



Seniors Community Revitalization & Development Fund



*"You say micro loans, but these to us are not micro loans. These are a **lifeblood**...these are the ones that actually do the work, day to day to day to day."*

- Chris Azar, Rebuilding Together Southwest IL

The Seniors Community Fund has significantly impacted organizations across the Greater St. Louis area, enhancing the quality of life for seniors by addressing their daily needs and expanding access to essential services.



Safety

Rebuilding Together Southwest IL

- Funding was awarded to support their ongoing efforts in serving the community with free home repairs and modifications.
- Funding was used to provide repair services and build accessibility features such as ramps in seniors' homes in Madison County, IL.
- In the past 8 months, Rebuilding Together Southwest IL provided services to 77 homes, and they are on track to reach over 100 homes this year. These repairs included porches, wheelchair ramps, deck modifications, and gas leak repairs.

Missouri EnergyCare

- Funding was awarded to support current programming, which provides space heaters, smoke detectors, electric blankets, winterization services.
- Funding allowed for the purchasing of additional AC units to build up stockpile. 14 AC units were installed in homes of seniors so far this year.

St. John's Community Care

- Funding was awarded for the medical equipment loan program, specifically to hire a part-time staff to review forms used, inventory supplies, and input demographic information into tracking system.
- Seniors Community Fund was the first grant to provide funding for their medical equipment program. Funding allowed them to transition a part-time employee to a full-time employee in charge of managing and tracking the medical equipment program. They developed an excel tracking system for their medical equipment. This program has served over 500 people this year.
- Funding enabled them to purchase a storage shed to store more medical equipment at a time and accept more donations.



Navigation Support

Monarch - Bilingual International Assistant Services Seniors

- Funding was awarded to support and expand the work of case workers working directly with foreign-born seniors; case managers provide expert-level-home and community-based assistance.
- Funding was used to maintain their multicultural senior center and to grow their new Pan African/Swahili senior group. Funding also compensated caseworkers for their additional efforts in community outreach. In the last 6 months, 20 new clients were brought into the Vietnamese, Albanian, Chinese and African senior groups.

Rx Outreach Senior Health and Wellness

- Funding was awarded to support programming that provides health education and linkages to healthcare resources, as well as in-person classes at senior centers, independent living facilities, etc.
- Funding was used for monthly recurring senior support workshops at Corinthians Senior Apartments in South County. These programs educate seniors and facilitators about how they can navigate resources such as health coaches and pharmacists to ask questions about prescriptions and other health concerns.

Pony Bird, Inc. Caring Transitions Program

- Funding was awarded to support senior individuals in receiving the care needed, including oral healthcare, medical care, transportation support, and physical/speech/occupational therapies. They requested funding to help support the program and purchase supplies used to implement it, as their state funding does not cover preventative care.
- Funding was used to purchase supplies for camps that provide seniors with disabilities opportunities to get moving and active in the community. In addition, funding was used for preventative care programs for seniors.

Memory Care Home Solutions/Dementia Care Navigation

- The funding was awarded to support a program that equips family caregivers to effectively manage dementia progression at home through dementia navigation, which pairs families with a dementia navigator from their clinical team, and to hire additional staff to address the current waitlist of 100 families.
- Funding was used to support those on the waitlist by providing resource packets with caregiver training and implementing call hours (two hours per day) with rotating clinicians to assist individuals while they await dementia navigation services.



Transportation

Northside Youth and Senior Service Center

- Funding was provided to buyout the leases on three electric vehicles that were used as part of the St. Louis Vehicle Electrification Rides for Seniors.
- Funding was used to support the medical transportation program, specifically to purchase three electric vehicles to add to their fleet of vans. These electric vehicles offered increased accessibility for senior citizens. The deployment of these electric vehicles greatly increased the number of seniors who were able to take advantage of the medical transportation program.

Disability Resource Association

- Funding was awarded to provide on-demand accessible rides to older adults and individuals with disabilities who have no other form of transportation to medical appointments and essential shopping. They anticipated that the grant would provide at least 600 rides to those who depend on DRA.
- Funding allowed them to provide transportation to seniors for dialysis, chemotherapy, pharmacy trips, medical trips, essential shopping, etc. In the past 6 months, they have provided 5,520 rides with their fleet of 15 accessible vans. Part of the funding was allocated to maintenance of the vans.
- Results from their senior satisfaction survey: 100% said their overall well-being has improved, 100% said they felt less stress because they can depend on transportation. 97% said they felt less isolated. 100% said they were able to make and keep healthcare appointments because they have somebody that's dependable

St. Clair Aging

- Funding was awarded to organize a minimum of 3 special events taking seniors to a location that they would not be able to travel to due to: driving hesitancy, limited economics, mobilities, and isolation.
- Funding supported planned senior trips such as Eclipse Day in Cape Girardeau, two St. Louis Trolley Tours, and a trip to Grant's Farm. These trips were accessible to seniors with limited mobility and allowed them to get into the community and socialize with other seniors.

WalkNFaith

- Funding was awarded to provide safe and reliable transportation to and from medical appointments, grocery stores, and everyday social appointments.
- Funding was used to support mental health treatment, substance use treatment, and mental health counseling to seniors from underserved communities. So far this year, 38 in person and telehealth visits have been provided to seniors.

Southside Senior Citizens Center

- The funding was awarded to provide transportation services for essential activities to the elderly and disabled adult community, cover rising operational costs, and organize community sessions to assist with completing online applications for vaccinations, health screenings, and utility grant assistance.
- Funding was used to support 12 COVID-19 and flu vaccination clinics, each providing shots to between 40 and 100 people per day, as well as offering transportation to and from the clinic. Additionally, part of the funds was used to assist approximately 200 seniors affected by flooding at the Heritage House Apartments, who had been evacuated from their homes. Over 200 lunches per day were prepared and delivered to the hotels where these seniors were staying.

St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired

- Funding was awarded to support transportation services by providing third-party rides in times of high need including support group meetings, agency/peer events, and community/cultural events. They anticipated that the grant would fund approximately 400 trips/800 rides.
- Funding was used to extend their senior transportation services to offer additional rides from third party services. Throughout February and March, a total of 24 third party rides for clients (\$520). For June and July, after expanding eligibility for rides, a total of 226 third party rides for clients (\$5068). Overall, they are on pace to offer over 665 rides by the end of the year. The rides offered include medical trips, social trips, hair salon, grocery store, pharmacy, concerts, coordinated rides for events such as art classes.

Robert Fulton Development-Friendly Village

- Funding was awarded to buy new ADA van and support door-to-door transportation services for seniors attending special events and medical appointments.
- Funding was used to purchase the forecasted ADA van and has allowed the organization to take seniors to medical appointments and the grocery store, as well as plan community events.