Universal Service Fund
Non-Profit Access Grant Program
Docket 5-NF-2022

Summary of Universal Service Fund Non-Profit Access Grant Awards

Name of the Agency	Award Amount	Geographic Area of Impact	Summary
The Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association	$9,695	Statewide	Proposes to improve telecommunication access to people living with ALS in Wisconsin, providing support & equipment to those without access today. The project includes reimbursement of the $100 co-pay for speech or mobility TEPP vouchers to 36 people, purchase of 15 voice amplifiers, 20 Bluetooth speakers and 10 iPads for our communication loan closet. Equipment will be lent at no cost, in situations where need is identified by an SLP. A minimum of 140 people will benefit from this project.
Benedict Center	$47,227	Milwaukee County	Proposes a project that will provide 120 low-income, justice-involved women with smartphones, data plans, tablets, and Wi-Fi service. Access to basic telecommunication services will help women achieve their personal goals, maintain their health and safety, obtain essential basic needs, and facilitate their treatment for substance use, trauma, and mental health issues. Technology will also support women in making connections with community resources, education and training and basic needs assistance.
Boys and Girls Club of Portage County	$48,948	Portage County	Proposes to improve telecommunications capacity, reliability, and accessibility for youth and families, especially for those who are low-income or underserved. The club will improve their telecommunications ability by upgrading internet speeds at the two club locations and transitioning to mobile computer labs at the four club locations. This proposal also includes investing in a cloud computing platform to manage all of the devices.
Boys and Girls Club of the Wausau Area	$51,452	Wausau	Proposes to ensure safety, maintenance and security of telecommunications services at the Caroline S. Mark Site and to update technology to provide digital skills instruction; job, college and career readiness; mobility and social distancing; and expand the number of technology programs offered. Funding will also ensure telecommunications connections for programming between three current sites and upcoming site expansion through additional staff devices.
Boys and Girls Clubs of West-Central Wisconsin, Inc.	$12,350	Monroe County and Sauk County	Proposes to provide telecommunications access and related resources to low-income youth at the Boys and Girls Clubs of West-Central Wisconsin, and strengthening the telecommunications capabilities throughout its rural Monroe County and Sauk County centers.

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Golden House, Inc.	$17,400	Green Bay	Proposes to purchase Chromebooks and tablets for shelter residents' use, prepaid phones and minute cards for shelter and outreach clients to access a safe phone option, and security cameras for outreach clients use at home.
Grace Lutheran Foundation	$9,418.25	Eau Claire County	Proposes to improve the quality of life for memory care and assisted living seniors through cognitive stimulation provided by interactive technology programming. The technology is a content driven digital experience introduced by iN2L Group Engagement Systems. The system is an interactive touch screen, which allows for both physical and mental engagement. This unique transportable system offers engagement regardless of the physical or mental challenges an individual may have.
HEAR Wisconsin	$8,750	Statewide	Proposes to work towards helping individuals increase independence by providing advanced technologies to aid in their communication with others and/or provide equal access to current telecommunications technologies. The Assistive Technology Center (ATC) at HEAR Wisconsin is the business unit dedicated to serving specialized communication technology needs for all individuals with hearing loss, speech, mobility or vision loss. HEAR Wisconsin makes assistive devices available to all within the community.
Literacy Network, Inc.	$30,000	Madison and Fitchburg	Proposes to increase computer and internet access for low-income adult learners through an upgrade to Literacy Network's on-site student laptops, an expansion of our lending library of laptops, and a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot-lending program. Students will use on-site laptops while they study at Literacy Network, while the lending library of laptops and mobile hotspots will be available for current students who need them to participate in virtual programming or supplement their studies.
Madison-Area Urban Ministry	$5,985	Dane County	Proposes to purchase and provide 57 cellphones with one-year contracts to reentry participants. This will enable them to stay in touch with support, find resources, apply for jobs and complete online applications. JustDane supports people recently released from incarceration and helps to provide them with resources needed for successful reentry in the community. They often lack support systems and need help accessing resources, employment, housing, food and medical treatment.
New Concept Self Development Center	$42,728	Milwaukee	Proposes to provide low-income residents necessary access to telecommunication services during traditional and non-traditional hours. The project will provide 300 community residents who do not have access to phones or computer internet services, access to services related to finding employment and support services.

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St. Charles Youth & Family Services, Inc.	$11,983	Milwaukee	Proposes to install a new internet connection dedicated for client use that will provide faster internet speeds and provide clients free Wi-Fi in the evenings and weekends when Owen's Place is closed. Owen's Place is a walk-in resource center for young adults located on Milwaukee's Northside in a "Wi-Fi" desert. A consistent internet access will help clients stay connected, conduct job searches, and access other resources as they transition to adulthood.
United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County	$30,095	City of Milwaukee	Proposes to assist residents by providing free devices and technical support to 170 households across 25 underserved census tracts whose residents lack access to any device, including a computer, smartphone or tablet.
United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley	$58,968.75	Eau Claire	Proposes to create a new Digital Equity & Inclusion Program focusing on broadband internet connectivity, computer device access, and digital literacy training. The program will follow the framework of the Techquity initiative at United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County but focus on the unique needs of Eau Claire County. The program will coordinate partners to best leverage resources and maximize effectiveness in delivering impact.
Walnut Way Conversation Corps	$50,000	Lindsay Heights Neighborhood, Milwaukee City and Milwaukee County	Proposes to provide affordable Internet service, computers, and digital literacy to Lindsay Heights residents through an exciting new partnership with PCs for People, Microsoft AirBand, and EveryoneOn. The proposal would distribute 250 refurbished laptops and modems to 600 households in the service area. USF dollars would be used to pay for staff time hire a Digital Navigator to lead culturally relevant user adoption and build community-based strategies.
Young Women's Christian Association Southeast Wisconsin	$65,000	Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha & Walworth Counties	Proposed to increase telecommunications access and knowledge of their use to navigate resources and opportunities for a minimum of 3,000 unduplicated low-income individuals in Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha & Walworth Counties. The program will provide internet and telephone service and provision of computing equipment, all within a supportive environment focused on economic advancement at the YWCA's Opportunity Advancement Centers (OAC) using an in-person and remote delivery model, depending on public health conditions. The project also provides low-cost refurbished computers through a partnership with Digital Bridge and via corporate donations. Both in-person and remote service delivery staff provide case management from eligibility to receipt to follow-up tech support. USF dollars would be used for internet/telecommunications services, and staffing costs.