



News

For Immediate Release

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George Family Foundation awards \$980,000 in latest grant round

Annual giving tops \$4.4 million for 2019

MINNEAPOLIS (Feb. 4, 2020) – The George Family Foundation announced today that it has expanded support for individual leadership programs, faith-based social justice efforts and youth development programs in the Twin Cities; Dallas, Texas; Oakland, California; and the Vail Valley in Colorado. The Foundation has also continued to support the general operations of many long-term partners.

The Foundation awarded \$980,000 to 38 organizations, bringing its total giving for 2019 to \$4,434,700.

In this grant round, the Foundation joins others in supporting the Itasca Project's new Minnesota Young American Leaders Program, which is modeled on a highly successful program at the Harvard Business School and offers mentorship and training for up to 60 emerging leaders in Minnesota each year. The Foundation is also funding a pilot program that provides training in authentic leadership at Teach For All while renewing a commitment to the Wenda Weekes Moore Internship and Dr. Reatha Clark King Fellowship at the Women's Foundation of Minnesota.

The Foundation is expanding its work in the faith-based social justice field through a new grant to ISIAAH that will support the Greater Than Fear program.

"To address the state's polarized political environment, ISIAAH has been advancing a narrative that resists appeals to racism and inspires Minnesotans to support collective action through democratic politics. We developed the structural elements of this narrative in 2017-18, deployed it aggressively in 2018," said Minister JaNaé Bates, communications director of ISIAAH. "These needed resources from the George Family Foundation will allow us to refine it for 2020 and beyond. This is an exciting opportunity to animate the best version of Minnesotans and embolden us toward a caring economy and robust, multiracial democracy where we can all thrive."

The Foundation also announced new grants to youth development organizations, including Cookie Cart, Urban Strategies, Inc. and Junior Players Dallas, as well as increased grants to YouthPower365 in the Vail Valley. This grantmaking round includes \$580,000 in general operating support to 25 organizations.

Founded by Penny and Bill George in 1994, the [George Family Foundation](#) is a \$60 million private family foundation that supports integrative health and healing, authentic leadership, spirituality & mindfulness, youth development, the environment and community.

The complete list of grants includes:

\$90,000 to **YouthPower365** to support general operations.

\$60,000 to **National Parks Conservation Association** to support general operations and the Legal Defense Fund.

\$60,000 to **Teach For All** to support the Collective Leadership Academy.

\$60,000 to **Walking Mountains Science Center** to support its community programs.

\$50,000 to **Everytown for Gun Safety** to support general operations.

\$50,000 to **Somali Success School** to support general operations.

\$45,000 to **Destiny Arts Center** to support general operations on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

\$40,000 to the **Women's Foundation of Minnesota** to support the Wenda Weekes Moore Internship and Dr. Reatha Clark King Fellowship.

\$35,000 to **Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation** to support the Itasca Project's Minnesota Young American Leaders Program.

\$30,000 to **Lundstrum Performing Arts** to support general operations on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

\$25,000 to the **Fund for Women's Equality** to support general operations.

\$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 general operations.

\$25,000 to the **Penny George Institute Foundation** to support training for Penny George Institute for Health and Healing practitioners.

\$25,000 to **Relationships First** to support general operations.

\$20,000 to **Cookie Cart** to support general operations.

\$20,000 to **ISAIAH** to support the Greater Than Fear program.

\$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 its Yellowstone work.

\$15,000 to **The Dallas Foundation** to support general operations for Bonton Farms.

\$15,000 to **Twin Cities Public Television** to support the annual fund.

\$15,000 to the **University of St. Thomas** to support the annual fund.

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

\$15,000 to **VoteRunLead** to support ongoing efforts to build diverse, authentic women leadership in Minnesota and Texas.

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

\$10,000 to **Carleton College** to support the George International Fellows program.

\$10,000 to **Minnesota Council on Foundations** to support the Minnesota Census Mobilization Partnership in preparing Minnesota for the 2020 census.

\$10,000 to **Urban Strategies, Inc.** to support Green Garden Bakery.

\$5,000 to **Junior Players Dallas** to support general operations for Junior Player Free Arts Education program on behalf of the Next Generation Fund.

The Foundation also awarded \$79,000 to organizations designated by its board members.