



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Otto Bremer Trust makes 144 grants totaling \$14.3 million in December and January

Trust also distributes more than \$16.6 million to six local intermediary partners as part of its new Community Responsive Fund pilot program

ST. PAUL, February 14, 2024 — The Otto Bremer Trust awarded \$14,320,144 in grants and program-related investments in December 2023 and January 2024.

“As we enter a new calendar year, we are extremely honored to continue the work set out by our namesake, Otto Bremer, 80 years ago,” said Daniel Reardon, co-CEO and trustee, OBT. “With the need for financial assistance continuing to grow, we will focus on supporting these communities and organizations with responsive giving, furthering OBT’s mission and the legacy of this visionary philanthropist.”

A complete list of grants and program-related investments by region and state appears below, followed by more information about OBT’s new Community Responsive Fund.

Greater North Dakota

Abused Adult Resource Center, Bismarck, ND, **\$100,000**. For general operations to provide emergency shelter, one-to-one case management, and associated services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and human trafficking.

Western Plains Public Health, Mandan, ND, **\$35,000**. To provide supportive services to individuals struggling with substance use disorder and decrease the spread of infectious diseases.

Red River Valley

Cass Clay Community Land Trust, Fargo, ND, **\$40,000**. For general operations to develop and maintain the long-term affordability of housing in the Fargo-Moorhead region.

Girl Scouts, Dakota Horizons, Sioux Falls, SD, **\$85,000**. To provide educational opportunities, improve academic performance, and build character for girls in underserved areas of North Dakota and Minnesota.

Great Plains Food Bank, Fargo, ND, **\$100,000**. For general operations to acquire and distribute shelf-stable and perishable food to individuals living with food insecurity across North Dakota and Clay County, Minnesota.

North Dakota State College of Science Foundation, Wahpeton, ND, **\$120,000**. To expand the registered nursing (RN) program to address the growing shortages of licensed RNs in North Dakota.

Northlands Rescue Mission, Grand Forks, ND, **\$65,000**. For general operations to provide emergency shelter for men, women, and families experiencing homelessness in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Northwest Regional Development Commission, Warren, MN, **\$25,000**. To create a centralized regional office in northwest Minnesota to provide the leadership and expertise necessary to expand affordable workforce housing.

A Place for Hope: Recovery and Wellness Center, Inc., Moorhead, MN, **\$25,000**. For general operations to address food insecurity in individuals and families in Cass and Clay Counties.

United Way of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks & Area, Grand Forks, ND, **\$75,000**. For general operations to provide housing assistance, temporary housing, and support basic needs for families in the greater Grand Forks area.

Minnesota Statewide

Candid, New York, NY, **\$12,000**. For membership renewal to promote philanthropy in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and Wisconsin communities by providing free local access to resources.

Council on Foundations, Washington, DC, **\$25,000**. For annual membership to strengthen, expand, and enhance the vitality of our communities.

Minnesota Council on Foundations, Minneapolis, MN, **\$45,000**. For annual membership and support of the organization.

Ronald McDonald House Charities, Upper Midwest, Minneapolis, MN, **\$65,000**. For general operations to provide a home away from home and a place of respite for families dealing with a child's serious illness, injury, or disability.

Technology Association of Grantmakers, Chicago, IL, **\$5,000**. Membership renewal.

Northern Minnesota

Care Partners of Cook County, Grand Marais, MN, **\$25,000**. For general operations to provide care coordination, outreach, and transportation to support older adults in northern Minnesota.

Friends of the Finland Community, Finland, MN, **\$30,000**. For general operations to provide youth development, community, and food system solutions in Finland, Minnesota, and the surrounding areas.

Itasca Economic Development Corporation, Grand Rapids, MN, **\$75,000**. For general operations to support and nurture entrepreneurship and innovation in Itasca County and northeastern Minnesota through education, research, and outreach.

North Homes, Inc., Grand Rapids, MN, **\$50,000**. For capital renovation to increase community-based mental health services for children and families in Grand Rapids.

Silver Bay Public Library, Silver Bay, MN, **\$100,000**. For capital to renovate and expand the library to improve accessibility and efficiencies in northeast Minnesota.

Support Within Reach, Grand Rapids, MN, **\$75,000**. For general operations to provide support services to victims of sexual assault and prevent further sexual violence in northern Minnesota.

Young Women's Christian Association, Duluth, MN, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide transitional housing, early childhood education, and youth programming for women and girls in Duluth.

Central Minnesota

Anna Marie's Alliance, Saint Cloud, MN, **\$125,000**. For capital support to renovate and expand a 36-unit shelter for victims of domestic abuse and their families in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Cass County Economic Development Corporation, Walker, MN, **\$20,000**. For general operations to support entrepreneurs and small businesses through technical support and business development services in Cass County, Minnesota.

Empowering Kids Perham, Perham, MN, **\$45,000**. For general operations to provide therapeutic, recreational, and learning opportunities for neurodivergent youth.

Hands of Hope Resource Center, Inc., Little Falls, MN, **\$40,000**. For general operations to support survivors of domestic and general violence in Todd and Morrison Counties.

Helping Hands Outreach, Holdingford, MN, **\$20,000**. For general operations to provide support services that enable seniors to remain in their homes.

Kinship Youth Mentoring of Princeton, Princeton, MN, **\$5,000**. For general operations to coordinate a one-to-one mentorship program for youth aged 5-15 in the Mille Lacs County area.

Morris Area Child Care Center, Morris, MN, **\$45,000**. For general operations to expand childcare services, address childcare affordability for low-income families, and provide early childhood educational services in Morris, Minnesota.

True Friends, Annandale, MN, **\$45,000**. For general operations to provide programs focused on personal care, adapted activities, and targeted therapies for children with disabilities.

Twin Cities Metropolitan Area

Aliveness Project, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, **\$200,000**. For capital support to construct an expanded HIV prevention clinic and specialized pharmacy in the Twin Cities.

Aliveness Project, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, **\$45,000**. For general operations to provide community support and direct services to people living with HIV.

Annex Teen Clinic, Robbinsdale, MN, **\$50,000**. For general operations to support young people's access to low-barrier and inclusive sexual health care.

Anoka County Brotherhood Council, Inc., Anoka, MN, **\$30,000**. For general operations to provide food, clothing, resources, navigation, and connections to low-income households in Anoka County and the surrounding area.

Urban Squash Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN, **\$20,000**. For general operations to provide academic, civic leadership, and health and wellness programs for under-represented youth.

Como Park Living at Home Block Nurse Program, Saint Paul, MN, **\$10,000**. For general operations to provide professional and volunteer assistance to enable elders to remain in their homes with optimal independence, safety, and wellness in St. Paul.

Crescent Cove, Brooklyn Center, MN, **\$45,000**. For general operations to provide respite and hospice services for care and support for youth.

Dress for Success Twin Cities, Saint Paul, MN, **\$60,000**. For general operations to provide workforce development training for low-income women to achieve economic mobility in the Twin Cities.

East Side Neighborhood Development Company, Inc., Saint Paul, MN, **\$50,000**. For general operations to create affordable housing and to support small businesses on St. Paul's east side.

First Children's Finance, Minneapolis, MN, **\$110,144**. To increase the supply of quality and affordable childcare in rural Minnesota through training, technical support, and access to financial capital.

Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, Minneapolis, MN, **\$10,000**. To provide basic needs support, case management, and recovery services for unsheltered individuals in Minneapolis.

Hmong American Farmers Association, Saint Paul, MN, **\$55,000**. For general operations to provide critical training, resources, and opportunities for Hmong farmers to expand their farming businesses.

Ignite Afterschool, Minneapolis, MN, **\$50,000**. For general operations to strengthen the quality of afterschool and summer youth programs through professional development, continuous improvement, and field building initiatives.

Lakes Center for Youth and Families, Inc., Forest Lake, MN, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide counseling, intervention engagement, and enrichment activities for youth.

Little Earth Residents Association, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, **\$65,000**. For general operations to address behavioral health and promote self-sufficiency through culturally relevant programming and supportive services for Little Earth families.

LiveMore, Minneapolis, MN, **\$25,000**. For general operations to support youth mental health and expand digital well-being programs at Minnesota schools.

Merrick Community Services, Saint Paul, MN, **\$40,000**. For general operations to address food and housing insecurity on the east side of St. Paul.

Mind the G.A.P.P., Minnetonka, MN, **\$30,000**. For general operations to provide credentialed commercial driver's license training, job placement-career development, financial literacy, and support services to African Americans in the west metro.

Minnesota Council of Churches, Minneapolis, MN, **\$85,000**. To provide direct services to refugees and coordinate networks of service providers in the Twin Cities and southwest Minnesota.

Native Governance Center, Minneapolis, MN, **\$75,000**. To provide customized Tribal finance training and support for a cohort of Tribal council leaders, finance department administrators, and accounting staff from North Dakota and Minnesota Native nations.

Nokomis Healthy Seniors Program, Minneapolis, MN, **\$20,000**. For general operations for wraparound services to help seniors remain in their homes in the Nokomis area of Minneapolis.

Northside Achievement Zone, Minneapolis, MN, **\$60,000**. For general operations to end multi-generational poverty in north Minneapolis by building a culture of achievement.

Partnership in Property Commercial Land Trust (PIPCLT), Minneapolis, MN, **\$50,000**. For general operations to redevelop and preserve long-term affordable commercial spaces through community-driven ownership of land in the Twin Cities.

Pillsbury United Communities, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, **\$125,000**. For general operations to provide sustainable and equitable economic development opportunities for communities in Minneapolis.

Reach for Resources, Inc., Minnetonka, MN, **\$35,000**. To provide housing, employment, and individualized support to empower adults with disabilities to live independently in the community.

Relentless Academy, Brooklyn Center, MN, **\$20,000**. To expand summer programs to provide positive, culturally relevant academic and social-emotional enrichment opportunities for additional students in communities of color.

Sojourner Project, Inc., Hopkins, MN, **\$40,000**. For general operations to increase safety for victims of domestic violence and elder abuse by providing safe shelter, legal advocacy, and violence prevention programs.

Southern Anoka Community Assistance, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, **\$40,000**. For general operations to support basic needs for families, seniors, and people experiencing homelessness in Anoka County.

Stories Foundation, Inc, Anoka, MN, **\$100,000**. For capital support to construct housing, an employment cafe, and service center to provide wraparound services to human trafficking survivors in the northwest metro area.

University of Minnesota Foundation, Minneapolis, MN, **\$125,000**. To drive community-based problem solving addressing challenges and opportunities in Minnesota's rural communities with populations of 10,000 or fewer residents.

University of Minnesota Foundation, Minneapolis, MN, **\$5,000,000**. For a new state-of-the-art facility that will enable the Community-University Health Care Center to provide quality health care and wraparound services that aid in healing for medically underserved people in the Twin Cities.

Urban Ventures Leadership Foundation, Minneapolis, MN, **\$60,000**. For general operations to support youth and educational development for children, birth through post-secondary, as well as wraparound support to their families and community in south Minneapolis.

Vineyard Community Services, Saint Paul, MN, **\$20,000**. For general operations to address food insecurity and support basic needs in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

Southern Minnesota

Bethlehem Inn of Waseca, Waseca, MN, **\$15,000**. For general operations to provide safe and temporary housing for women and children experiencing homelessness in Waseca County.

Center City Housing Corporation, Duluth, MN, **\$100,000**. For capital renovation to provide early childhood education and youth programs for low-income families in Rochester.

Child's Place, Redwood Falls, MN, **\$25,000**. For general operations to provide advocacy services to support child victims of crime and their caregivers in southwest Minnesota.

HOPE Center, Faribault, MN, **\$25,000**. For general operations to provide domestic violence advocacy support services and violence prevention outreach in Rice County.

Let's Smile, Inc., Owatonna, MN, **\$25,000**. For general operations to improve access to oral health care and increase oral health awareness for underserved children in southeast Minnesota.

Ronald McDonald House Charities Midwest MN WI IA, Rochester, MN, **\$150,000**. For general operations to provide a home away from home for families seeking medical treatment for their critically ill children.

SEMCAC, Inc., Rushford, MN, **\$60,000**. For capital renovation to provide services that improve individual self-sufficiency and family stability in southern Minnesota.

SEMCAC, Inc., Rushford, MN, **\$60,000**. For general operations to provide healthcare services and education for low-income individuals in the Winona area.

Southern Minnesota Crisis Nursery, New Ulm, MN, **\$30,000**. For general operations to provide emergency care and support for children whose families are in crisis.

Stewartville Public Library, Stewartville, MN, **\$150,000**. For capital to expand the library to provide increased programming, functionality, and shared space for community connections in southern Minnesota.

United Way of Olmsted County, Inc., Rochester, MN, **\$85,000**. For general operations to increase community resources to improve quality of life in southeast Minnesota.

Winona Family YMCA, Inc., Winona, MN, **\$80,000**. For general operations to provide equitable access to health and wellness programming in the Winona area.

Montana Statewide

American Red Cross of Montana, Great Falls, MT, **\$50,000**. To build capacity in rural Montana communities to prepare, respond, and recover from disasters.

Western Montana

Boys & Girls Club of Missoula County, Missoula, MT, **\$45,000**. For general operations to provide after-school and summer programs to youth in Missoula County.

The LifeGuard Group, Missoula, MT, **\$30,000**. For general operations to combat human trafficking by providing support to survivors and education to the public in Montana.

Montana Community Development Corporation, dba MoFi, Missoula, MT, **\$125,000**. To provide equitable access to capital and comprehensive technical assistance for low-income and historically disadvantaged entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Montana Community Development Corporation, dba MoFi, Missoula, MT, **\$1,500,000** (program-related investment). To provide equitable access to capital for low-income and historically disadvantaged entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Partners for Justice, New York, NY, **\$20,000**. To provide interdisciplinary services and restorative supports to Indigenous people involved with the criminal legal system on the Flathead Reservation in western Montana.

Yellowstone Boys & Girls Ranch, Billings, MT, **\$25,000**. To provide in-home behavioral health care for youth with a diagnosis of seriously emotionally disturbed in the Flathead Valley.

Central Montana

Alliance for Youth, Inc., Great Falls, MT, **\$50,000**. For general operations to advance healthy youth and family development through prevention, intervention, and treatment.

Cancer Support Community Montana, Bozeman, MT, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide support, education, and wellness for people impacted by cancer and their families.

Great Falls Community Food Bank, Great Falls, MT, **\$45,000**. For general operations to support the recovery and distribution of food to address food insecurity.

Habitat for Humanity of Gallatin Valley, Belgrade, MT, **\$40,000**. For general operations to provide affordable homeownership and retain safe housing for low-income families.

Montana FFA Foundation Incorporated, Bozeman, MT, **\$45,000**. For general operations to support Future Farmers of America programs and members in Montana.

Peace Place, Great Falls, MT, **\$30,000**. For general operations to provide respite through inclusive child care programs, caregiver support, and education for families with children who have medical and/or diverse, specialized needs.

Eastern Montana

Living Independently for Today & Tomorrow (LIFTT), Inc., Billings, MT, **\$60,000**. For general operations to support people with disabilities to live independently through education, support, and opportunities.

Montana Rescue Mission, Billings, MT, **\$65,000**. For general operations to provide emergency and temporary shelter for those experiencing homelessness.

Southeast Montana Area Revitalization Team, Inc., Baker, MT, **\$10,000**. For general operations to promote and encourage small business development, community planning, and affordable housing.

Wisconsin Statewide

Wisconsin CASA Association, Green Bay, WI, **\$35,000**. To address the needs of abused and neglected children by supporting and expanding local CASA programs in western Wisconsin.

Northwest Wisconsin

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI, **\$40,000**. To provide forensic interviews, advocacy, and mental health services to children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or maltreatment in western Wisconsin.

Feed My People, Inc, Eau Claire, WI, **\$130,000**. For general operations to strengthen food access through strategic partnerships and programming for children, families, and seniors experiencing food insecurity.

St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team, Inc., Hudson, WI, **\$55,000**. For general operations to provide forensic medical examination services and advocacy to victims of sexual violence in western Wisconsin.

Stepping Stones of Dunn County, Inc., Menomonie, WI, **\$75,000**. For general operations to provide food, shelter, and community resources to support Dunn County residents of low income.

Superior Douglas County Family YMCA, Superior, WI, **\$15,000**. For general operations to ensure households of low income can access programs that improve health and wellness, support child development, and offer safe spaces for youth.

North-Central Wisconsin

Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area, Inc., Berlin, WI, **\$45,000**. For general operations to improve the lives of children and families through after-school youth development programming and opportunities.

Faith in Action of Marathon County, Inc., Wausau, WI, **\$15,000**. For general operations to provide care services to homebound senior citizens in Marathon County.

Northeast Wisconsin

CASA of Brown County, Inc., Green Bay, WI, **\$60,000**. For general operations to advocate for abused and neglected children under the legal protection of the court system.

Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Inc., Oshkosh, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide education, safety, and support to survivors of domestic abuse and educate communities to identify, respond to, and prevent abuse.

Day by Day Warming Shelter, Oshkosh, WI, **\$40,000**. For general operations to provide emergency shelter, meals, and wrap-around services for individuals experiencing homelessness in Oshkosh.

Family Resource Center of Sheboygan County, Plymouth, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide adult literacy and home visitations to support families with young children.

Fond du Lac Family YMCA, Fond Du Lac, WI, **\$65,000**. For general operations to provide programs and services to foster youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

Foundations Health & Wholeness, Inc., Green Bay, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide mental health counseling, foster care, and youth services.

Golden House, Inc., Green Bay, WI, **\$200,000**. To support a capital campaign to build a new addition to increase emergency shelter, programs, and services to support victims of domestic violence.

Greater Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods Incorporated, Oshkosh, WI, **\$10,000**. For general operations to engage residents, encourage reinvestment, and elevate civic participation.

myTeam Triumph Wisconsin Inc, Green Bay, WI, **\$20,000**. For general operations to enrich the well-being of individuals with diverse abilities and foster lifelong relationships through community athletics.

Northeast Wisconsin Hmong Professionals, Inc., Appleton, WI, **\$25,000**. For general operations to support economic development, education, and health in northeast Wisconsin.

Pillars, Inc., Appleton, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide safety, emergency shelter, and basic needs for families experiencing homelessness.

Rainbow House Domestic Abuse Services, Inc., Marinette, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to prevent homicides, train responses, and serve survivors of domestic violence and their children.

Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County, Inc., Sheboygan, WI, **\$60,000**. For general operations to provide services and programs for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

The Salvation Army of Calumet County, Chilton, WI, **\$15,000**. For general operations to provide food and financial assistance to those in need in Calumet County, Wisconsin.

St. Joseph Food Program, Menasha, WI, **\$60,000**. To support the reconfiguration of space to address food insecurity.

Traded Treasures Thrift Store and Community Food Pantry, Ripon, WI, **\$7,000**. For general operations to provide food, clothing, and other essential items to people in need in Ripon, Wisconsin.

Oshkosh Community YMCA, Oshkosh, WI, **\$40,000**. To support the operations of a new childcare center on the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh campus.

Southwest Wisconsin

Bayview Foundation, Madison, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide out-of-school programming for youth, food access, adult education and career development, and other supportive services that help families move out of poverty and prepare the next generation for success.

Boys & Girls Club of Janesville, Janesville, WI, **\$55,000**. For general operations to provide youth development programs to promote academic achievement, physical and mental health, workforce readiness, and character development.

Boys & Girls Clubs of West Central Wisconsin, Inc., Tomah, WI, **\$75,000**. For general operations to provide opportunities for rural youth to learn and grow through programs focused on academic success, healthy lifestyles, and leadership.

Chrysalis, Inc., Madison, WI, **\$40,000**. For general operations to promote mental health and substance use recovery in Dane County by supporting work opportunities that encourage hope, healing, and wellness.

Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, Madison, WI, **\$55,000**. For general operations to support survivors of intimate partner violence through emergency shelter, case management services, legal advocacy, and other services in Dane County.

Family Advocates, Inc, Platteville, WI, **\$45,000**. For general operations to provide shelter and support to victims of child abuse, human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse.

Friends of PBS Wisconsin, Inc., Madison, WI, **\$80,000**. To support a joint reporting project to hire a full-time journalist embedded within PBS Wisconsin's news unit to increase coverage of Wisconsin's Indigenous communities and strengthen the organization's relationships with local tribes.

Gilda's Club Madison Wisconsin, Inc., Middleton, WI, **\$40,000**. For general operations to provide emotional support, education, advocacy, and healthy living activities for people impacted by cancer and their families.

Girl Scouts of Wisconsin - Badgerland Council, Inc., Madison, WI, **\$45,000**. To provide opportunities for girls in southern Wisconsin to build courage, confidence, and character as they prepare for future success.

Latino Academy of Workforce Development, Inc., Madison, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide workforce development training, literacy, and job skills development for low-income Latino and non-Latino residents of south-central Wisconsin.

Nutrition & Health Associates, Inc., Janesville, WI, **\$35,000**. For general operations to provide home-based health checks for high-risk pregnant women, infants, and toddlers in southern Wisconsin.

Project Home, Inc., Madison, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide essential home repair, weatherization services, and affordable housing to individuals and families.

Special Olympics Wisconsin, Madison, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to address health disparities and empower individuals with intellectual disabilities to become accepted in their communities.

Wayforward Resources, Inc., Middleton, WI, **\$75,000**. For general operations to provide housing services, food, clothing, and financial assistance in Dane County.

Southeast Wisconsin

Center for Veterans Issues Ltd, Milwaukee, WI, **\$65,000**. For general operations to provide housing and supportive services to low-income and homeless veterans in Wisconsin.

City on a Hill, Milwaukee, WI, **\$150,000**. For renovations to expand free dental, primary, and mental health services for underserved communities in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Community Advocates, Inc., Milwaukee, WI, **\$25,000**. To provide person-centered, housing-focused outreach to homeless individuals.

Data You Can Use, Milwaukee, WI, **\$30,000**. For general operations to advance community access to data and the skills needed to drive informed and equitable decision-making in Milwaukee and beyond.

Geneva Lakes Family YMCA, Lake Geneva, WI, **\$6,000**. To provide physical therapy programming using the sport of boxing.

Health Care Network, Inc., Racine, WI, **\$65,000**. For general operations to provide medical, dental, and social services to low-income, uninsured residents of Racine County, Wisconsin.

Hebron House of Hospitality, Inc. dba Hebron Housing Services, Pewaukee, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide unhoused individuals, families, and youth with short-term shelter, long-term housing solutions, and wrap-around support.

Jewish Family Services, Inc., Milwaukee, WI, **\$270,000**. For the construction of a supportive housing residence for individuals with disabilities and low-income seniors.

LOTUS Legal Clinic, Milwaukee, WI, **\$55,000**. For general operations to provide legal and supportive services to victims of sexual violence and human trafficking in Wisconsin.

Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI, **\$50,000**. For general operations to provide mental health counseling for children and youth to prepare them for a successful future.

Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc., Milwaukee, WI, **\$80,000**. To provide therapeutic counseling and supportive services to vulnerable adults, children, and their families to achieve healthy, thriving communities across Wisconsin.

Muslim Community and Health Center of Wisconsin, Inc., Milwaukee, WI, **\$35,000**. To implement new technology to ensure high-quality health care to underserved, uninsured, and under-insured residents of the Greater Milwaukee Area.

NAMI Washington County, Inc., West Bend, WI, **\$15,000**. For general operations to provide education, support, and community awareness so those affected by mental illness can build better lives.

Saint Coletta of Wisconsin, Inc., Jefferson, WI, **\$50,000**. To provide day programs, employment support, and housing to persons with developmental disabilities in southeast Wisconsin.

OBT's Community Responsive Fund

In addition to the above grants distributed by the Otto Bremer Trust as part of its December 2023/January 2024 grant round, the **Trust also distributed a total of \$16,640,000 in funds to six regional partners as part of the Otto Bremer Trust's new Community Responsive Fund pilot program**. The Trust will work with designated local partners that are rooted in their local communities to identify and help the Trust invest in approaches that are relevant, timely, effective, and, more importantly, address the most pressing needs and opportunities of the community.

For this initial program, six intermediary partners were chosen through an application process in November. These partners will be able to administer grants of up to \$75,000 to their region in areas with the greatest needs and opportunities, in alignment with the trust instrument and with OBT's final approval. These intermediary partners include:

- North Dakota Community Foundation, Bismarck, ND, \$1,560,000
- Initiative Foundation, Little Falls, MN, \$3,120,000
- Greater Twin Cities United Way, Minneapolis, MN \$3,640,000
- Montana Community Foundation, Inc. Helena, MT, \$1,560,000
- Greater Milwaukee Foundation Inc., Milwaukee, WI, \$3,640,000
- Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, Appleton, WI, \$3,120,000

“Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a growing need for supporting residents and services in local communities throughout the four-state region that the Otto Bremer Trust serves,” said Charlotte Johnson, co-CEO and trustee, OBT. “As these needs have increased, the philanthropic landscape has become much more complex, requiring additional insight and guidance from partners who know these communities and their needs best. This Community Responsive Fund will allow the Trust to make an even greater impact in these local communities.”

Otto Bremer Trust staff will provide ongoing guidance throughout this pilot project, including working with the intermediary partners to approve potential grant recipients whose work is aligned with the trust instrument, as well as gathering learnings.

About the Otto Bremer Trust

The Otto Bremer Trust is a private charitable trust based in St. Paul, Minn. Created in 1944 by business and community leader Otto Bremer, it is committed to supporting an enhanced quality of life for residents of Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Since its founding, OBT has invested more than \$1 billion in its region's people, places, and opportunities. Visit ottobremer.org.

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