2022 Community Foundation Competitive Grants

For 2022, the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo awarded funding totaling $930,587 to 41 organizations through its annual competitive grants process.

The Community Foundation had an unexpected, but welcome infusion of additional funding resulting in a significant increase in total grants. We will likely return to funding amounts more typical of prior cycles next year.

Below are the organizations, the specific program, and grant amounts. Grants are listed alphabetically under the Community Goal and corresponding Solution

Community Goal I: Improve Educational Achievement for Students Living in Low-Income Households

Solution I1: Improve the academic achievement and postsecondary completion of students living in low-income households, with a preference for systems change

- Belle Center    OST in a Time of Trauma    $20,000
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Erie Niagara and the Southern Tier    Mentoring Program    $20,000
- Buffalo Urban League    YOLO: Your Life Changing Opportunity    $30,000
- Gerard Place    National External Diploma Program    $20,000
- Metro Community Development Corporation    After School Program    $20,000
- Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club    Teen Programming    $20,000
- Northland Workforce Training Center    General Operations    $50,000
- Resource Council of WNY    All STARS Afterschool Enrichment Program    $20,000
- Somali Bantu Community Organization of WNY    After School Programming    $20,000
- Westminster Economic Development Initiative    Education Programs    $20,000

Solution I2: Improve the school readiness of children living in low-income households

- Jewish Family Services of Buffalo and Erie County    Family Support Program    $20,000
- Learning Disabilities Association of WNY    LEAD716 Pre-K Coordinator    $20,000

Community Goal II: Increase Racial/Ethnic Equity

Solution II1: Increase opportunities for residents to interact across racial/ethnic lines resulting in improved understanding

- Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences    Decolonization at the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences    $20,000
- Housing Opportunities Made Equal    Mobility Assistance Program    $30,000
- National Federation of Just Communities of WNY    General Operations    $20,000

Solution II2: Promote civic engagement and leadership in communities of color

- Center for Employment Opportunities    General Operations    $20,000
- Field and Fork Network    Organizing Residents for Local Food System Ownership    $20,000
- LISC WNY    Demystifying Community Development in Your Neighborhood    $25,000
• Niagara Organizing Alliance for Hope Building Civic Engagement in Niagara County $20,000
• Open Buffalo Leadership Development $20,000
• VOICE Buffalo Live Free Buffalo $20,000

Community Goal III: Protect and Restore Significant Environmental Resources and Promote Equitable Access

Solution III2: Strengthen individual environmental organizations and support a more racially inclusive and collaborative environmental community
• Cornell Cooperative Extension of Communities in Bloom Niagara County $19,300
• GO Bike Buffalo Sisters Cycling $29,348
• Groundwork Buffalo East Side Rising $20,000
• Providence Farm Collective Plant the Future of Farming $50,000

Community Goal IV: Strengthen the Region as a Center for Architecture, Arts, and Culture

Solution IV1: Increase access to long term arts instruction for children and youth living in low-income households
• Buffalo String Works Program Expansion into New Neighborhoods $20,000
• Burchfield-Penney Art Center LeRoi Johnson: A Celebration of Color $25,000
• Karen Society of Buffalo Continuum of Arts, Culture and Karen Language Instruction for Youth $16,000
• Stitch Buffalo Cultural Threads: Developing Elementary School Curricula $20,000
• WAHI Studio After School Art Club $20,000
• WNY Book Arts Center General Operations $20,000

Solution IV2: Increase opportunities for residents to engage across racial/ethnic lines through the arts
• Buffalo Arts Studio General Operations $20,000

Solution IV3: Restore and leverage significant historic buildings and architectural landmarks, with a preference for sites that promote cultural tourism (Defining historic as official recognition by State/National Register of Historic Places or local preservation ordinance)
• Buffalo History Museum Improving Access to Collections $30,494
• Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy National Register Nomination Update $37,500
• Genesee-Orlenas Regional Arts Council Seymour Place Safety and Security Upgrades $20,000
• Gowanda’s Historic Hollywood Theatre Safety and Inclusion Project $16,850
• Preservation Buffalo Niagara 1847 Eliza Quirk House $25,000
• Springville Center for the Arts Theater Renovation $25,000

Field of Interest Funding

• Erie County SPCA Wild Animal Diets $10,547
• Hawk Creek Wildlife Center Animal Care $10,548
• Vision Beyond Sight Foundation Lions Vision Program $20,000