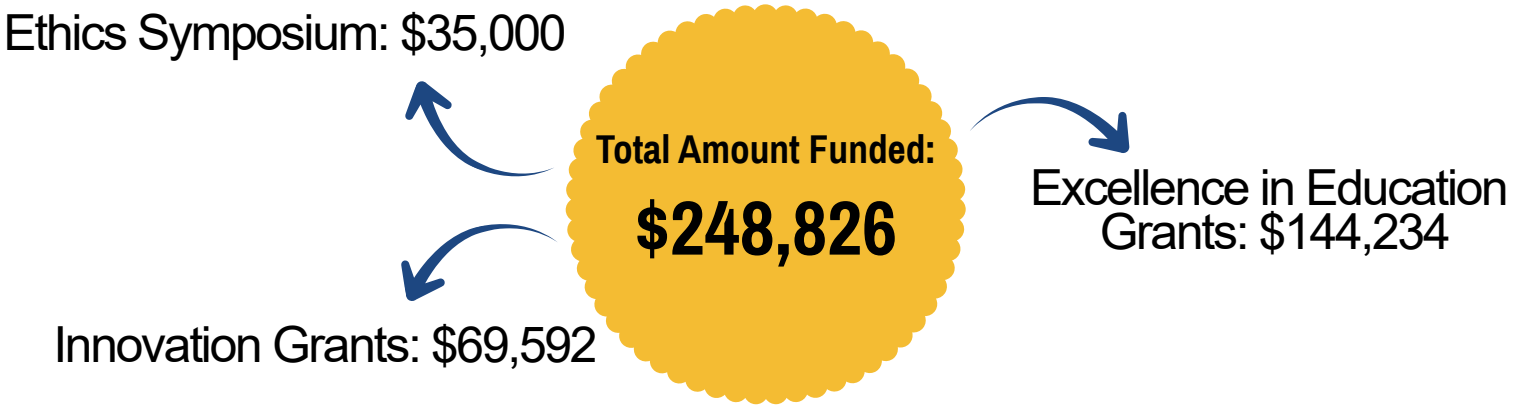
MADISON ROTARY FOUNDATION

Your contributions to our annual fund drive continue to include helping fund educational grants for local students, our Ethics Symposium and Innovation Grants. Thank you!



2025-2026 Excellence in Education Grants

Excellence in Education Grants are making a meaningful impact by helping close the achievement gap in underserved communities. These grants bring families, educators, and community members together to create a strong, supportive network around students—one that fosters collaboration and long-term sustainability. As these projects take shape in our community, we'll also be inviting Rotarians to get involved as volunteers, helping turn these initiatives into lasting change.

$144,234 High Impact Grants Awarded to:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dane County: $35,000 to expand and enhance school based mentoring programs to serve 120 youth at 5 public school sites.

Journey Mental Health Center: $11,617 for student support groups within MMSD partner schools.

Madym: $25,000 to expand and enhance the Immersive Program Pathway for middle and high school girls and students of color with sustained, high-impact STEM education.

Root 2 Rise: $31,000 for Tutor-Mentors at elementary schools in Madison to support K-5 students through structured, in-school mentoring and tutoring.

Simpson Street Free Press: $25,000 for students to explore, learn, and write about history, geography, and science.

Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra: $11,617 for the Music Makers Ensemble Programs.

Madison Public Schools Foundation: $5,000 for exploration of Adopt-a-School program at Virginia Henderson Elementary School.

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2025-2026 Innovations Grants Totaling $69,592

Innovation Grants provide smaller, faster-to-fund grants for organizations that want to evaluate, test, launch, expand or improve a project:

- **Aldo Leopold Nature Center:** $5,000 for designing and distributing nature tool kits to community sites for underserved populations.
- **Bayview Foundation:** $5,000 for Spark Grants for burgeoning community leaders to empower them to design and lead their own projects.
- **Bikes for Kids Wisconsin:** $5,000 for the Guided Rides Series to help Madison youth ages 11-15 from low income households participate.
- **Community Support Network:** $2,000 for development and pilot Workplace Readiness Training.
- **Focused Interruption, Inc.:** $4,599 for Aftercare and Recovery Services for survivors and loved ones facing long term effects of gun violence.
- **Latino Academy of Workforce Development:** $5,000 for bilingual, online workforce readiness training series.
- **Madison Children's Museum:** $4,599 to expand the Lunch Box Café.
- **Madison Reading Project:** $4,599 to create large scale print versions of popular children's books.
- **Maydm:** $5,000 to make programs accessible to all students.
- **Root 2 Rise, Inc.:** $4,599 for outreach efforts to graduates and alumni.
- **Second Harvest Food Bank of Southern Wisconsin:** $5,000 to purchase food for the Market Harvest Program.
- **Specialty Care Free Clinic:** $4,599 to create awareness of services through digital approaches.
- **The Playing Field, Inc.:** $4,599 for a collaboration with the Road Home and Plumbers Union Sessions.
- **The River Food Pantry:** $5,000 for affordable insulated backpacks for families to carry groceries.
- **Yada Fair Trade & Resale:** $5,000 for a mobile cart to provide jobs to trafficking survivors.

Thank you to all members for making gifts to our annual fund drive. You are helping provide these impactful gifts of educational opportunities to youth in our community and helping organizations with innovative projects. We appreciate your continued support!