

Media Contact: Jeanne Carpenter; 612-803-1282
jcarpenter@perception-ink.com

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation, F. R. Bigelow and Mardag Foundations Announce More than \$7 Million in Community Grants

Grants target homelessness, support for women, mental health and justice reform

ST. PAUL, MINN. -- March 9, 2022 -- [The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation](#) (the Foundation), [F. R. Bigelow Foundation](#) and [Mardag Foundation](#) today announced that, together and independently, they have awarded more than \$7 million to Minnesota nonprofits in their first round of 2022 grantmaking. Grants will support community organizations as they rebuild in a time of Covid-19 and after civil unrest.

“We are fortunate to have highly committed nonprofit organizations throughout Minnesota that boldly, compassionately and imaginatively address some of the most challenging issues facing our communities,” said Tiffany Kong, the Foundation’s director of Community Impact. “It is a privilege to be able to support the important community-led work these organizations are doing to advocate for equity and improve the wellbeing of all Minnesotans.”

The following organizations were among the most recent round of grant recipients:

- [Mitchell Hamline School of Law’s Reentry Clinic](#) was awarded \$40,000 by F. R. Bigelow Foundation to sustain its work helping people transition from incarceration back into society by offering legal representation and connections to other services, including community education. The clinic also gives Mitchell Hamline students real-world legal experience as, under the supervision of faculty and experienced attorneys, they help clinic clients with family law, criminal record expungement and other legal matters.
- [Anna Marie’s Alliance](#) was awarded \$25,000 by Mardag Foundation to ensure ongoing support for survivors of domestic violence in central Minnesota. Anna Marie’s Alliance operates the only domestic violence shelter in central Minnesota, serving Stearns, Benton, Sherburne, Mille Lacs and Wright counties. Since 1979, Anna Marie’s Alliance has sheltered more than 17,000 women and children and provided crisis intervention and other resources to countless more.
- [Face to Face](#) was awarded \$80,000 by the Foundation and F. R. Bigelow Foundation to support its ongoing provision of services to youths experiencing homelessness. Face to Face is a safety net provider of health care, counseling, food and transportation services through SafeZone, a drop-in center for youth in downtown St. Paul, as well as through its clinic on St. Paul’s East Side.
- [HOME Line](#) was awarded \$65,000 by the Foundation and F. R. Bigelow Foundation to support its work providing legal, organizing, educational and advocacy services to tenants to help them solve their rental housing problems. Demand for its services grew dramatically as it worked to help renters avoid eviction during the pandemic.
- [Standpoint](#) (formerly Battered Women’s Legal Advocacy Project) was awarded \$20,000 by Mardag Foundation to support its statewide work promoting justice for domestic and sexual violence victims. Demand for Standpoint’s representation, training, litigation support and legal advocacy services nearly doubled during the pandemic.

- [Restoration For All](#) was awarded \$50,000 by the Foundation and F. R. Bigelow Foundation to support its continuing efforts to reduce economic disparities and improve wellbeing among African immigrants and refugees, especially women and girls. Taking a uniquely culturally sensitive approach, Restoration for All honors and elevates traditional values that are strengths of immigrants and refugees while creating a safe space for growth and mutual support and exploring paths to economic self-sufficiency.
- [RISE](#) (Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for Empowerment) was awarded \$30,000 by the Foundation to support its work challenging Islamophobia, gender inequity and racism. RISE focuses especially on women in the Minnesota Muslim community who are underrepresented in the political process. In 2021, RISE launched a leadership development series, led by local Muslim women, to help crease financial literacy and build wealth.

###

About the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation

The Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation believes in the best of Minnesota and the power of its communities. With roots in Saint Paul and partners across the state, it is Minnesota's largest community foundation and the partner of choice for thousands of donors, nonprofits and community organizations. The Foundation aspires to create an equitable, just and vibrant Minnesota where all communities and people thrive by inspiring generosity, advocating for equity and investing in community-led solutions. Visit: spmcf.org

About F. R. Bigelow Foundation

F. R. Bigelow Foundation is committed to making the Saint Paul community a better place to live, learn and grow. Frederic Russell Bigelow, fourth president of the Saint Paul Fire and Marine Company (now Travelers), created the Foundation through a trust in 1946. Today, his commitment to strengthening the Saint Paul area lives on through the Foundation. The Foundation is an affiliate of the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation. Learn more at frbigelow.org.

About Mardag Foundation

Established in 1969, Mardag Foundation is the legacy of Agnes Ober. The Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations that enhance quality of life, inspire learning, revitalize communities and build capacity for the arts across the state of Minnesota. Agnes' passion lives on through the work of her descendants who serve on the Foundation's board. The Foundation is an affiliate of the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation. Learn more at mardag.org.