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Thank you to Metopio for providing the demographic data and tools for visualization.

About Forefront

Forefront builds a vibrant social impact sector for all the people of Illinois. As Illinois’ statewide membership association for nonprofits, grantmakers, public agencies, advisors, and their allies, Forefront provides education, advocacy, thought leadership, and facilitates collective action around issues that are important to its members and to the sector.

For more information, visit myforefront.org.

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If you have questions about any of the information presented in this report, reach out to Sarah Rice, Research Coordinator, at srice@myforefront.org.
ABOUT THE REPORT

Released in cooperation with Candid (formerly The Foundation Center) since 2012, Forefront’s Giving in Illinois report has been an informational trove of the state’s foundation landscape. By tracking and collecting data on giving by Illinois foundations, a picture was drawn of top giving priorities and various figures pertaining to assets, percentages of grant dollars staying in state, and other trends.

However, in 2020, when the time came to update the report with 2018 giving numbers, it was apparent that a change in our data accrual process was needed. The nationwide protests in the wake of George Floyd’s murder, as well as the rapid shifts in philanthropy due to the COVID-19 pandemic, brought a fresh sense of urgency to calls for transparency and equity.

Transparency is invaluable in shining a light on the subjects and people still falling through the gaps in philanthropy. The Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity’s 2021 report, “Mismatched: Philanthropy’s Response to the Call for Racial Justice,” focuses on the mismatches between the needs of the racial equity and justice movement with the response of philanthropy. Their findings and methodology demonstrate the impact that slow and incomplete data reporting has on the sector’s ability to make good, timely decisions: it limits the ability to see how urgent needs are (or are not) being met, increases our reliance on an inaccurate narrative driven by news stories about pledges, and often renders grants made to racial equity and justice invisible to analysis.

Going forward, we hope to use this report to more clearly highlight where grant dollars are given in relation to the needs of Illinois’ communities. We encourage funders to tell the stories of their priorities and share the success of operating nonprofits by sharing up-to-date data.

Our recommendations section on page 6 collects a few basic steps to begin or further that process.

The grants data in this report is collected by Candid from filed IRS documents, foundations that self-report their information, news sources, and foundation websites. This report is reflective of 2018 grants data only.
# Illinois Foundations by Total Giving to Illinois

## Public Foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Foundation Name</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Total Amount Awarded</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>University of Illinois Foundation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$203,367,462</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ann and Robert Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>$122,581,010</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Robert R. H. McCormick Foundation</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>$105,939,614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jewish Federation of Metro Chicago</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>$91,918,309</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>$40,988,229</td>
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## Independent Foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Foundation Name</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Total Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Davee Foundation</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>$85,927,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>$72,621,103</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Grainger Foundation Inc.</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>$49,753,414</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fulk Family Foundation</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>$37,322,602</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Arie and Ida Crown Memorial</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>$34,531,166</td>
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</table>

## Community Foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Foundation Name</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Total Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Chicago Community Trust</td>
<td>4,221</td>
<td>$186,633,933</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>DuPage Foundation</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>$2,971,548</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Community Foundation of Northern Illinois</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>$2,825,247</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Quad Cities Community Foundation</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>$2,320,535</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Community Foundation of McHenry County</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>$1,796,749</td>
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</table>

## Corporate Foundations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Foundation Name</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Total Amount Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Illinois Tool Works Foundation</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>$11,826,110</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Abbvie Foundation</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>$7,179,609</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Grand Victoria Foundation</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>$6,398,575</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bluhm Family Charitable Foundation</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>$5,312,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Motorola Solutions Foundation</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>$2,758,341</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5,787
Illinois foundations with assets totaling
$44 billion
$4.9 billion in 2018.

This is down from the record high in 2017 of $5.1 billion.

Illinois funders gave roughly half their grant dollars to Illinois recipients (52% by dollar amount, 47% by number of grants made).

Foundations outside Illinois gave just under $1 billion to Illinois recipients ($924,330,378).

Only one in eight Illinois nonprofits were verified as receiving at least one grant from a foundation.

Over 40% of foundation giving dollars do not have enough data shared to be analyzed by subject area or specific population served.

1. This includes all nonprofit types: 501(c), 501(d), 4947(a) organizations, and more.
2. This data is sourced from the Illinois Foundation Stats Dashboard.
RECOMMENDATIONS

The social sector needs transparency to support its goals of building better, stronger communities. Currently, more than 40% of giving by foundations cannot be categorized by either the general topic it was made in support of or the specific population it was made to support. To that end, we recommend the following steps:

**Share grant details.**

There are numerous ways that the story of a grant can be told: fuller descriptions on 990s, publishing a grant database on an organization’s website (see examples from The Joyce Foundation and Ford Foundation websites), or joining a broader project like Candid’s eReporting initiative.

**Share your priorities, policies, and data.**

This also highlights any commitment to equity, noting where DEI priorities are incorporated and funded. Many foundations have begun including this information on their websites (see the The Field Foundation of Illinois and The McKnight Foundation). But it is important to do so together with sharing grant details in order to tell the story of how the priorities became actions.

**Commit to equity.**

Sharing information about foundation board and staff helps move the sector toward better reflecting the communities it serves. Foundations can also ask their grantees to share demographic data through tools like GuideStar’s profiles and Seals of Transparency so that the information can be broadly known instead of held by one foundation. Coalition and support organizations have advocated for grantmakers to play educational, funding, and/or convening roles to build capacity for their grantees to share their data. See D5, Candid, and PEAK Grantmaking for examples.
These are the populations who received the most funding in dollars. In addition to the populations outlined here, a further $773.4 million—over one quarter of grant dollars—belonged to grants where the population served was not specified or was the general public.

1. **Economically Disadvantaged People**  ($590.2 million)
2. **Children & Youth**  ($534.2 million)
3. **Ethnic & Racial Identities**  ($215.6 million)
4. **Religious Affiliations**  ($176.7 million)
5. **Women & Girls**  ($116.1 million)
Because the primary role of most private and community foundations is to provide funding, the public often overestimates their charitable resources. In fact, the vast majority of private giving each year comes from individuals, who contributed 77 percent of total giving in 2018.

Foundations are also sometimes seen as having the resources to fill government budget gaps, especially in difficult economic times. Yet compared to government expenditures, foundation giving represents a small fraction of the total. In 2018, the budget deficit for the state was $7.8 billion, while foundational giving only amounted to $4.9 billion.

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1. NASBO State Expenditure Report
This section focuses on trends both statewide and regionally across Illinois.

In order to highlight the specific needs and successes that may not be reflected in a statewide total, we have chosen to break the state into eleven regions. The divisions used are in line with those created by the state for the Restore Illinois response.

Each regional profile lists the foundations located in that area that are the largest when ordered by total giving, as well as the recipient of the most grant dollars in the region. For these statistics, only foundations that gave grants to more than one recipient were included; governmental grantmakers were not included in this data set.

For some regions where hospitals or universities were the recipients of the most grant dollars, additional recipient organizations that are not related to hospitals or higher education are also listed. The definition used for racial equity grants is one developed by Candid and the Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity (PRE).

In addition to the general data supplied for each region in this report, Forefront has gathered more granular data by county and census tract for each individual region in the state. Explore the in-depth data, including social vulnerability indices and more, by clicking the “view additional regional data” link on the bottom of each page.

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**Glossary of Terms**

**Educational Attainment**
The percentage of the area’s population over the age of 25 that has obtained a high school or college degree.

**Food Insecurity**
According to the US Department of Agriculture, food insecurity is “household-level economic and social condition of limited or uncertain access to adequate food,” which hinders individuals from enjoying a healthy and active life.

**Housing Cost Burden**
Households spending more than 30% of income on housing are considered housing cost-burdened and those spending 50% or more are considered severely cost-burdened.

**Social Vulnerability Index***
Indicates relative vulnerability by ranking places on 15 social factors, including unemployment, minority status, and disability, and combining the rankings into a single scale.

*View by clicking the additional regional data link at the bottom of each page.
STATEWIDE DATA

Population and funding statistics.

Population: 12,770,631

- **Poverty**
  - 12% impoverished
  - 16% children in poverty

- **Educational Attainment**
  - 89% high school graduation rate
  - 43% degree graduation rate (associate or higher)

- **Food Insecurity**
  - 15% food insecure

- **Housing Cost Burdened**
  - 30% cost burdened
  - 14% severely cost burdened

**Statewide Statistics**
- 69,071 nonprofit organizations
- 8,779 nonprofits received grants
- 8,440 funders gave to Illinois nonprofits
- 2,961 funders based in Illinois
- 43,958 grants were awarded
- $2,831,690,184 total granted within Illinois

**Poverty**
- **Least Impoverished**
  - 7% Region 8
- **Most Impoverished**
  - 18% Regions 5 & 11

**High School Graduation Rate**
- **Fewest Graduates**
  - 85% Region 11
- **Most Graduates**
  - 92% Region 8

**Food Insecurity**
- **Least Insecure**
  - 11% Region 8
- **Most Insecure**
  - 21% Region 11

**Severe Housing Cost Burden**
- **Least Burdened**
  - 9% Region 11
- **Most Burdened**
  - 20% Region 2
View additional Region 1 data online.
REGION 2


Population: 1,254,472

Regional Statistics

<table>
<thead>
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<th></th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofits receiving grants</td>
<td>757</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funders giving to the region</td>
<td>736</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants awarded</td>
<td>2,247</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median grant amount</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total granted to region</td>
<td>$75,703,819</td>
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</table>

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. Education: $26.2 million, with Higher Ed representing $14.6 million
2. Human Services: $21.2 million
3. Health: $19.5 million
4. Sports & Recreation: $4.5 million
5. Religion: $3.9 million

Top Foundations in Area by Giving

Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1. John Deere Foundation
2. Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation
3. East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging
4. United Workforce Development Board, Inc.
5. Western Illinois Agency on Aging, Inc.

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:
OSF Healthcare

Recipient of the largest amount of grant dollars not higher education or hospital related:
Lifesong for Orphans

View additional Region 2 data online.
REGION 3
Hancock, Adams, Pike, Calhoun, Jersey, Greene, Scott, Brown, Schuyler, Cass, Morgan, Macoupin, Montgomery, Christian, Sangamon, Logan, Menard, and Mason counties

Population: 563,978

Poverty
- 14% in poverty
- 18% child poverty

Educational Attainment
- 91% high school graduation rate
- 34% degree graduation rate (associate or higher)

Food Insecurity
- 16% food insecure

Cost Burdened
- 22% cost burdened
- 9% severely burdened

Regional Statistics

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofits Received Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funders Gave to the Region</td>
<td>391</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants Were Awarded</td>
<td>839</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median Grant Amount</td>
<td>$7,422</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Granted to Region</td>
<td>$36,882,626</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. Education
   $13.2 million, with Higher Ed representing $4.5 million
2. Human Services
   $11.4 million
3. Health
   $10.2 million
4. Community & Economic Development
   $4.4 million
5. Environment & Animals
   $4.2 million

Top Foundations in Area by Giving

Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1. Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
2. Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence
3. The CFM Foundation
4. Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland Inc.
5. Illinois Nutrient Research & Education Council

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:
- Southern Illinois University

Recipient of the largest amount of grant dollars not higher education or hospital related:
- Chaddock

View additional Region 3 data online.
REGION 4
Bond, Madison, St. Clair, Clinton, Washington, Monroe, and Randolph counties

Population: 661,858

Poverty
- 13% in poverty
- 13% child poverty

Educational Attainment
- 91% high school graduation rate
- 37% degree graduation rate (associate or higher)

Food Insecurity
- 16% food insecure

Cost Burdened
- 26% cost burdened
- 11% severely burdened

Regional Statistics
- 3,462 nonprofit organizations
- 244 nonprofits received grants
- 275 funders gave to the region
- 534 grants were awarded
- $7,318 median grant amount
- $36,064,654 total granted to region

Top Focus Areas and Amounts
1. Human Services $14.8 million
2. Health $12.2 million
3. Public Safety $5.8 million
4. Human Rights $2.4 million
5. Education $2.4 million, with Higher Ed representing $764,387

Top Foundations in Area by Giving
Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year
1. Area Agency on Aging of Southwestern Illinois
2. St. Clair County Community Action Agency
3. James & Aune Nelson Foundation
4. The Four Leaf Clover Foundation
5. Elizabeth Smysor Charitable Trust

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:
- Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation

View additional Region 4 data online.
REGION 5

Marion, Jefferson, Wayne, Edwards, Wabash, Perry, Jackson, Franklin, Williamson, Saline, Hamilton, White, Gallatin, Union, Johnson, Pope, Herkimer, Alexander, Massac, and Pulaski counties

Population: 410,079

Regional Statistics

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
<td>2,490</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofits received grants</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funders gave to the region</td>
<td>161</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants were awarded</td>
<td>253</td>
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<tr>
<td>Median grant amount</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total granted to region</td>
<td>$8,869,404</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. Human Services
   - $3.8 million
2. Health
   - $1.7 million
3. Education
   - $1.1 million, with Higher Ed representing $198,411
4. Sports & Recreation
   - $928,818
5. Public Safety
   - $592,228

Top Foundations in Area by Giving

Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1. Egyptian Area Agency on Aging
2. Fred G. Harrison Foundation
3. Mary’s Alabaster Jar Perpetual Charitable Foundation
4. The Wolfe Foundation of Edwards County, Inc.
5. Julia Harrison Bruce Foundation

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:

Southern Pride Senior Program

View additional Region 5 data online.
REGION 6

Iroquois, Ford, DeWitt, Piatt, Champaign, Vermillion, Macon, Moultrie, Douglas, Edgar, Shelby, Coles, Cumberland, Clark, Fayette, Effingham, Jasper, Crawford, Clay, Richland, and Lawrence counties

Population: 747,095

Regional Statistics

- 4,298 nonprofit organizations received grants
- 398 funders gave to the region
- 487 grants were awarded
- 1,131 median grant amount
- $8,331 total granted to region

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. Education
   - $227,885,778; with Higher Ed representing $219,800,861
2. Agriculture, Fishing, & Forestry
   - $17 million
3. Human Services
   - $16.9 million
4. Health
   - $16.6 million
5. Science & Engineering
   - $16.2 million

Top Foundations in Area by Giving

- Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1. Howard G. Buffett Foundation
2. Donnini-Rudolph Family Foundation
3. Carle Foundation Hospital
4. Lumpkin Family Foundation
5. Neal Foundation

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:
- University of Illinois

Recipient of the largest amount of grant dollars not higher education or hospital related:
- Sequoia Farm Foundation

View additional Region 6 data online.
REGION 7
Will and Kankakee counties

Population: 799,952

Regional Statistics

- 2,712 nonprofit organizations
- 166 nonprofits received grants
- 263 funders gave to the region
- 420 grants were awarded
- $7,388 median grant amount
- $15,023,188 total granted to region

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. Health
   - $4.6 million
2. Human Services
   - $3.6 million
3. Religion
   - $3.2 million
4. Education
   - $2.4 million, with Higher Ed representing $1.1 million
5. Agriculture, Fishing, & Forestry
   - $623,422

Top Foundations in Area by Giving

Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than $1,000 in the year

1. Lucille & Vic Wertz Foundation
2. United Way of Will County
3. Robert S. & Mary Ann Kaminski Family Foundation
4. Moore for Kids
5. J. Edward Mahoney Foundation

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:

Bible League International

View additional Region 7 data online.
REGION 8
Kane and DuPage counties

Population: 1,460,436

Regional Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
<td>7,318</td>
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<td>Nonprofits received grants</td>
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<td>Grants were awarded</td>
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<td>Median grant amount</td>
<td>$5,594</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total granted to region</td>
<td>$110,615,865</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. Health
   - $26.4 million
2. Education
   - $22.6 million, with Higher Ed representing $6.7 million
3. Human Services
   - $21.1 million
4. Religion
   - $11.7 million
5. International Relations
   - $7 million

Top Foundations in Area by Giving

Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1. Davee Foundation
2. Lions Club International Foundation
3. Illinois Hospital Research & Education Fund
4. Ace Hardware Foundation
5. Franciscan Ministries Inc.

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:

Advocate Health

Recipient of the largest amount of grant dollars not higher education or hospital related:

Passages America Israel

View additional Region 8 data online.
REGION 9
McHenry and Lake counties

Population: 1,009,187

Poverty
8% in poverty
9% child poverty

Educational Attainment
91% high school graduation rate
49% degree graduation rate (associate or higher)

Food Insecurity
12% food insecure

Cost Burdened
30% cost burdened
12% severely burdened

Regional Statistics

4,108 nonprofit organizations
657 nonprofits received grants
1,011 funders gave to the region
2,739 grants were awarded
$7,000 median grant amount
$67,559,241 total granted to region

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1 Religion $16 million
2 Education $13.8 million, with Higher Ed representing $4.2 million
3 Human Services $11.5 million
4 Health $8.8 million
5 Agriculture, Fishing, & Forestry $8.1 million

Top Foundations in Area by Giving
Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1 Abbvie Foundation
2 Grainger Foundation
3 Baxter International Foundation
4 United Way of Lake County
5 Jackson Kemper Foundation

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:

Alpha USA

View additional Region 9 data online.
REGION 10
Suburban Cook County

Population: 2,472,695

Regional Statistics

| 11,578    | nonprofit organizations |
| 1,510     | nonprofits received grants |
| 2,909     | funders gave to the region |
| 7,277     | grants were awarded |
| $6,000    | median grant amount |
| $440,248,333 | total granted to region |

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. Education
   $191.7 million, with Higher Ed representing $63.7 million
2. Health
   $73.6 million
3. Human Services
   $67 million
4. Religion
   $30.6 million
5. Agriculture, Fishing, & Forestry
   $29.6 million

Top Foundations in Area by Giving
Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1. The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International
2. Alisate Foundation
3. Saul Zaentz Charitable Foundation
4. Caerus Foundation Inc.
5. Ageoptions Inc.

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:
Northwestern University

Recipient of the largest amount of grant dollars not higher education or hospital related:
National Dairy Council

View additional Region 10 data online.
REGION 11
City of Chicago

Population: 2,709,534

Poverty
- 18% in poverty
- 24% child poverty

Educational Attainment
- 85% high school graduation rate
- 45% degree graduation rate (associate or higher)

Food Insecurity
- 21% food insecure

Cost Burdened
- 39% cost burdened
- 20% severely burdened

Regional Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nonprofit Organizations</th>
<th>Nonprofits Received Grants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17,105</td>
<td>3,332</td>
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<tr>
<td>5,166</td>
<td>24,335</td>
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<tr>
<td>2,110</td>
<td>2,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,694,837,785</td>
<td>$14,937,389</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Focus Areas and Amounts

1. **Education**
   - $130.6 million, with Higher Ed representing $114.9 million
2. **Health**
   - $842.4 million
3. **Human Services**
   - $318 million
4. **Community & Economic Development**
   - $246.3 million
5. **Arts & Culture**
   - $232.9 million

Top Foundations in Area by Giving

Excludes government agencies and includes foundations giving more than 1 grant in the year

1. **Feeding America**
2. **Chicago Community Trust**
3. **John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**
4. **Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago**
5. **Jewish Federation of Metro Chicago**

Recipient of the largest amount of foundation grant dollars:
- **University of Chicago**

Recipient of the largest amount of grant dollars not higher education or hospital related:
- **Chicago Community Foundation**

View additional Region 11 data online.
About the Grants Set

The grants data in this report is collected by Candid from filed IRS documents, foundations that self-report their information, news sources, and foundation websites.

The analysis of the 2018 charitable giving to Illinois is based on 43,958 grants totaling $2.8 billion from a national sample of 8,440 funders including 2,961 Illinois-based funders that awarded at least one grant for $1,000 or more to an Illinois-based recipient organization.

Grantmaker types include independent, corporate, community, and grantmaking operating foundations, in addition to public charities. For community foundations, the set includes only discretionary grants and donor-advised grants (when provided by the funder). The set also excludes grants to individuals. Grant amounts may represent the full authorized amount of the grant or the amount paid in that year depending upon the information made available by each foundation.

Grant records included in the set were reported to Candid between December 2018 and August 2019. All foundations are represented with 2018 grants data or the most recent, complete data set.

In their own effort to offer more complete and timely information, Candid has begun including early reports of gifts. This work is reflected in the maps they have created of racial equity funding and of COVID-19 related funding. We hope that the change results in more recent data for use in future versions of this report.

Additional References

American Community Survey is from Metopio’s poverty, education, and housing data.

Food insecurity data is from Feeding America’s Map the Meal Gap 2020.

This report’s grant data comes from Candid.

This report’s child poverty data comes from the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Kids Count Data Center, except for the city of Chicago, which is from Heartland Alliance Research & Policy Division and Social IMPACT Research Center’s Illinois and Chicago Region: Poverty, Income and Health Insurance.

Do you have questions or comments about the information presented in this report?

We’d love to hear from you. Reach out to the Forefront team at info@myforefront.org or contact Sarah Rice, Research Coordinator, at srice@myforefront.org.