

## Whole Family Systems grantees

February 2020

In late 2019 and early 2020, the Minnesota Department of Human Services issued Whole Family Systems Grants, totaling \$17.2 million over five years, to eight organizations throughout the state and [Future Services Institute](#) to uncover and address the systemic influences related to racial, geographic and economic inequities, and to support coordination across the programs and systems that serve children and families. These are the grant recipients.

### **Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio, St. Paul — \$380,000 per year**

CLUES will address school readiness disparities that result from systemic barriers for children, birth to age 5, in Latino families. The organization will partner with Latino parents and system partners to create community-based solutions.

### **Fond Du Lac Tribal College, Cloquet — \$398,976 per year**

The college's Ojibwemotaadidaa Omaa Gidakiiminaang language immersion program is partnering with the state, Child Care Aware and Fond du Lac Social Services to plan and implement "Grandma's House," a language nest where infants and toddlers, with the help of their parents, elders and language staff, will grow up immersed in Ojibwe language and culture in a rich, home-like environment to convey a sense of identity, responsibility and spiritual relationship to all creation.

### **Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association, Rochester — \$399,710 per year**

The association, along with Families First of Minnesota, is leading a multi-disciplinary team that is partnering with families and other community agencies to explore the social and cultural barriers to success in pre-kindergarten- to kindergarten-age children whose families are first-generation immigrants and refugees.

### **Minneapolis American Indian Center, Minneapolis — \$248,486 per year**

With their partners, including families, the center's Bright Beginnings program will help American Indian women who have experienced substance use and are at risk of or have a history of child welfare involvement develop stable, nurturing environments for their children. The project will incorporate cultural teachings and seek out additional cultural resources for their work with families.

### **NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, Minneapolis — \$285,345 per year**

To support healthy child development during the critical period from conception to age 3, NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center, along with partners and families, will research the systemic failures that result in an abundance of risk factors and a lack of protective factors for many African American children, their parents and caregivers.

**Northwest Indian Community Development Center, Bemidji — \$262,920 per year**

Working with partners, tribes and families, the center will seek systemic solutions to family separation caused by intergenerational incarceration and substance use disorder for Anishinaabe and American Indian relatives in Beltrami County.

**People Serving People, Minneapolis — \$365,770 per year**

Family homelessness overwhelmingly impacts African American and American Indian communities. With partners — including families, Mill City Kids and the Hennepin County Office to End Homelessness — People Serving People will explore issues related to access to child care and quality early childhood education, and ways to prevent the recurrence of family homelessness.

**St. Paul, city of — \$400,000 per year**

Through partnerships with financial institutions, community-based agencies and early childhood providers, the city of St. Paul is expanding and building off its college savings account initiative to create sustainable economic and financial assets, improve access to child care providers that meets families' needs, and increase nurturing community environments. The majority of the grant will be used to hire a coordinator and support the community-based child care providers and home-based child care providers. The remainder will be used to provide deposits into the college savings accounts for children born to single-parent households, and additional deposits above that to babies born to single-parent households that are American Indian and African American.