Otto Bremer Trust makes 96 grants totaling $7.3 million

More than $1 million awarded to organizations in Wisconsin

SAINT PAUL, April 21, 2022 — The Otto Bremer Trust has awarded $7,304,488 in grants as part of its most recent grantmaking cycle.

“The diversity of grants reflects the broad range of needs facing communities across our four-state region,” said Charlotte Johnson, Co-CEO and Trustee, OBT. “We are gratified to help these organizations provide vital programs and services.”

The Otto Bremer Trust is a bank holding company and a private charitable trust based in Saint Paul, Minn., that works at the intersection of finance and philanthropy. Created in 1944 by Otto Bremer, it is today one of the nation’s largest philanthropic organizations and is committed to supporting a better quality of life for residents of Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. OBT is the majority owner of Bremer Financial Corporation, a regional financial services company; manages a diversified investment portfolio; and operates Community Benefit Financial Company, a financial resources subsidiary. Since its founding, OBT has invested more than $908 million in people, places, and opportunities in the Upper Midwest. Visit ottobermer.org.

A list of grants awarded to organizations in Wisconsin is included below. For a complete list of grants awarded, see the full release on our website.

Northwest Wisconsin

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwestern Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI, $85,000. For general operations to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships for youth.

Boys & Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley, Inc., Eau Claire, WI, $200,000. For general operations and capital to maintain and expand available high-quality youth programming to ensure young people have a safe space to grow and thrive in western Wisconsin.
The Bridge to Hope, Menomonie, WI, $60,000. For general operations to serve victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

L.E. Phillips Career Development Center, Eau Claire, WI, $45,000. To provide services and resources for individuals facing homelessness or crisis in northwest Wisconsin.

Northwest Wisconsin Concentrated Employment Program, Inc., Ashland, WI, $50,000. To improve technology and outreach to increase access and awareness to job training programs in northwest Wisconsin.

River Falls Community Food Pantry, River Falls, WI, $40,000. For general operations to provide food to economically disadvantaged individuals and families in the River Falls community.

United Way St. Croix Valley, Inc., Hudson, WI, $50,000. To provide early childhood family navigation services for parents and caregivers to increase access to local family support resources and improve outcomes for children in western Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, Inc., Madison, WI, $100,000. For general operations to stabilize and expand quality child care and early education in Wisconsin.

North-Central Wisconsin

Habitat for Humanity of Wisconsin River Area, Inc., Baraboo, WI, $50,000. To provide homebuyer support through education and mentoring for low-income families seeking affordable housing.

Northeast Wisconsin

Solutions Recovery Inc, Oshkosh, WI, $25,000. For general operations to provide support groups and sober living to individuals in recovery.

Unity Recovery Services, Larsen, WI, $25,000. For general operations to provide recovery support services and technical assistance to organizations seeking peer-based addiction and mental health recovery support services.

Southwest Wisconsin

FairShare CSA Coalition, Inc., Madison, WI, $30,000. To increase access to fresh food for individuals and families of limited-income in southern Wisconsin.
Boy Scouts of America, La Crosse, WI, $55,000. For general operations to provide scouting opportunities for boys and girls in southwestern Wisconsin and Houston County, Minnesota.

Literacy Network, Inc., Madison, WI, $70,000. For general operations to provide literacy skills development, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, citizenship classes, and GED/HSED for adults in Dane County.

Southeast Wisconsin

Life Navigators, Milwaukee, WI, $45,000. To provide and expand in-home and community-based services to support aging caregivers caring for loved ones with disabilities.

United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, $40,000. For general operations to support neighborhood centers working to improve the quality of life for Milwaukee’s urban families.

Waukesha County Community Dental Clinic, Inc., Waukesha, WI, $70,000. For general operations to provide oral health care access, services, and education to low-income youth in the Greater Milwaukee area.

Wisconsin Women’s Business Initiative Corporation, Milwaukee, WI, $75,000. To will provide one-on-one technical business counseling and access to business education, networks, volunteers and other resources for diverse and disadvantaged small businesses in the State of Wisconsin receiving loans from the Otto Bremer Trust PRI.

# # #

Otto Bremer Trust
30 E. 7th St. Ste. 2900, St. Paul, MN 55101-2988
Main 651 227 8036 | Toll-free 888 291 1123