

PROGRAM/DISTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE
September 2025 GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

GOAL: STRENGTHEN REGIONAL VITALITY
Promoting Successful Aging Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Plumb-Miller Fund*: To benefit youth and preserve the dignity of the elderly.

Lifespan of Greater Rochester: \$50,000

Lifespan is seeking funding to provide continued operations at two of their community-based, adult centers in the city of Rochester that primarily serve low-income older adults.

GOAL: CREATE AN EQUITABLE COMMUNITY
Upward Mobility Action Area

Recommendations are supported by:

- *Anne Heneghan Fund for Infant Care*: To nurturing children in their first year of life.
- *Cady Frey Family Fund*: To support community causes and issues important to their family.
- *Chester and Dorris Carlson Charitable Fund*: To meet the changing needs of Greater Rochester, with particular emphasis on education and libraries.
- *Early Childhood Education Fund*: Encourages developmental learning that prepares children to succeed in school.
- *Edna Jeanne Brush Fund*: Created by a family that believes in the importance of early childhood education.
- *Hugh Knapp Fund for Early Childhood Education*: To benefit his favorite cause.
- *Mary Elizabeth Conlon Fund*: To provide food and shelter for children up to age 12.
- *Robert and Ann Van Niel Fund*: To support early childhood education.
- *Sinclair Family Fund for Early Childhood Education*: To support early childhood education and the changing needs of the community.
- *VJ Stanley Sr. Fund*: Fund for children's education, health, and veterans' causes.

Note: The following recommendations are aligned with the Community Foundation's *Early Childhood Upward Mobility Framework* and the research of Dr. Tyana Velazquez Smith – representing our new strategic approach to evidence based grantmaking, and research-backed community impact.

Child Care Council, Inc.: \$105,000

The Child Care Council is seeking support to pilot a coaching and resources initiative with twelve licensed home-based childcare programs in Rochester, strengthening language-rich routines and book-centered play for approximately seventy children through individualized coaching, materials, and technology supports.

Literacy Volunteers of Wayne County, Inc.: \$90,000

The First Pages initiative brings developmentally attuned, family-centered literacy experiences directly into small, in-home daycares across rural Wayne County, delivering monthly visits with guided read-alouds, motor skill activities, and book distribution to support school readiness for infants and toddlers.

Rochester Childfirst Network: \$100,000

This project will expand and enhance Rochester Childfirst Network's Family Child Care (FCC) program. The project aims to strengthen support for current FCC providers and recruit new providers to meet growing community demand for affordable, high-quality childcare.

Rochester Public Library: \$112,000

The Rochester Public Library will expand its "Raising A Reader" program to serve 16 home-based childcare providers in Monroe County, delivering weekly book rotations, early literacy training, and culturally responsive resources directly to providers who cannot access traditional library services due to transportation barriers.

Wayne County Action Program, Inc: \$60,000

The Early Childhood Ecosystem Equity Project strengthens Wayne County's home-based childcare providers through district-anchored workgroups, ecosystem mapping, and direct literacy support while elevating family voice in early childhood planning. This request will provide eight home-based providers with literacy kits and professional development, host family focus groups including those who rely on home-based care and build sustainable collaboration across the county's eleven school districts.