

Michigan Campus Compact Venture Grant Cycle 37 Grant Descriptions

Cycle 37 Request: Twenty-one proposals from 13 different institutions were submitted, totaling \$64,337. A peer review committee, comprised of ten faculty, staff and students from member institutions, reviewed the proposals for this cycle. A conference call took place January 8, 2009 to discuss each of the proposals, compare score sheets, and rank order funding priorities. The six recommended proposals represent a total award of \$17,569 to six different member institutions. Summaries of the recommended proposals can be found below.

Eastern Michigan University “Student to Student Higher Learning Initiative”

Eastern Michigan University’s Student to Student Higher Learning Initiative (SSHLI) is a foster care youth mentorship program administered by EMU students, overseen by faculty advisors and supported by university units focusing on mentorship, service-learning and community service. SSHLI partners with Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, the state’s largest provider of foster care services, and has the interest and support of several members of the local and regional business community. Each year, approximately 20,000 youths (500 in Michigan) age out of the system in American, and only 3-15% of those who graduate high school go on to pursue a college education. SSHLI will expand its efforts to guide foster care youth to the university setting through mentoring partnerships with EMU students who will offer campus activities and resources necessary to prepare foster care youth for college admittance. (Fund with changes regarding evaluation at \$3100.)

University of Michigan – Flint “International Service Learning for Nursing Students in Kenya”

In partnership with St. Mary’s Mission Hospital, Nairobi Kenya, UM-Flint nursing students will provide nursing care, health promotion and health education activities in hospital and orphanage settings in both urban and rural settings within Kenya, to those living in extreme poverty with limited access to secure water, food, shelter, and health care. Students will participate in a two-week immersion course. International academic service learning will provide students with opportunities to gain cultural understanding and competence, expand communication and critical thinking skills, grow personally and professionally, and become engaged citizens within a multicultural society. (Funded at \$3300 with institution’s student safety information to be received.)

Alma College “Medieval Service Learning”

Alma College History students will share their medieval history expertise through a series of readings, discussions, and activities with students at Pine Avenue Elementary School. These service learning literacy activities will take place during March 2009, as part of National Reading Month. (Funded at \$1170.)

University of Michigan – Ann Arbor “Ypsilanti Health Initiative (YHI)”

A collaboration between student groups at the University of Michigan and the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Ypsilanti. The Ypsilanti Health Initiative (YHI) works towards reducing obesity and improving the health and well-being of lower-income families in Ypsilanti. In doing so, YHI takes a three-pronged approach: health-education workshops, exercise classes, and incentivized grocery-shopping trips. This initiative will pilot for ten weeks with twenty families – each family with a minimum of two children. (Funded at \$3000.)

Northern Michigan University “Living the Life and Setting the Goal: 6th Grade Early College Experience”

This early college experience for the 200 6th grade students attending Northern Michigan University’s charter schools will allow students to see what it takes to realize their end goal of a two or four year degree. Sixth grade students in this four day program will experience the life of a college student as they live in the dorms, engage in campus activities, and attend liberal studies courses taught by teach candidates and college professors. This project will benefit our teacher candidates and professors as they learn to work with the minority populations represented by the NMU charter schools. (Fund with changes regarding the evaluation process at \$3500.)

Spring Arbor University “Family Literacy Project”

In partnership with Northeast Elementary School and the Community Action Agency of Jackson, Michigan, Spring Arbor University’s School of Education and Spanish Department faculty will oversee Spring Arbor University’s pre-service teachers and Spanish majors in a service learning project. The Family Literacy Program focus provides Spring Arbor University’s student real world experience in working with parents and children of Hispanic families with low English proficiency. Students will assist Hispanic adults and their children in joint literacy activities. ESL instruction for adults, books and literacy activities for the children. (Fund at \$3499.)