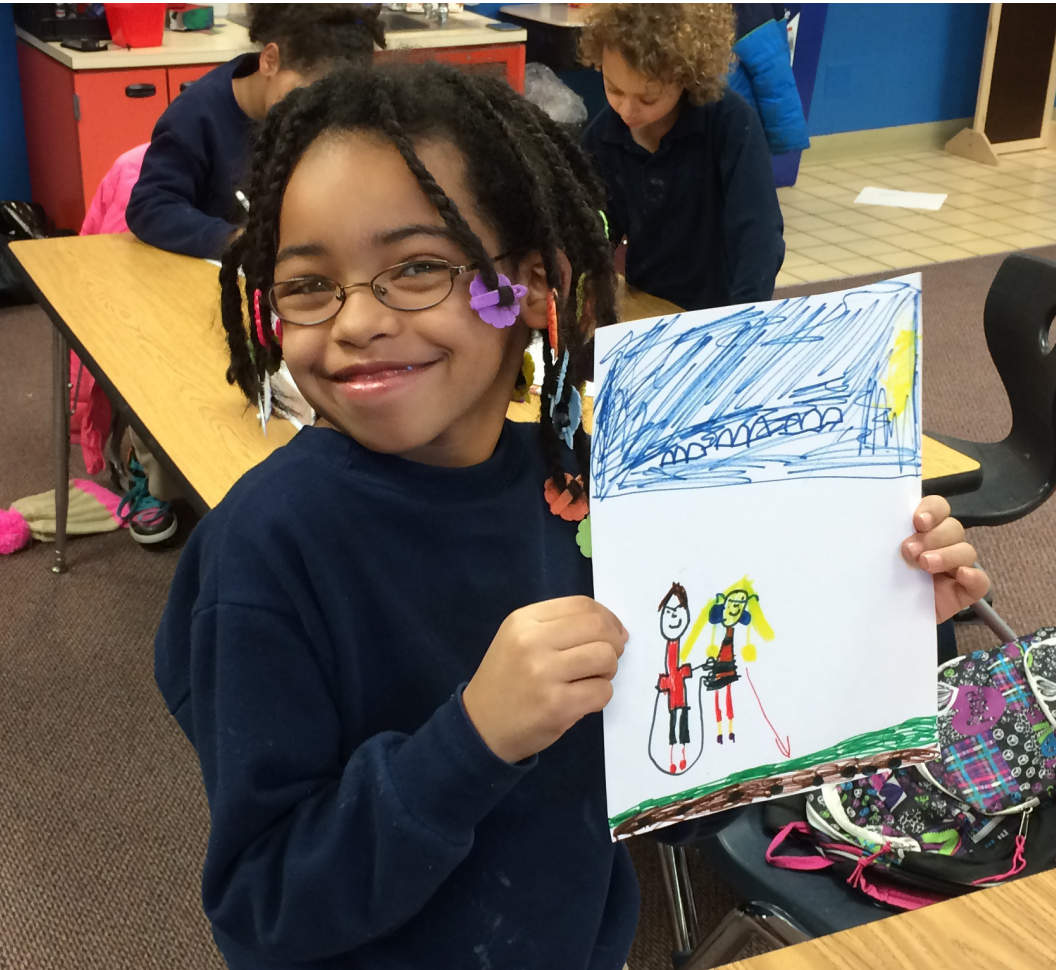


# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



**INTERFAITH**  
**ACTION** OF GREATER  
SAINT PAUL

## DEAR FRIENDS

It's hard to follow the news these days without asking what is going wrong in this world. Even more difficult is figuring out how we should respond. In a piece called, "Trying to Hold onto Hope," Donald Gault points us to helpful passages from the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

[Dr. King] said: "Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that." As we decide together how to respond to the horrors of the past week, weeks, months and years, I believe that the title of Dr. King's final book poses the question quite clearly: Where Do We Go From Here, Chaos or Community?

Here at Interfaith Action, we choose community.

In 2015, we concluded work begun in 2013 to lay the groundwork to shed more light and sow more love. Our board completed an in-depth strategic planning process that produced several game-changing results. First, we opened membership in our organization to **people and congregations from all faiths**. Second, we narrowed our focus to work that supports opportunity,

Cover: Project SPIRIT student at Maxfield Elementary smiles proudly showing her artwork from class.

hope, and respect built on understanding. We articulated this organizational vision: **People of faith will relieve the effects of poverty and address its causes through the transformative work of thousands of volunteers**. Finally, we unveiled the new name we adopted to reflect these core decisions: **Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul**.

Interfaith Action's work is a portion of what our community needs as an antidote to darkness and hate:

- **Project Home** and **Going Home** provide shelter, community, warmth, support, dignity, and an infusion of learning to families experiencing homelessness.
- **Project SPIRIT's** intensive, high-dosage, culturally-specific after-school experience for African American children in four different K-5 Saint Paul public schools greatly enriches the lives of the children and families it serves.
- **Department of Indian Work's** emergency services, diabetes prevention and management programs, and culturally-specific after-school program

meet critical needs at critical times in a way that promotes choice, dignity, learning, and health.

And we have additional touchpoints in the community through other programs: our Farm-Faith Project, Interfaith Youth Connection, and more. And soon we'll be adding even more compelling learning and volunteer work through the **Infrastructure of Opportunity** framework.

This annual report gives you some statistics about our reach, and some information about our finances. The main message of this report, though, is that we can't think of anything more important to be doing in this world right now than shedding light and sowing love.

Warm Regards,



**Randi Ilyse Roth**  
Executive Director



**Rev. Rex McKee**  
Board President



"I really enjoy being able to take the time to think about my week to week goals. I know what I want to do in the future. Going Home is helping me get there."

— ANNETTE, GOING HOME PARTICIPANT

Interfaith youth leadership team attended the Annual Assembly and led the opening and closing prayer.



## MISSION

We unite the people, resources, and voice of the faith community to build a more just, safe and livable East Metro for all.

## VISION

People of faith will relieve the effects of poverty and address its causes through the transformative work of thousands of volunteers.

## PROGRAM RESULTS

Fiscal Year July 2014–June 2015

### DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN WORK

**2,099 individuals** received food and **910 individuals** received clothing from the Emergency Services food shelf and clothing room. **531 food bag** were distributed for the holidays. A total of **68,469 pounds of food** were provided during the year.

**128 participants** received Diabetes education, through the Family Education Diabetes Series (FEDS) evening sessions and other community events.

**117 children** received academic support and gained a stronger cultural identity through the Youth Enrichment after-school and summer program. **214 youth** were served in the Health and Wellness program.

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*“I have been attending FEDS for three years, and I love the feeling of love and acceptance. Being able to know my blood pressure and blood sugar helps to keep me on track. Chi Miigwech!”*

— JUNE, AGE 51, FEDS PARTICIPANT

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### PROJECT HOME

Working with **46 community partners** and thousands of volunteers, **430 families** facing homelessness in Ramsey County had a safe place to spend the night. During the year, **24 faith communities** hosted **10,883 bednights** for children and their parents.

Going Home, a 16-bed short-term supportive housing program for families, began this year.

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*“I would love to thank Project Home for all the help finding resources for myself and my two girls. What I enjoy the most is, being able to have a safe place for us to go at night.”*

— TEMPESTT, AGE 25, PROJECT HOME GUEST

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### MLK COMMUNITY BREAKFASTS

With the help of countless volunteers, **9 breakfast sites** were hosted, each featuring a hot breakfast, local programming, and a live broadcast of the annual MLK Holiday Breakfast, sponsored by the General Mills Foundation. **1,322 people attended** these community celebrations, and **\$5,872 was raised** and donated to local organizations chosen by the sites.

### PROJECT SPIRIT

**62 students** built cultural awareness and academic skills through enrichment activities drawing on African American traditions and focusing on several key traits: Strength, Perseverance, Imagination, Responsibility, Integrity and Talent. Programing took place after-school at **4 elementary schools** in Saint Paul.

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*“I am thankful for Project SPIRIT and for the help with homework. I love Project SPIRIT. It is my favorite part of the day.”*

— SARAH, AGE 7, PROJECT SPIRIT STUDENT

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### GATEWAYS TO SERVICE

Area faith communities joined together and took action to help families affected by poverty in our community. During the Generous Spirit Food Drive, which is part of the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign, community members collected **3,869 pounds of food** and donated **\$14,028**. During the School Tools Drive, more than **\$20,000 of school supplies** were donated, filling **525 backpacks** for students in need.

### FARM-FAITH PROJECT

Through a partnership with the Hmong American Partnership, **58 participants** gained new farming and economic skills, while harvesting **3,106 pounds** of healthy produce for themselves and for their families. Farmers participated in community building with the neighborhood and congregants at **1 farmers market** and gardened at **5 congregations**.

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*“Through becoming a member of [the Farm-Faith Project], I have been exposed to opportunities to socialize and connect with many different people. It feels good to work with other gardeners, and cooperate to get things done.”*

— PHOUA, FARM-FAITH PROJECT PARTICIPANT

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### YOUTH CONNECTION

**130 youth** representing various faiths and ethnic backgrounds, came together for dialogue and service at the Interfaith Youth Day of Service. Youth provided over **400 hours of service** to the community. A committed leadership team of **8 youth** planned and led activities.



## PROGRAM OUTCOMES



Ken Phipps, Project Home volunteer, talking to Mary Beth Young, Project Home Senior Site Coordinator, at the picnic he organized for families staying at Project Home.

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*“I know what it is like being homeless, and it is not fun. I was homeless for 2 years, until I got a place of my own. Being homeless is hard enough, but dealing with a family is especially hard. I donate any extra money I can to the program. Even before I was in shelter, if a friend or neighbor needed something, I would give it to them. All I would ask of them is to pay it forward.”*

— KEN, PROJECT HOME VOLUNTEER

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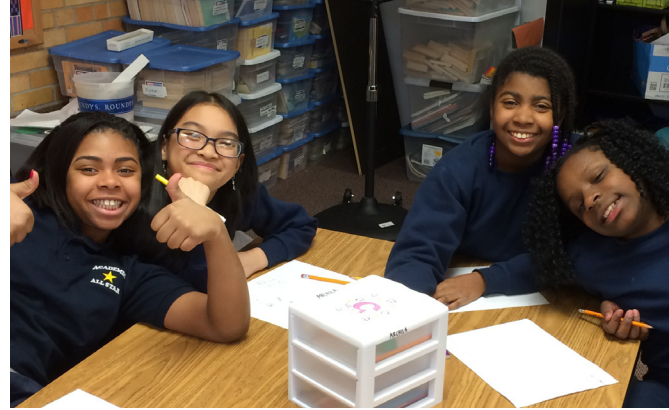
This year, the high school students in the Farm-Faith Project at Mounds Park United Methodist Church organized an event, cooking Pho for the community.

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*“I’ve always wanted to increase my leadership skills because I’m not a very confident person when taking on leadership roles. [During the season], I was given the role of explaining May Lee’s garden and the connections to eastern food. This program has changed me and helped me become a leader.”*

— LONG, FARM-FAITH PROJECT PARTICIPANT

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This year, Project SPIRIT celebrated 20 years of educating African American children in Saint Paul. Pictured are 5th grade students at Maxfield Elementary.

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*“Our daughter has learned a lot about herself as well as her culture this year. She can now confidently speak in front of a room full of people. Project SPIRIT has benefited our entire family as my daughter shares what she is learning about our culture with all of us.”*

— PROJECT SPIRIT PARENT

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*“I wish others knew that people who use the food shelf are trying, but everyone runs short. I would like to work, but my arthritis prevents me from working, and I am sure others have problems like that as well. People who can afford to buy food probably think others can too. Sometimes you can’t. If I did not come to the food shelf, my granddaughter and I would be starving. We needed food, and we needed help.”*

— VICKY, FOOD SHELF CLIENT

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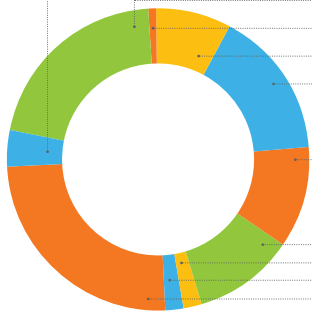


Becky Harstad and Kathy Denman-Wilke, Department of Indian Work staff, and Vicky McKee, Food Shelf client and volunteer attended the rally “Hunger Day on the Hill” to urge state lawmakers to make sure the fight to end hunger is a top priority this year. Vicky uses the food shelf, and also volunteers as often as she can to help others like herself.

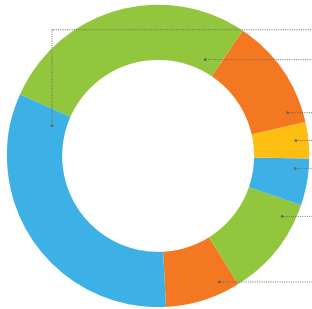
# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## REVENUE & EXPENSES

Fiscal Year July 2014–June 2015



Revenue		
Faith Communities	90,371	4%
Government Contracts	424,898	21%
Religious Organizations	16,209	1%
United Way	163,105	8%
Foundations & Corporations	317,979	16%
Individual Contributions	226,341	11%
Interfaith Action Foundation	221,555	11%
Fees & Rental	30,890	2%
Event Income	37,455	2%
Interest & Miscellaneous	8,623	<1%
In-Kind Donations	510,864	25%
<b>Total Revenue<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$2,048,290</b>	



Expenses		
Project Home	705,632	33%
Department of Indian Work	601,281	28%
Project Spirit	254,288	12%
Other Programs	82,941	4%
Faith Partners	109,096	5%
Fundraising	231,165	11%
General and Administrative	178,176	8%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$2,162,579</b>	

Change in Net Assets <sup>2</sup>	(\$114,289)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$1,052,310
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$938,021</b>

### Foundation Report

Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul Foundation, created in 1966, is a vehicle by which gifts fund an endowment, appreciate, and make grants exclusively to Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul. Some of the first Foundation gifts received were memorials and shares of stock.

The net assets held by the Foundation as of June 2015 were \$1,917,997. In FY2015, the Foundation provided \$221,555 to Interfaith Action. In the Foundation's 49-year history, it has provided more than \$2,915,935 in support of Interfaith Action programs.

<sup>1</sup> Financial Accounting Standards require that revenue be recognized in the year it was granted rather than when it is received or expended.

<sup>2</sup> The (\$114,289) Change in Net Assets from FY2014 to FY2015 includes (\$121,951) in General Fund, (\$40,537) in Building Fund, and \$48,199 in Temporary Restricted Fund.



2015 Annual Assembly, was our first event as Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul. The evening featured an inspiring exhibit called A Peace of My Mind (pictured) and keynote presentation by the artist, John Noltner.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

President, Rev. Rex McKee, Delta Airlines  
 Vice President, Mr. Chris McHugh, Therapeutic Services Agency, Inc.  
 Secretary, Dr. Jen Miller, Normandale Community College  
 Treasurer, Mr. Kirk Kleckner, Valuation USA  
 Past President, Mr. David Misemer, 3M Company

Mr. Guy E. Sederski, Licensed Local Pastor, United Methodist  
 Rev. H. David Stewart, Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church  
 Rev. Javen Swanson, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church  
 Ms. Mary-Margaret Zindren, Hennepin County Bar Association

### Foundation Board Members

also voting members of the Board of Directors  
 President, Mr. Bruce J. Nerland, Morgan Stanley  
 Secretary, Mrs. Tara D. Mattessich, Larkin Hoffman Daly & Lindgren Ltd.  
 Ms. Elizabeth Keyes, Retired, U.S. Bank  
 Mr. Steve Magistad, Charles Schwab

### Ex-Officio Board Members

Ms. Randi Ilyse Roth, Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul  
 Rev. Peg Chemberlin, Minnesota Council of Churches  
 Ms. Noya Woodrich, Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches

### Members-At-Large

Mr. Richard Andersen, Lutheran Social Service  
 Mr. Bill Brady, U.S. Bank Corporate Payment Systems  
 Mrs. Sharon DeMark, Minnesota Philanthropy Partners  
 Mr. Jeremiah Ellis, Generation Next  
 Mr. Louis Andre Fischer, BPM Show TV, LLC  
 Rev. Charles Gill, Pilgrim Baptist Church  
 Mr. Mark Hallberg, Hallberg & McClain, P.A.  
 Rev. Norma Rae Hunt, St Paul's United Church of Christ  
 Mr. Roger A. Katzenmaier, Wilkerson Guthmann



"I am a volunteer. I volunteer because it's important. It stretches me and opens my eyes and heart. This is my third year volunteering for Project Home, and I will keep coming."

— ANN, PROJECT HOME VOLUNTEER



# THANK YOU

## DONORS AND FUNDERS

Fiscal Year July 2014–June 2015

The work of Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul is made possible by faith communities, organizations, and individuals who generously donate their time, money, and in-kind gifts to support our mission to relieve the effects of poverty and address its causes in the Saint Paul community.

In addition to this list, more than 800 individuals have given financially to support our programs serving local families in need. The list of individual donors can be found online at [interfaithaction.org](http://interfaithaction.org). We are deeply grateful to have your support.

### Faith Communities

Amazing Grace Lutheran  
Arlington Hills Lutheran  
Arlington Hills United Methodist  
Assumption Catholic\*  
Augustana Lutheran  
Baha'is of St. Paul  
Bethlehem Lutheran In-The-Midway  
Centennial United Methodist\*  
Cherokee Park United\*  
Christ The King Lutheran  
Community of Christ\*  
Corpus Christi Catholic  
Dayton Avenue Presbyterian  
Edgcombe Presbyterian\*  
Epworth United Methodist  
Faith Christian Reformed  
Falcon Heights United Church of Christ  
Family of Christ Lutheran  
First Baptist  
First Christian  
First Lutheran  
First Presbyterian /South Saint Paul\*  
First Presbyterian /Stillwater  
Gloria Dei Lutheran\*  
Good Shepherd Lutheran  
Grace Lutheran /Saint Paul  
Guardian Angels Catholic  
Hamline Church, United Methodist\*  
Hazel Park Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
Holy Trinity Episcopal  
House of Hope Presbyterian\*

Immanuel Lutheran\*  
Lakeview Lutheran  
Lutheran Church of Peace  
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer  
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection\*  
Macalester Plymouth United\*  
Maple Grove Lutheran  
Maternity of Mary Catholic  
Mendota Heights United Church of Christ  
Mounds Park United Methodist  
Mount Olivet Baptist  
Mount Zion Temple  
New Life Presbyterian\*  
North Emanuel Lutheran  
North Presbyterian\*  
Olivet Congregational\*  
Peace Presbyterian  
Pilgrim Lutheran\*  
Prince of Peace Lutheran  
Redeemer Lutheran  
Salem Lutheran\*  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet  
St. Anne's Episcopal  
St. Anthony Park Lutheran\*  
St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ\*  
St. Anthony Park United Methodist  
St. Clement's Episcopal\*  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic  
St. George Greek Orthodox  
St. John in the Wilderness  
Episcopal

St. John The Evangelist Episcopal\*  
St. Luke Lutheran  
St. Mary's Episcopal\*  
St. Matthew's Episcopal\*  
St. Michael's Lutheran\*  
St. Pascal Baylon Catholic  
St. Paul Reformation Lutheran  
St. Paul's United Church of Christ\*  
St. Philips Lutheran  
St. Stephen's Lutheran  
St. Thomas More Catholic  
St. Timothy Lutheran\*  
Trinity Presbyterian\*  
Twin Cities Friends Meeting\*  
United Church of Christ in New Brighton\*  
Unity Church-Unitarian\*  
Valley Community Presbyterian\*  
Westminster Presbyterian  
White Bear Lake United Methodist  
White Bear Unitarian Universalist\*  
Woodbury Baptist

Faith community membership requires a minimum of \$100, active participation in at least one program, and a designated key contact.

\*Contributes \$2 or more per member

### American Indian Tribes

Grand Portage Reservation  
Leech Lake Tribal Council  
Lower Sioux Reservation  
Prairie Island Tribal Council  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians  
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
White Earth Reservation

### Government Agencies

City of Saint Paul  
Emergency Food and Shelter Program  
Minnesota Department of Health  
Minnesota Department of Human Services  
Ramsey County  
Ramsey County Human Services  
Saint Paul Public Schools, ISD# 625  
UMD Center of American Indian and Minority Health

### Religious Organizations

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Women  
Centennial United Methodist Women  
Church Women United in the Saint Paul Area  
Falcon Heights UCC Womens Fellowship  
Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches  
MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger  
Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet  
UMC Minnesota Annual Conference  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
White Bear Lake United Methodist Women

### United Way

Greater Twin Cities United Way

### Foundations & Corporations

3M Foundation, Inc  
Allina Health  
American Heart Association, Midwest Affiliate  
American Indian Family Center, Inc.  
Ameriprise Financial  
Aronson & Associates  
Immigration Law Firm  
Endowment Fund  
Art and Martha Kaemmer Fund of HRK Foundation  
The Bibelot Shop, Inc.  
Bike and Build Inc.  
Casey Albert T. O'Neil Foundation  
Catholic Community Foundation  
CenterPoint Energy Service Company, LLC  
Episcopal Homes of Minnesota  
Eugene U. and Mary F. Frey Fund of The Saint Paul Foundation  
F.R. Bigelow Foundation  
Garden Club of Ramsey County  
General Mills Foundation  
Gertrude R. Shiely Charitable Trust  
Hardenbergh Foundation  
Hill-Murray School

Hmong American Partnership  
Hubbard Foundation  
Hunger Solutions MN  
Jackpot Junction Casino and Hotel & Lower Sioux Indian Community  
Kopp Family Foundation  
Larkin Hoffman Attorneys  
The Laundry Doctor  
Lyngblomsten Care Center, Inc.  
MAHADH Fund of HRK Foundation  
Marbrook Foundation  
Mardag Foundation  
Margaret Rivers Fund  
Mississippi Market Cooperative, Inc  
Morgan Stanley Foundation  
Otto Bremer Foundation  
RBC Wealth Management  
Realtors Housing Foundation, Inc./SPAAR  
Renaissance Charitable Foundation  
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation  
Running Strong for American Indian Youth  
South Saint Paul Lions  
South St. Paul Dedallions  
St. Paul Curling Club, Inc.  
St. Thomas O'Shaughnessy Library  
Sunrise Banks  
Target  
The Saint Paul Foundation  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans  
TJX Foundation  
Wilkerson, Guthmann & Johnson Leadership Fund



"Youth Enrichment is just an awesome program. I am very thankful to everyone who is able to contribute to keep it going. This program is unique by providing activities that are relevant to American Indian children. My daughter feels comfortable here and likes learning about her own culture. And what she enjoys most is the friendships, these are truly life-long friends they are making."

— ALICIA, YOUTH ENRICHMENT PARENT

“As a teacher for the Youth Enrichment program, I have the opportunity to work with students not only on improving their academic performance in school, but improving and strengthening their self image as a Native American person, through activities which promote cultural awareness and pride along with a more positive outlook and determination to become the best student they can be.”

— THOMAS, YOUTH ENRICHMENT  
LEAD TEACHER



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