \$450,723, in North Dakota; and 7 totaling \$195,350, in Wisconsin. A complete list of grants by state is included below.

About the Otto Bremer Foundation

Created in 1944, the Otto Bremer Foundation assists people in achieving full economic, civic, and social participation in and for the betterment of their communities. The Foundation's work to help build and maintain vibrant communities is based on the vision and legacy of Otto Bremer, whose commitment to Bremer Bank communities and to those working to make their lives better continues to guide the Foundation.

The Otto Bremer Foundation owns the majority share of Bremer Bank, and a portion of the bank's profits comes to the Foundation as dividends, enabling the Foundation to invest back in the bank communities in the form of grants and program-related investments. Organizations whose beneficiaries are residents of Minnesota, North Dakota, or Wisconsin are eligible to apply for Foundation grants, with priority given to communities served by Bremer Bank. In 2010 the Foundation provided approximately \$24.1 million in grants.

Otto Bremer Foundation Grants, September, 2011

Minnesota, 66 Grants, \$3,900,314

<i>Access Press, Ltd.</i>	\$45,000
St. Paul, MN; To support general operations of this statewide organization that provides a forum for all people with disabilities and perspectives about disability issues for policy makers, service providers, and the public. Contact: Tim Benjamin	(651) 644-2133
<i>AccountAbility Minnesota</i>	\$50,000
St. Paul, MN; To support free tax preparation and asset development services for low-wage workers in Greater Minnesota. Contact: Tracy Fischman	(651) 287-0187
<i>Advocates Against Domestic Abuse</i>	\$25,000
Aitkin, MN; To provide advocacy services to battered women and victims in Aitkin county. Contact: Lisa Hamilton	(218) 927-2327

<i>Aitkin County CARE, Inc.</i>	\$20,000
Aitkin, MN; For start-up support for this organization that serves seniors.	
Contact: Beth Leaf	(218) 927-7234
 <i>Aitkin County Habitat for Humanity</i>	 \$5,000
Aitkin, MN; To build the capacity with the purchase of equipment and completion of a development plan.	
Contact: Ann Schwartz	(218) 927-5656
 <i>Anoka County Community Health and Environment Services Department</i>	 \$12,500
Anoka, MN; To support the Healthy Eating Garden Program by establishing two faith-based community gardens over two years, providing low-income families with fresh produce and donating produce to local food shelves.	
Contact: Laurie Brovold	(762) 422-7163
 <i>Anoka County Community Action Program, Inc.</i>	 \$5,000
Blaine, MN; To purchase curriculum materials for low-income preschoolers for the Anoka/Washington County Head Start program.	
Contact: Patrick McFarland	(763) 783-4728
 <i>Ashby Fire Department</i>	 \$8,800
Ashby, MN; To purchase a thermal imaging camera.	
Contact: Jim Risbrudt	(218) 747-2776
 <i>Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Minnesota</i>	 \$60,000
St. Cloud, MN; To support the addition of staff for the Education & Career Development Initiative programs.	
Contact: Mark Sakry	(320) 252-7616
 <i>Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church</i>	 \$29,150
St. Paul, MN; To support the Fiscally Fit Center Project.	
Contact: Gloria Roach Thomas	(651) 224-0341
 <i>Cancer Legal Line</i>	 \$35,000
Bayport, MN; To provide legal assistance for Minnesotans affected by cancer.	
Contact: Lindy Yokanovich	(651) 307-1942
 <i>Center for Policy, Planning, and Performance</i>	 \$75,000
St. Paul, MN; To support the statewide work of the Center for Multicultural Mediation and Restorative Justice, a Somali community cultural competence project.	
Contact: Barbara Raye	(612) 874-0535
 <i>City of Burnsville</i>	 \$153,600
Burnsville, MN; To build organization capacity to serve at-risk youth and capital improvements of the center.	
Contact: Craig Ebeling	(952) 895-4400
 <i>Frazee, City of</i>	 \$30,000
Frazee, MN; To support the business incubator program for new and emerging entrepreneurs.	
Contact: Jonathan Smith	(218) 334-4991

<i>Community Action Council of Crow Wing County</i>	\$20,000
Brainerd, MN; To support the Brainerd Baxter Youth Center. Contact: Nancy Cross (218) 829-5278	
<i>Community Dental Care</i>	\$25,000
St. Paul, MN; To develop and implement a sustainable school-based preventative program to provide sealants, fluoride varnish, and dental education for low-income children (the Mighty Molars program). Contact: Vacharee Peterson (651) 925-8425	
<i>Confederation of Somali Community in Minnesota</i>	\$50,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operating support for this organization that serves low-income Somalis. Contact: Saeed Fahia (612) 338-5282	
<i>Connections to Independence</i>	\$30,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operating support for this organization that advocates for foster care youth. Contact: Jessica Rogers (612) 278-5281	
<i>Council on Crime and Justice</i>	\$75,000
Minneapolis, MN; To support a life skills and employment training program for individuals returning from prison. Contact: Pam Alexander (612) 353-3036	
<i>CROSS of Benton County</i>	\$47,000
Foley, MN; For a new roof and building updates. Contact: Tim Wittwer (320) 968-7107	
<i>Cultural Wellness Center</i>	\$75,000
Minneapolis, MN; To support African Americans in St. Paul with personal development and job training skills programs. Contact: Atum Azzahir (612) 721-5745	
<i>East Metro Women's Council</i>	\$50,000
White Bear Lake, MN; For general operating support to prevent and end homelessness for families with children through housing, resources and opportunity, including job training and education. Contact: Trisha Cummins Kauffman (651) 773-8401	
<i>East Suburban Resources, Inc.</i>	\$24,846
Stillwater, MN; To provide African-American families with cash and food assistance and work skills development. Contact: Ed Boeve (651) 351-0190	
<i>Faith Lutheran Church</i>	\$25,000
Spicer, MN; To increase the capacity of The Link to better serve and engage the community around poverty related issues. Contact: Tom Deadrick (320) 354-3661	

<i>Family Housing Fund</i>	\$100,000
Minneapolis, MN; To help the Twin Cities Community Land Bank acquire, hold, and rebuild homes in north Minneapolis.	
Contact: Thomas P. Fulton	(612) 375-9644
 <i>Feeding Our Communities Partners</i>	 \$45,000
Mankato, MN; To expand the capacity of the "Backpack Food Program, which provides low-income children with nutritious food for weekends and school breaks.	
Contact: Melinda Wedzina	(507) 381-4348
 <i>First Children's Finance</i>	 \$30,000
Minneapolis, MN; To support the business of child care in North Dakota.	
Contact: Gerald Cutts	(612) 338-3023
 <i>Greater Frogtown Community Development Corporation</i>	 \$45,000
St. Paul, MN; To support the Stable Housing, Stable Lives Program, an initiative to help families gain affordable and quality housing.	
Contact: Jill Henricksen	(651) 789-7487
 <i>Greater Mankato Area United Way</i>	 \$230,000
Mankato, MN; To hire additional staff for the "Connecting Kids" program and provide scholarships.	
Contact: Laura Bowman	(507) 345-4551
 <i>Harrison Neighborhood Association</i>	 \$35,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operating support of this organization that helps to meet basic needs and empower their community to address long-term systemic causes of poverty.	
Contact: Larry Hiscock	(612) 374-4849
 <i>Holy Rosary Church and School</i>	 \$20,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operations of educational and human services programs of Centro Guadalupano.	
Contact: Margaret McGuirk	(612) 724-3651
 <i>Jewish Community Action</i>	 \$50,000
St. Paul, MN; To support the Northside Community Reinvestment and the St. Paul Fair Lending Coalition, which provides assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure and to reform lending practices.	
Contact: Vic Rosenthal	(651) 632-2184
 <i>Kinship of Aitkin County</i>	 \$30,000
Aitkin, MN; To support general operations for Kinship of Aitkin County.	
Contact: Kimberly Clement	(218) 927-4039
 <i>La Oportunidad, Inc.</i>	 \$30,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operating support for bilingual and culturally relevant educational and supporting programs.	
Contact: Eloisa Echavez	(612) 872-6165

<i>Liferight Outreach</i>	\$40,000
Alexandria, MN; For renovations and to purchase a van to transports program participants.	
Contact: Mark Foss	(320) 766-0233
 <i>The Link</i>	 \$30,000
Minneapolis, MN; To support the permanent housing program for homeless youth and young adults.	
Contact: Peter Rosenblatt	(612) 767-4467
 <i>Mankato Area Foundation</i>	 \$400,000
Mankato, MN; To increase the organization's capacity by adding an additional staff person and for matching funds to establish a fund within the Foundation which will provide grants for high quality programs focused on teens in consultation with Mankato Area Healthy Youth.	
Contact: Nancy Zallek	(507) 389-4583
 <i>Mankato Area Living At Home/Block Nurse Program</i>	 \$15,000
Mankato, MN; For general operating to meet the basic needs and increase opportunities for this organization that serves the senior community.	
Contact: Cindy Chadwick	(507) 345-2985
 <i>Mental Health Consumer Survivor Network of Minnesota</i>	 \$45,000
St. Paul, MN; For general operating support of this organization that works to ensure that all Minnesotans with a mental health diagnosis can access appropriate mental health services.	
Contact: Rachel Voller	(651) 236-8473
 <i>Milaca Public Schools, #912</i>	 \$5,000
Milaca, MN; To develop healthy, resilient youth by increasing their Developmental Assets.	
Contact: Jerry Hansen	(320) 982-7191
 <i>Minnesota Community Land Trust Coalition</i>	 \$20,000
Lake Elmo, MN; For general operating support to coordinate and enhance member activities aimed at providing permanently affordable land trust home ownership.	
Contact: Pat Steiger	(651) 470-5184
 <i>Minnesota Housing Partnership</i>	 \$120,000
St. Paul, MN; For general operating support of this organization's statewide affordable housing work including technical assistance to communities and public policy engagement.	
Contact: Chip Halbach	(651) 649-1710
 <i>Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome</i>	 \$35,000
St. Paul, MN; To support public policy and advocacy organizational infrastructure to incorporate a young adult self-advocacy and stronger communication and media outreach.	
Contact: Sara Messelt	(651) 917-2370

<i>Minnesota Recovery Connection</i>	\$40,000
St. Paul, MN; To support a capacity building initiative that which will create a Development Office for this organization that serves people in recovery. Contact: Nell Hurley (651) 233-2080	
<i>Neighborhood Involvement Program, Inc.</i>	\$25,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operations to support an integrated health model which provides access to low-cost, medical, dental and mental health care for youth and seniors. Contact: Patsy Bartley (612) 374-3125	
<i>North Minneapolis Meals on Wheels</i>	\$20,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operating support for this organization that provides meal delivery service to homebound seniors. Contact: Denise Harris (612) 522-7335	
<i>Northland Community and Technical College</i>	\$29,010
Thief River Falls, MN; For the development and sustainability planning process to launch the Aerospace Foundation. Contact: Daniel Klug (218) 686-0069	
<i>Planned Parenthood of Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota</i>	\$75,000
Minneapolis, MN; To support community building, education, outreach and advocacy efforts for people in North Dakota. Contact: Sarah Stoesz (612) 821-6159	
<i>Rebuild Resources</i>	\$45,000
St. Paul, MN; For general operations to provide transitional employment and supportive services to men and women in recovery. Contact: Joanna Schmolke (651) 255-5658	
<i>Relate, Inc.</i>	\$15,000
Minnetonka, MN; To support a collaboration through which this organization provides timely access to mental health services on site for ResourceWest clients. Contact: Margaret Rookey (952) 932-7277	
<i>RESOURCE, Inc.</i>	\$35,000
Minneapolis, MN; To support low-income single fathers to complete their education and gain job and parenting skills through the East Metro Young Dads program. Contact: Debbie Atterberry (612) 752-8003	
<i>Sexual Violence Center</i>	\$25,000
Minneapolis, MN; To implement the "Green Dot Strategy," a new program with a national profile that seeks to use peer influence and changing cultural norms to engage individuals to take individual actions that will help reduce and prevent sexual assaults. Contact: Pamela Zeller (612) 871-5100	
<i>St. Cloud Area Somali Salvation Organization</i>	\$30,000
St. Cloud, MN; To provide social services to individuals and families from the refugee and immigrant communities. Contact: Mohamoud Mohamed (320) 224-9450	

<i>Teens Alone, Inc.</i>	\$30,000
Hopkins, MN; For general operating to provide counseling services to low-income teens, young adults and their families.	
Contact: Lydia Kihm	(952) 988-4086
 <i>Tennis & Education, Inc.</i>	 \$16,000
St. Paul, MN; For general operating to support youth programs that help disadvantaged youth build emotional and physical healthy living skills.	
Contact: Margot Willett	(612) 252-8367
 <i>Ujamaa Place</i>	 \$25,000
St. Paul, MN; For general operations that will support low-income African American males in St. Paul with education and employment skills.	
Contact: John Harrington	(651) 528-8006
 <i>United Jewish Fund and Council</i>	 \$75,000
St. Paul, MN; To support the St. Paul Kosher Meals on Wheels program, which services the elderly.	
Contact: Eli Skora	(651) 690-1707
 <i>United Way of Otter Tail County</i>	 \$3,884
Fergus Falls, MN; To purchase and install a laptop and printer for charity events.	
Contact: Mary Phillipe	(218) 736-5147
 <i>Vital Aging Network</i>	 \$35,000
North St. Paul, MN; To expand this organization's older adult civic leadership program (Evolve) in north central Minnesota.	
Contact: Mark Skeie	(651) 226-9578
 <i>Volunteer Lawyers Network</i>	 \$35,000
Minneapolis, MN; For general operating to provide legal services to low-income people.	
Contact: Suzanne Pontinen	(612) 752-6677
 <i>Warren Community Hospital, Inc.</i>	 \$400,000
Warren, MN; For the construction of a new medical facility.	
Contact: Kevin Smith	(218) 745-3262
 <i>West Seventh Community Center, Inc.</i>	 \$35,000
St. Paul, MN; For general operating and program support for this multi-purpose community center supporting low-income families.	
Contact: Greg Wandersee	(651) 298-5493
 <i>Western Community Action, Inc.</i>	 \$200,000
Marshall, MN; To support a program to increase food security for low and poverty-level income households in southwest Minnesota.	
Contact: John Fitzgerald	(507) 537-1416
 <i>Young Men's Christian Association of Mankato</i>	 \$45,000
Mankato, MN; To provide programming and services to the Mankato area east side families.	
Contact: John Kind	(507) 387-8255

<i>YWCA of Mankato</i>		\$325,000
Mankato, MN; To lead Mankato through community planning, resource development and plan implementation of healthy youth development efforts.		
Contact: Anne Ganey	(507) 345-4629	
<i>YWCA of Mankato</i>		\$35,524
Mankato, MN; To support the Women's Leadership Development program and building capacity.		
Contact: Anne Ganey	(507) 345-4629	
North Dakota, 10 Grants, \$450,723		
<i>Center for Interfaith Projects</i>		\$15,000
Fargo, ND; For general operating of interfaith education and programming.		
Contact: David Myers	(701) 388-7368	
<i>Harwood Community Center</i>		\$10,000
Harwood, ND; To upgrade and renovate the Social Hall for this local community center.		
Contact: Lori Peyerl	(701) 282-7216	
<i>Leeds Ambulance Service, Inc.</i>		\$75,000
Leeds, ND; For a new ambulance to support critical emergency medical services for residents of Benson County.		
Contact: Rio Himle	(701) 466-2872	
<i>Medcenter One Foundation</i>		\$50,000
Bismarck, ND; To support the Gilly Art TheraTree.		
Contact: Carol Meyers-Dobler	(701) 323-8455	
<i>Mountain Plains Youth Services</i>		\$63,723
Bismarck, ND; To provide day report, homeless outreach, and short-term shelters and assessment for at-risk youth.		
Contact: Melanie Heitkamp	(701) 255-7229	
<i>Prevent Child Abuse North Dakota</i>		\$130,000
Bismarck, ND; To support a community-based prevention campaign in Devils Lake, Minnewaukan and Rolette.		
Contact: Timothy Hathaway	(701) 223-9052	
<i>Richardton Rural Fire Protection District Richardton Taylor Ambulance Service</i>		\$20,000
Richardton, ND; To purchase a new ambulance vehicle for the emergency medical service organization.		
Contact: Lea Floberg	(701) 590-4229	
<i>St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation</i>		\$65,000
Dickinson, ND; To purchase a fetal monitoring system.		
Contact: Reed Reyman	(701) 456-4000	
<i>Three Affiliated Tribes</i>		\$12,000
New Town, ND; To hire a consultant for the Twin Buttes Elders Organization.		
Contact: Tex Hall	(701) 627-4781	

<i>Villa Nazareth</i>	\$10,000
Fargo, ND; To support the adult new American refugee population with reading and writing skills through volunteer mentors through the Giving + Learning Program.	
Contact: Jeff Pederson	(701) 235-8217

Other, 2 Grants, \$50,000

<i>Communication Service for the Deaf</i>	\$25,000
Souix Falls, SD; To provide language accessible services for battered women and their families in the Twin Cities.	
Contact: Benjamin Soukup	(605) 367-5760

<i>Operation Warm, Inc.</i>	\$25,000
Chadds Ford, PA; To support a project which will distribute winter coats for children living in poverty in the Twin Cities area.	
Contact: Carey Palmquist	(610) 388-6305

Wisconsin, 7 Grants, \$195,350

<i>Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Northwestern Wisconsin</i>	\$35,000
Hudson, WI; To support a program which will help youth reach their potential through mentor relationships with impact.	
Contact: Craig Monson	(800) 648-1696

<i>CORE Community Resources, Inc.</i>	\$35,350
Bayfield, WI; To create and implement an integrative health care program that improves mental health among seniors.	
Contact: Beth Meyers	(715) 779-3457

<i>Cottonwood Group Home, Ltd.</i>	\$15,000
Amery, WI; To support the operations of this organization that serves the at-risk and vulnerable juvenile female population.	
Contact: Sandra Stevermer	(715) 268-7997

<i>Epilepsy Foundation of Western Wisconsin</i>	\$25,000
Eau Claire, WI; To expand client services programs.	
Contact: Rick Wallin	(715) 834-4455

<i>Habitat for Humanity, Inc. Chippewa Valley</i>	\$25,000
Eau Claire, WI; To provide a construction trailer for this organization that builds affordable housing.	
Contact: Tim Haukeness	(715) 833-8993

<i>Wisconsin Medical Society Foundation, Inc.</i>	\$40,000
Madison, WI; For the Community Health Action via Medical Partnership, which links physicians, public health, government and other social service agencies in Northern Wisconsin.	
Contact: Rebecca Thompson	(608) 442-3720

*Wisconsin Public Radio Association Chequamegon Bay Campaign
Fund*

\$20,000

Superior, WI; To support a full-time public radio station which will serve the
Chequamegon Bay region.

Contact: Ann Katz

(608) 255-8316