FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Otto Bremer Trust awards 144 grants totaling $9.9 million

SAINT PAUL, September 8, 2016—The Otto Bremer Trust has awarded $9,971,024 million in grants and program-related investments as part of its most recent grantmaking cycle.

“We are pleased to invest in dynamic organizations throughout Minnesota, North Dakota and western Wisconsin as they work towards bringing meaningful change in their communities,” said Charlotte S. Johnson, co-CEO and trustee, OBT.

Based in St. Paul, Minn., the Otto Bremer Trust is a private charitable trust established in 1944 by founder Otto Bremer, a successful banker and community business leader. OBT owns 92 percent of Bremer Bank and also manages a diversified investment portfolio. The mission of OBT is to invest in people, places and opportunities in the Upper Midwest.

A complete list of grants and program-related investments by region is included below.

Western North Dakota

**Byron Dorgan Youth Wellness Center**, Belcourt, ND, **$200,000**. To expand the youth wellness center by adding a multi-purpose addition.

**Girl Scouts, Dakota Horizons**, Sioux Falls, SD, **$137,906**. To support the Girl Scout Leadership Initiative for Indian Youth, which provides after-school and youth development programming to girls on reservations in North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota, and in Wahpeton, Fargo, and Bismarck.

**Good Samaritan Hospital Association**, Rugby, ND, **$59,345**. To update fitness equipment for the hospital-supported community wellness center.

**Mandan Golden Age Club**, Mandan, ND, **$75,000**. To support capital improvements for the organization.

**Minot State University Development Foundation**, Minot, ND, **$75,000**. To build a seasonal athletic dome to cover the stadium’s field turf, allowing year-round athletic activity for school, youth, and adult sports teams.

**North Dakota Community Foundation**, Bismarck, ND, **$50,000**. To provide mentors for men leaving prison, and financial and home buyer education for Native Americans to achieve financial independence and home ownership.

**Richardton Rural Fire Protection District**, Richardton, ND, **$50,000**. For a new truck to maintain the organization’s capacity to respond to fires.
**Rugby Public Schools, #5, Rugby, ND, $50,000.** For new playground equipment for students and the community.

**Red River Region**

**City of Mahnomen, Mahnomen, MN, $100,000.** To improve fire and rescue response for the City of Mahnomen and the White Earth Reservation.

**City of Warren, Warren, MN, $200,000.** To increase recreation activity of all ages through the development of a new community center.

**First Church of the Nazarene dba Radiant Little Lambs Day Care Center, Larimore, ND, $52,000.** For general operating support to increase daycare slots for low- and moderately low-income families in the Larimore area.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hankinson, ND, $50,000.** To increase access to quality early childhood development and preschool to children in the Hankinson area.

**Lisbon Park District, Lisbon, ND, $200,000.** To renovate the community swimming pool in Lisbon, North Dakota.

**Moorhead Public Schools, #152, Moorhead, MN, $46,046.** To promote family involvement, job readiness, and engaged learning for new American families in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

**North Dakota State College of Science Foundation, Wahpeton, ND, $140,000.** To provide skill training to New Americans and underemployed individuals for manufacturing and certified nursing assistant positions.

**Rebuilding Together - Fargo Moorhead Area, Inc., Fargo, ND, $20,000.** For general operating support to provide safe and healthy home repairs to low-income veterans, senior citizens, and individuals living with disabilities in the Fargo area.

**Rural Minnesota CEP, Inc., Detroit Lakes, MN, $60,000.** To expand career advising services to high school students in the Detroit Lakes area.

**Trinity Lutheran Church, Pelican Rapids, MN, $25,000.** For general operating support to provide opportunities and programs that strengthen community relationships and improve the health and well-being of individuals in the Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, area.

**White Earth Land Recovery Project, Callaway, MN, $40,000.** For general operating support to support planning to create food security programming for youth on the White Earth Nation.

**Wilkin County Public Health, Breckenridge, MN, $27,638.** To provide socialization, transportation and other volunteer assistance to the elderly and disabled population of Wilkin County.

**Central and Northern Minnesota**

**Breath of Life Adult Day Service, Brainerd, MN, $25,000.** For capital support to purchase and maintain safe, reliable vehicles to transport seniors to adult day care.

**Bridges of Hope, Brainerd, MN, $30,000.** To implement a community-wide system for referrals and data sharing to serve clients more effectively.

**Citizens for Backus AB, International Falls, MN, $100,000.** For general operating support for programs, administration and the buildings of the Backus Community Center.
Falls Hunger Coalition, International Falls, MN, $30,000. For hunger relief programs for people in Koochiching County who experience food insecurity.

Kinship Partners, Inc., Brainerd, MN, $50,000. To implement a strategic plan to better serve Brainerd youth with community-based and school-based mentoring.

Kinship Youth Mentoring of Princeton, Princeton, MN, $5,000. For general operating support to provide mentoring for at-risk children living in the Princeton community.

Oasis Central Minnesota, Little Falls, MN, $10,000. For general operating support to provide hunger solutions and housing for individuals and families in Morrison County.

Second Harvest North Central Food Bank, Grand Rapids, MN, $65,000. To help hunger relief agencies in North Central Minnesota improve services by providing them with a range of capacity-building support and access to equipment.

Serve Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, $100,000. To support kindergarten readiness and academic progress for St. Cloud School District students.

Western and South Central Minnesota

A Place to Belong, Fergus Falls, MN, $20,000. For general operating support to serve people with serious and persistent mental illness living in Otter Tail and Becker Counties.

Aging Services for Communities, Montgomery, MN, $50,000. For general operating support to provide transportation and services to elderly residents and for capital improvements.

Centro Campesino Inc., Owatonna, MN, $20,000. To support the Social Justice Academy and Apprenticeship program, which serves the Latino and migrant community in southern Minnesota.

City of Hoffman, Hoffman, MN, $43,015. To assist the Hoffman Fire Department with the purchase of equipment critical to the safety of its firefighting unit.

House of Hope, Inc., Mankato, MN, $20,000. To support capital improvements for this organization, which serves women and men experiencing chemical dependency in the Mankato area.

Kinship, Inc., Brainerd, MN, $25,000. For program support to expand mentoring opportunities for children, youth and families in Stevens County.

Life Work Planning Center Board, Inc., Mankato, MN, $14,000. To support the Women in Transition program, which works to build the self-sufficiency of women in Southern MN.

Otter Tail County, New York Mills, MN, $40,000. To support the Rural Rebound Initiative, which works to attract, hire, and retain workers in Otter Tail County.

SEMCAC, Inc., Rushford, MN, $15,000. To provide families and households with emergency financial assistance in Steele County.

Southwest Initiative Foundation, Hutchinson, MN, $45,000. To support the Early Childhood Dental Network in Southwestern MN.

United Way of Otter Tail County, Fergus Falls, MN, $32,917. To build fundraising capacity for increased program and initiative support.

United Way of West Central Minnesota, Willmar, MN, $100,000. To support the Growmobile, which prepares children in Kandiyohi County for kindergarten.

West Central Industries, Inc., Willmar, MN, $47,000. To connect families with children living with a disability to resources and activities in Kandiyohi County.
West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc., Elbow Lake, MN, $50,000. To provide a free taxpayer assistance program in five counties in west central Minnesota.

Willmar Area Food Shelf, Willmar, MN, $50,000. For general operating support to provide food assistance in Kandiyohi County.

Metro Area Minnesota

African Community Services in Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, $40,000. For general operating support to provide employment assistance and social services to African refugees and immigrants.

Alliance Housing, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, $35,000. For a supportive housing program to help families leave poverty.

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, St. Paul, MN, $50,000. For general operating support for a community initiative that increases academic and social support to children in St. Paul.

Ascension Place, Minneapolis, MN, $55,000. For general operating support for St. Anne’s Place, which provides emergency shelter and comprehensive support to homeless women and children.

Asian Women United of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, $40,000. For general operating support for the organization, which provides intervention and prevention services to Asian victims of domestic violence primarily in Hennepin County.

Avenues for Homeless Youth, Minneapolis, MN, $200,000. For general operating support to provide shelter, transitional housing and supportive services that help homeless youth find stability.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities, St. Paul, MN, $50,000. For general operating support to provide children in the Twin Cities with safe, life-changing mentoring relationships.

Camp Fire Minnesota, St. Louis Park, MN, $95,000. To build youth leaders who are prepared for success in school and life through Camp Fire out-of-school time programs.

Cedar Riverside Neighborhood Revitalization Program, Minneapolis, MN, $42,000. To provide programming and resources to help immigrant women from the Cedar Riverside community to increase self-sufficiency and improve economic well-being.

Children’s Law Center of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, $80,000. For general operating support to protect the rights of Minnesota’s foster care youth through legal advocacy.

City of Brooklyn Park, Brooklyn Park, MN, $90,000. To support BrookLynk, a suburban youth employment program that exposes youth to the skills and employment opportunities that are catalysts for college and career success.

CLUES, Comunidades Latinas Unidas en Servicio, St. Paul, MN, $75,000. To provide culturally relevant financial empowerment, employment, education and workforce development programs that help low-income Latino and other underserved individuals achieve economic stability.

Courage Kenny Foundation, Minneapolis, MN, $30,000. To provide vocational services, including career assessments, work readiness programs and job placement services for people living with disabilities.

Creating IT Futures Foundation, Edina, MN, $50,000. To provide information technology job training and placement in industry jobs to low-income individuals traditionally underrepresented in the IT industry.
Dream of Wild Health, Minneapolis, MN, $35,000. To support the Indigenous Food Network (IFN), a cooperative and comprehensive Native American cultural food system.


FamilyMeans, Stillwater, MN, $60,000. To support youth programs in Cimarron and Landfall mobile home communities.

Genesys Works - Twin Cities, St. Paul, MN, $50,000. For general operating support to provide career pathways and higher education support to underrepresented high school students.

Guild Incorporated, St. Paul, MN, $100,000. To provide services to youth and adults in the Twin Cities with a mental illness to help them overcome the multiple challenges they face to fully participating in the community.

Hmong American Farmers Association, St. Paul, MN, $50,000. For general operating support to create opportunities for low-income Hmong farmers to become financially stable and self-reliant through cooperative farming.

Holy Rosary Church and School, Minneapolis, MN, $20,000. For general operating and capacity building to meet basic needs and provide educational opportunities for immigrants and refugees in the Phillips neighborhood.

Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul, St. Paul, MN, $50,000. To support the Project Home shelter program for homeless families.

Interfaith Outreach and Community Partners, Plymouth, MN, $70,000. For general operating support to meet emergency and basic needs of low-income families living in west Hennepin.

International Institute of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, $350,000. To support the capital campaign to increase programs and services for New Americans by expanding the International Institute of Minnesota's current site.

International Institute of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN, $100,000. To provide housing and supportive services for new refugees and immigrants in the Twin Cities.

Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis, Minnetonka, MN, $75,000. For general operating support to provide multiple human services to people in the community.

Jewish Family Service of St. Paul, St. Paul, MN, $40,000. For general operating support to enhance economic stability and self-reliance of seniors and low-income individuals in the greater St. Paul area.

Jobs Foundation, Golden Valley, MN, $55,000. To expand the organization's capacity to provide employment opportunities to ex-offenders.

Karen Organization of Minnesota, Roseville, MN, $75,000. For general operating support to better meet the needs of Karen refugees to achieve self-sufficiency and to build organizational capacity.

Metropolitan State University Foundation, St. Paul, MN, $50,000. To provide opportunities for underrepresented and socioeconomically disadvantaged students to complete internships that contribute to degree completion, career readiness and job placement.
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minneapolis, MN, $25,000. To support Freedom School, a literacy-based summer learning program serving high-poverty youth and their families in North Minneapolis.

Minnesota African Women’s Association, Brooklyn Center, MN, $40,000. To provide cultural and gender-specific employment and training services to position Pan-African women for careers in the health care services industry.

myHealth for Teens & Young Adults, Hopkins, MN, $40,000. To support the Becoming Program, which provides prenatal education, support, and assistance to pregnant and parenting teens and young women in the west metro.

New American Academy, Minneapolis, MN, $35,000. For general operating support to provide training, skill-building opportunities, and resources to low-income East African youth and adults in order to build economically self-sufficient families.

North Metro Pediatrics, P.A., Coon Rapids, MN, $125,000. : For general operations to help low-income, uninsured and under-insured families in Brooklyn Center overcome poverty.

Northside Economic Opportunity Network, Minneapolis, MN, $100,000. For general operating support to serve entrepreneurs of color in North Minneapolis through the creation, growth and development of small businesses.

One Heartland, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, $10,000. For general operating support for educational and supportive summer camp programs for youth facing significant health challenges.

Open Cities Health Center, Inc., St. Paul, MN, $100,000. To support the Community Health Connections program's work to provide the education, screening, and coordinated care needed to increase the early detection and timely and effective treatment and management of breast cancer, cervical cancer and diabetes.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Lakeville, MN, $10,000. For general operating support of the Mission Outpost Dental Clinic, which provides low-cost dental care for uninsured and under-served individuals.

Project Success-Students Undertaking Creative Control, Minneapolis, MN, $45,000. To provide a curriculum of workshops and experiential learning opportunities designed to help Minneapolis’ Edison High School youth develop skills and a plan to succeed in school and in life.

Ready Set Smile, PA, Minneapolis, MN, $35,000. For general operating support to provide preventive oral health services and education to low-resource children and families in Minneapolis.

Somali American Parent Association, Minneapolis, MN, $20,000. For general operating support for youth, parent and community programs that serve the Somali community in the Twin Cities.

St. Mary’s Health Clinics, St. Paul, MN, $100,000. For general operating support to provide medical services to uninsured individuals, families, and children.

St. Paul & Ramsey County Domestic Abuse Intervention Project, St. Paul, MN, $40,000. To support The FLARE-UP Project, which works to reduce domestic homicides through increased protections and services to victims.

Stepping Stone Emergency Housing, Anoka, MN, $65,000. For general operating support for programs that help homeless residents achieve self-sufficiency.

The Aliveness Project, Minneapolis, MN, $40,000. For general operating support to provide supportive services for people living with HIV/AIDS.
The Network for Better Futures, Minneapolis, MN, $100,000. For general operating support to provide African-American men with multiple barriers access to employment, housing and supportive services.

The Saint Paul Covenant dba East Side Thrive, St. Paul, MN, $5,000. For general operating support to provide economically disadvantaged children and youth in neighborhoods across the East Side of Saint Paul with programming that focuses on arts exploration, academic assistance and life skills learning.

Theresa Living Center, St. Paul, MN, $70,000. For general operating support to provide transitional and rapid re-housing services for homeless women and single-parent families in the east metro area.

Think Small, St. Paul, MN, $45,000. To support a program to provide professional development to child care providers to better serve at-risk children in preschool and child care centers.

Touchstone Mental Health, Minneapolis, MN, $25,000. To provide basic needs for adults with a mental illness transitioning from hospitals, shelters, crisis programs and those at risk of becoming homeless to stable community housing.

Twin Cities Rise!, Minneapolis, MN, $200,000. For general operations to support anti-poverty employment training.

Urban Roots, St. Paul, MN, $25,000. For general operating support to increase opportunities for youth with education and employment in gardening internships.

Volunteer Lawyers Network, Minneapolis, MN, $40,000. To provide pro bono legal representation in custody cases to guardians for unaccompanied immigrant children.

Washburn Center for Children, Minneapolis, MN, $75,000. To provide access to children’s mental health services for low-income families through intensive in-home and school-based programs.

Wellshare International, Minneapolis, MN, $120,000. For general operating support to build capacity to deliver programs that improve the health of immigrant and refugee families in Minnesota.

Women’s Initiative for Self-Empowerment (WISE), Inc., St. Paul, MN, $30,000. To support an after school leadership and college preparation program targeting at-risk immigrant young women.

YouthLink, Minneapolis, MN, $100,000. To provide capital and programmatic support to meet the needs of young people ages 18-24 who are experiencing homelessness.

Wisconsin

American National Red Cross - Wisconsin Region, Altoona, WI, $80,000. To prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters, as well as to provide services to members of the armed forces and their families in Bremer communities.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the 7 Rivers Region, La Crosse, WI, $40,000. To expand opportunities for mentoring relationships for youth in the La Crosse area.

Boy Scouts of America - Voyageurs Area Council #286, Hermantown, MN, $40,000. To support Scouting programs of character, citizenship, leadership and fitness in Otto Bremer communities within the Voyageurs Area Council.
Boys and Girls Club of Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Band, Inc., Hayward, WI, $50,000. For general operating support to serve tribal youth through healthy lifestyles, character, and leadership and academic success programs.

Burnett County Family Resource Center, Inc., Siren, WI, $60,000. For general operating support to provide a spectrum of parenting services to families in Burnett County.

Family Health Center of Marshfield, Inc, Marshfield, WI, $25,000. To provide capital support for a program to improve access to oral health services for low-income and other vulnerable populations in Dunn County.

Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission, La Crosse, WI, $25,000. To support SMRT Bus, which provides accessible, efficient, and affordable public transportation to a three-county area in western Wisconsin.

Monroe County Shelter Care, Inc., Sparta, WI, $25,000. For general operating support to provide services to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence survivors.

Northwest Connection Family Resources, Hayward, WI, $100,000. For general operating support to support technical consulting and educational opportunities to raise the quality of early childhood experiences and education.

Options in Reproductive Care, Inc. dba Essential Health Clinic, La Crosse, WI, $75,000. For general operating support to provide accessible and affordable reproductive health care services in western Wisconsin.

Our Neighbors' Place, Inc, River Falls, WI, $70,000. For general operating support to provide transitional housing, basic needs and case management to homeless and at-risk families in western Wisconsin.

St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team, Inc., River Falls, WI, $60,000. For general operating support to sustain and expand sexual assault services and enhance the registered nursing staff.

The Bridge to Hope, Menomonie, WI, $50,000. For general operating support to serve victims of domestic abuse, sexual assault and human trafficking.

The Salvation Army, La Crosse, WI, $50,000. To support the Eviction Diversion program, which helps avoid homelessness for individuals and families by working with them on budgeting and other strategies.

Webster Senior Citizens, Inc., Webster, WI, $18,000. To support capital improvements to the Webster Senior Center, which provides civic and social and cultural enrichment opportunities to area elders.

Southeastern Minnesota

Diversity Council, Rochester, MN, $10,000. To support the Community Leaders Creating Change training program for communities of color, immigrants, and under-represented populations in Rochester, Minnesota.

Independent School District #535, Rochester, MN, $29,976. To support the Bridges to Education Careers program, a career and college preparation program for adult learners to become teachers.

Recovery Is Happening, Rochester, MN, $25,000. To assist in establishing recovery homes in southeastern Minnesota for people seeking recovery from substance use disorders.

Southeast Minnesota Rural Education and Resource Center, St. Charles, MN, $27,233. For operational expansion and capital improvements to the new food shelf in St. Charles.
The Main Street Project, Northfield, MN, $65,000. For general operating support to build wealth and revitalize low-income immigrant communities through entrepreneurial opportunities in regenerative agriculture.

Winona Family YMCA, Inc., Winona, MN, $250,000. For a capital campaign to build a new facility for the Winona Area community.

Winona State University Foundation, Winona, MN, $66,340. To increase the diversity and number of qualified healthcare workers in Minnesota.

Minnesota Statewide

Ampersand Families, St. Paul, MN, $75,000. For general operating support to help older youth in foster care attain permanency through adoption and to improve Minnesota’s child welfare system.

Call for Justice, LLC, Minneapolis, MN, $40,000. For general operating support for the organization, which connects low-income and moderate-income people in Minnesota with legal resources through outreach, targeted legal referrals, collaborations, and systemic change.

Foundation for Essential Needs, Minneapolis, MN, $35,000. For general operating support to provide organizational effectiveness services for community organizations addressing hunger and basic needs.

Housing Justice Center, St. Paul, MN, $60,000. For general operating support to expand and preserve affordable housing opportunities throughout Minnesota.

Ignite Afterschool, Minneapolis, MN, $50,000. To support a statewide initiative to strengthen the quality of after-school programs.

Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance, Minneapolis, MN, $60,000. To engage MABC’s member organizations to foster deep and sustained participation in issue identification, policy formation and non-partisan legislative advocacy from practitioners and program participants.


Minnesota Head Start Association, Inc., Duluth, MN, $35,961. To support research on the experiences and progress of children enrolled in Head Start in Minnesota.

Minnesota Home Ownership Center, St. Paul, MN, $50,000. To support programming and services of the Minnesota Homeownership Center and pilot the Homeownership Disparity Prevention project to address homeownership disparity in communities of color.

Minnesota Literacy Council, St. Paul, MN, $185,000. To support programs that build literacy skills for children, adults and families across Minnesota.

Nonprofits Assistance Fund, Minneapolis, MN, $1,000,000. To expand access to loans for working capital and community facilities to nonprofits providing essential services in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Western, Wisconsin.

Nonprofits Assistance Fund, Minneapolis, MN, $100,000. To provide technical assistance and training services to build the financial health and sustainability of nonprofits in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Western Wisconsin.

OutFront Minnesota Community Services, Minneapolis, MN, $50,000. For general operating support to provide opportunities for leadership development, civic engagement, training and education to build understanding for LGBTQ Minnesotans.
Page Education Foundation, Minneapolis, MN, $60,000. To provide scholarships and support services for students of color in Greater Minnesota.

Tiwahe Foundation, Minneapolis, MN, $100,000. To support capacity building of the Minnesota Native Alumni Network and Seventh Generation Endowment Campaign.

North Dakota Statewide

Community Action Partnership of North Dakota, Fargo, ND, $30,000. To end Veteran homelessness and ensure future homeless episodes are brief through housing assistance.

High Plains Fair Housing Center, Inc., Grand Forks, ND, $40,000. For general operating support to eliminate housing discrimination and ensure equal housing opportunities.

Interagency Program for Assistive Technology, Fargo, ND, $64,500. To support the organization's relocation to a larger, more accessible space to house additional services and staff in western North Dakota.

L.I.S.T.E.N. (Love is Sharing The Exceptional Need), Grand Forks, ND, $45,000. To support Self-Advocacy Solutions which provides support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in North Dakota.

North Dakota Dental Foundation, Fargo, ND, $132,147. For equipment needed to build a sustainable school-based dental sealant application program for at-risk student populations in three regions of North Dakota.

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