

# Grantmaking Highlights

With a Focus on Small Grants

We believe grants of all sizes can make a difference. Each year, we authorize about 3,000 grants to meet community needs. Following are just a few small grants made in 2009 and 2010 in the four primary areas in which we focus:

## 1 GRANTS THAT IMPROVE ACCESS TO SERVICES AND PROGRAMS FOR VULNERABLE AND UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

### Aspira Association

\$150,000 for pilot program to increase retention, achievement, and advancement of Latino students in partnership with Esperanza

### Cleveland Foodbank

\$300,000 to help meet growing demand for services during the recession

### Cuyahoga County Public Library

\$198,690 to improve career counseling and technology programs for local residents

### Eleanor B. Rainey Memorial Institute

\$250,000 for its capital campaign for a new facility

### MobileMed 1 Foundation

\$85,000 to pilot Medworks' free mass health clinics in Greater Cleveland

### S.A.W. Inc.

\$104,975 for H.E.A.R. program for clients needing assistance with both developmental disabilities and hearing impairments

### Westside Industrial Retention and Expansion Network

\$115,000 for the second year of its citywide manufacturing initiative

### YWCA of Greater Cleveland

\$75,000 for the Nurturing Independence and Aspirations program for young women transitioning out of foster care

## 2 GRANTS THAT STRENGTHEN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

### Art House

\$39,000 for strategic financial planning

### Business Volunteers Unlimited

\$75,000 for technical assistance to nonprofits

### Care Alliance

\$100,000 for electronic health records to improve patient care and organizational efficiency

### Children's Museum of Cleveland

\$44,000 to upgrade IT systems to improve operational efficiencies

### Cleveland Jazz Orchestra

\$24,500 for the 2009-2010 season and its return to downtown and nearby neighborhoods

### Cleveland Restoration Society

\$150,000 for expansion of Heritage Homes and Neighborhoods program

### Golden Age Centers

\$120,000 to strengthen programming for seniors, including home-delivered meal service

### Open Doors Inc.

\$40,000 for strategic growth initiative to ensure quality after-school programming

### Towards Employment

\$160,000 to support organizational improvement, advocacy, and re-entry programming

## 3 GRANTS THAT TEST NEW IDEAS AND DIFFERENT PARTNERSHIPS

### Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland

\$185,000 for school-based programs and gang outreach initiative

### Broadway School of Music

\$23,000 for Cleveland Neighborhood Arts' curriculum and evaluation project, a joint effort among nine place-based arts groups

### Cleveland Institute of Art

\$20,000 for reclaimed furniture initiative

### Cleveland Museum of Art

\$50,000 for collaboration with artists from Burkina Faso, Africa

### Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland

\$46,525 to strengthen patient-advocate program

### ParkWorks

\$250,000 for Land Reutilization Action Plan and Northeast Ohio Food Assessment and Business Plan

## 4 GRANTS THAT SUPPORT POLICY AND ADVOCACY

### Center for Community Solutions

\$100,000 for AIDS Funding Collaborative

### Cleveland State University Foundation

\$20,000 for the Center for Energy Policy and Urban Change

### Heritage Ohio Inc.

\$10,000 for economic impact of Ohio Historic Tax Credit project

### KnowledgeWorks Foundation

\$6,200 for phase four of the Governor's Institute for Creativity and Innovation in Education

### Ohio State University Research Foundation

\$50,000 to the Cleveland-Cuyahoga County Food Policy Coalition for strengthening the local food economy and increasing access to local, healthy, affordable food

### Policy Bridge

\$50,000 for 2010 initiative related to research, policy briefings, and community forums

### Policy Matters

\$75,000 for the expansion of work around asset building, consumer protection, and Earned Income Tax Credit

# Listening and Learning

Innovation rarely comes out of nowhere. It usually arises from new knowledge, new pressures, or both. At the Cleveland Foundation, we constantly seek valuable new knowledge to help us innovate and better serve our grantees.


For example, we engaged the Center for Effective Philanthropy in 2009 to survey our grantee partners for anonymous feedback on our strengths and weaknesses. The center compiled the agencies' evaluations into a report card that showed how our grantees graded us and how we fared relative to hundreds of other foundations across the nation. In short, we did quite well.

Grantees rated us highly for our strong, positive impact on the community and, more specifically, on the fields in which they work. In addition to the financial resources we give, they like that we provide them tools for success, share our expertise, and help leverage resources from other funders. We were heartened by their many positive comments.

But we have room to improve. Smaller grantees say they need more time and guidance. Grantees also suggested that we be clearer

about our priorities and streamline some procedures. (You can read the entire report at [www.ClevelandFoundation.org/Report](http://www.ClevelandFoundation.org/Report).)

As we continue this important dialogue, we hope to serve the community as effectively as possible. As the people's foundation, we invite you to suggest ways we can further innovate to serve Greater Cleveland.



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