



Highland Park  
*community foundation*

# 2020 IMPACT REPORT





The **Highland Park Community Foundation** improves lives and enriches our community as a whole.

Through grant funding, we **strengthen** families, **support** individuals with disabilities, **nurture** children, **assist** older adults, **develop** skills in teens, **enhance** artistic experiences, and more.

This report illustrates many of the ways in which the Foundation addressed the needs in our community and added to its vibrancy in the past year. Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to infuse more than half a million dollars into Highland Park and Highwood in 2019, making a real impact on so many of our neighbors.



Grant Recipient: Big Brothers Big Sisters

**ACADEMIC/CIVIC**

College Bound Opportunities  
Family Service - Latino Educational Continuum  
Highland Park Historical Society  
Highland Park Public Library  
Highwood Public Library  
HPHS Estudiante To Student  
HPHS Homework Club  
HPHS National Hispanic Institute  
HPHS Working Together  
Parks Foundation of Highland Park

**CREATIVE/CULTURAL ARTS**

Bitter Jester Foundation for the Arts  
East on Central Association  
Focus on the Arts  
Highland Park Strings  
Midwest Young Artists  
Music Institute of Chicago  
Pilgrim Chamber Players  
The Art Center Highland Park

**EARLY CHILDHOOD**

Family Focus HP  
Highland Park Community Nursery School  
& Day Care Center  
Jewish Council for Youth Services –  
Lutz Family Center  
Tri-Con Child Care Center

**SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Anixter Center  
Best Futures  
Center for Enriched Living  
Center for Independent Futures  
Glenkirk  
Keshet  
The Stuart I Raskas Friendship Circle of Illinois

**SOCIAL SERVICES Counseling**

Cancer Wellness Center  
Family Service - Bilingual Community Counseling  
Rainbows for All Children  
The Josselyn Center

**SOCIAL SERVICES Food Insecurity**

Blessings in a Backpack Highland Park  
Northern Illinois Food Bank

**SOCIAL SERVICES General**

A Safe Place  
Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Community Partners for Affordable Housing  
Curt's Café  
Jewish Council & Family Service - Response for Teens  
Kids Rank  
Mothers Trust Foundation  
North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic  
Youth Services  
Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center

**SOCIAL SERVICES Substance Abuse & Prevention**

Community – The Anti-Drug Coalition  
Save a Star Drug Awareness Foundation  
The Jordan Michael Filler Foundation

**SENIOR SERVICES**

Catholic Charities – Lake County Senior Services  
Southeast Lake County Faith in Action Volunteers



Award Recipient:  
Xochitl Rodriguez at the 2019 Grant Awards Reception

"Thanks to the Highland Park Community Foundation's support, I was able to participate in so many activities and able start my journey as a student athlete. It's for these programs that I am who I am today. Thank you."

*Xochitl Rodriguez, HPHS student, participant in HPCF-supported programs including Working Together and College Bound Opportunities*



Grant Recipient: Center for Independent Futures

## In our community...

Needs exist, many below the surface, making them especially challenging to tackle. Families cannot afford to send their children to pre-school or daycare. Seniors need assistance with meals, transportation, and companionship. There is food insecurity. School-aged children lack the support they need for academic success. Young adults with disabilities need help to lead inclusive, meaningful, and productive lives. There are victims of domestic abuse. Residents lack access to affordable legal and counseling services. The list goes on.

In 2019, we awarded \$525,000 in grants to fund 50 programs and services that address many of these needs. Yet we were **still unable to fund \$220,000 of additional needs** identified by our grant applicants.

7%



7% of our friends and neighbors live in **poverty**

25%



25% of **seniors** in Highland Park and 31% in Highwood live alone — many lack family and friends to call for help

25%



25% of District 112 students are low income — many are affected by **food insecurity**



2019 HPCF Golden Apple recipient Patricia Castro  
Oak Terrace School, 5th grade dual language teacher

### Highland Park Community Foundation Golden Apple

The HPCF believes that excellence in teaching helps young people reach their potential. The Foundation therefore honors one outstanding educator each year with the HPCF Golden Apple Award.

"Exceptional teachers are guiding the next generation of Highland Park and Highwood citizens. Through our recognition of outstanding teachers, the HPCF celebrates the profound impact exemplary teaching has on the children in our community."

*Sara Sher, HPCF Golden Apple Committee Chair*



Grant Recipient: Midwest Young Artists

With your support, together we ensure that people of all ages have a better chance for life success. Our partnership truly creates life-changing tomorrows."

*Gail Hodges, Director of Development, Family Service of Lake County*

We are excited to continue our work together to do more to achieve our vision of an inclusive, well-rounded community

where residents' lives are enriched through our support. Thank you for your generosity and investment in our community!

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“I am a strong believer in helping

others in our community.

Because of that, I am a

long-time supporter of the

Highland Park Community

Foundation. I appreciate the

wide variety of local

organizations they fund. The

HPCF is the perfect outlet for

my support.”

*Jim Abrams, Donor*

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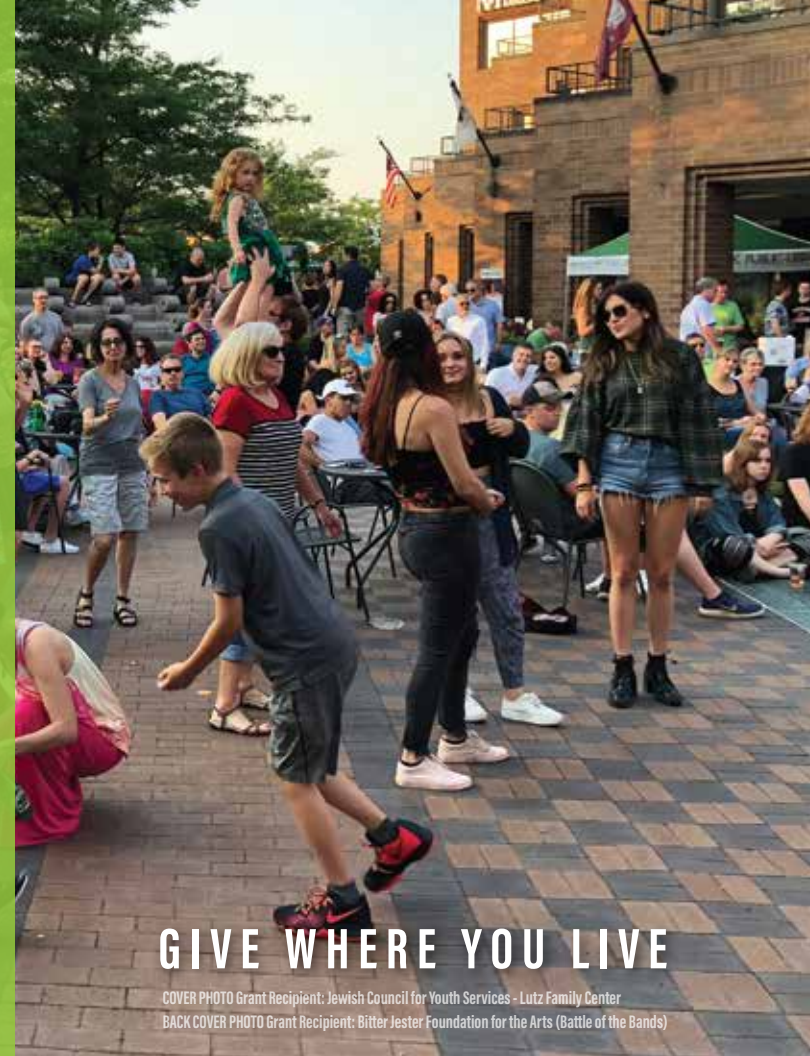
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