

CMCOA Awards \$100,000 in MN Recovery (Coronavirus) Grant Funds

Central MN Council on Aging (CMCOA) recognizes the challenges organizations face in serving older adults and family caregivers during the Coronavirus pandemic.

In June 2020 Central MN Council on Aging (CMCOA) received \$100,000 from the [Minnesota Council on Foundations](#) (MCF) to sub-award organizations serving older adults and caregivers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

From the funds received, CMCOA established an MN Recovery Response Fund. One hundred percent of the funds will be sub-awarded to community providers to support coronavirus related services. The purpose of the funds is to support older adults and family caregivers with services such as access to nutrition, volunteers, diversity, virtual service, delivery, and personal protective equipment. Grant funding must be used to serve older adults and family caregivers by December 31, 2020 in the CMCOA service area which includes: Benton, Cass, Chisago, Crow Wing, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Wadena, and Wright counties.

Eligible applicants were 501(c) 3 non-profit organizations, senior centers, tribal organizations and faith communities

In June a Request for Proposal was sent broadly across the CMCOA region. Although CMCOA had \$100,000 to award, we were truly astonished when we received 48 applications totaling over \$370,000. The applications represented the amazing work our local partners are doing to keep older adults and their caregivers safe, connected, and supported throughout this unprecedented time. The review team made up of representation from CMCOA Board of Directors and Advisory Committee had their work cut out for them in determining how the funds would be awarded.

Grant recipients:

Assumption Community Faith in Action	\$2,810	Hands Across the World	\$5,000
CARE – Community Action Respecting Elders	\$9,900	Horizon Health	\$6,400
Cass Lake Area Food Shelf	\$10,000	Isanti County Commission on Aging	\$1,219
CentraCare (Home-Delivered Meals and Medical Alert Services)	\$ 2,042	Lakes & Pines, CAC	\$6,809
Cuyuna-Heartwood	\$1,500	RiverWorks Community Development	\$4,850
Essentia Health-St. Joseph's Brainerd	\$10,000	Paynesville Area Senior Center	\$6,510
Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society	\$1,400	Senior Community Services	\$5,800
Faith in Action for Cass County	\$8,260	The Center	\$1,645
Family Pathways	\$10,000	Walker Area Food Shelf	\$1,008
Guardian Angels Senior Services	\$2,480	Wellness In the Woods	\$2,367