CERTs 2020 Seed Grant Awards



NORTHWEST REGION

Care and Share of Crookston: Building upgrades for efficiency, safety, and comfort

Crookston, MN – We are a homeless shelter, soup kitchen, and food shelf that serves low-income and disproportionately minority community members. Grant funds will cover three improvement projects to keep the weather out, make our building more efficient, and save money. Installing a new window, putting in two new doors, and fixing our roof will also improve the safety and comfort of the building, not to mention the aesthetics. (\$5,000)

Opportunities in Science: Headwaters Science Center: Shine a Light on Science Bemidji, MN – The Headwaters Science Center (HSC) was founded in 1994 to provide hands-on science and technology exploration in northern Minnesota. The Center will use its CERTs Seed Grant to replace outdated lighting in the building with energy-efficient LEDs. In addition to providing a brighter, more visitor-friendly atmosphere, these lights will serve as a science exhibit in their own right, demonstrating the benefits of energy-efficient lighting to the nearly 30,000 visitors who pass through the Center's doors each year. (\$8,277)

University of Minnesota Energy Transition Lab: Community-Scale Energy Storage Guide for Renewable Energy

Red Lake, MN – The Energy Transition Lab at the University of Minnesota will develop a user-friendly energy storage guide in both print and web-based decision tools for community-level sites that are interested in using energy storage to maximize their renewable energy systems. The funding from CERTs will provide some of the labor costs of battery installation at a demonstration site on the Red Lake Nation. This pilot project will benefit the local community and allow the Lab to gather information on the value of effective energy storage systems. (\$1,723)

University of Minnesota Crookston: LED Retrofit for Dowell Hall & Campus Education

Crookston, MN – The University of Minnesota Crookston will use the funding awarded by CERTs to install light controls and LED lights at Dowell Hall, one of the most heavily-used buildings on the campus. By posting signage throughout the building and conducting outreach to the broader Crookston community on the financial benefits of LED lighting, the University further hopes to educate students, faculty, and the general public about the practical advantages of adopting energy efficient infrastructure. (\$5,000)