
PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

May 9, 2018

For more information, contact: Allie Detert (adetert@doorcreekchurch.org)

A girl's group focused on developing business and financial literacy through the creation and sales of jewelry, field trips and career exploration opportunities for Latino and Spanish-speaking youth, and school-based English language courses for parents to advocate for their children's education are among the 10 grants awarded by Door Creek Church (DCC) through its 2017-2018 grantmaking cycle.

As a church, DCC places a high value on the importance of education. The church also values collaboration, community engagement and sustainability. That is why \$40,000 given by the congregation was put back into the hands of organizations that have dedicated their entire mission or an organizational project to addressing the opportunity gap in Dane County in hopes of one-day gaining educational equality for all.

Grants awarded include:

1. **Aldo Leopold Nature Center** - \$1,800 to support *Learning Naturally: Combatting Educational Inequalities in Madison Youth*, which partners with Badger Rock Middle School to integrate field sciences into the curriculum through innovative and hands-on exploration of nature.
2. **Centro Hispano** - \$3,500 to support *Juventud* and *Escalera*, which provide one-on-one academic support as well as opportunities for exploration of cultural identity to over 200 middle and high school Latino and Spanish-speaking youth enrolled in the Madison Metropolitan School District.
3. **East Madison Community Center** - \$4,200 to support *Academic Improvement through Minority Mentors*, which provides trained minority teachers and tutors that deliver sessions of structured support and skill-specific curriculum every school day throughout the year for 100 or more students.
4. **Literacy Network** - \$5,000 to support school-based English language courses that help parents learn how to advocate for their children's education and teach the culture of American schools. These free classes and one-on-one instruction also help promote the importance of early childhood literacy.
5. **Maydm** - \$5,000 to provide educational opportunities for students to excel in STEM education. Funds granted will increase the quality of programs by helping provide the cultural competency and classroom management training the instructors need to properly engage each student.
6. **Mentoring Positives** - \$5,000 to support *ReJeweled*, which provides girls the opportunity to create jewelry to sell to donors, community members, and at local markets. This program educates youth in business management, marketing, financial literacy, community engagement, and more.
7. **Performing Ourselves** - \$4,500 to provide consistent transportation for the UW undergraduate students that teach dance and wellness to underserved youth, combining dance education and movement therapy to empower low-income children in the areas of self-concept and resiliency.
8. **Sun Prairie High School** - \$1,000 to support the inaugural *All-School Read*, which provides all students and staff with a copy of the novel *All American Boys* in order to improve literacy across the school and promote healthy dialogue around issues of race and equity.
9. **Vera Court Neighborhood Center** - \$5,000 to provide a free summer camp for at-risk youth that includes hands-on activities and service-learning projects to promote writing, STEM, and creative thinking at both Vera Court and Bridge Lake Point Waunona neighborhood centers.
10. **Westside Elementary School** - \$5,000 to support *Creating a Community of Readers*, which engages students and families by selecting titles for the book room and classroom libraries. This will help increase student literacy school-wide and promote a life-long love of reading in all students.