

2018 Grant Awards Reception Presentation

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Thank you all for being here this evening to share in the celebration of the Highland Park Community Foundation's partnership with grantees. As you know for more than two decades this foundation has been providing support for the organizations and programs that address the unmet needs of individuals, families, seniors, and children in our community.

Our sense of community is enhanced by the support of people who collaborate to advance the ideals and values we share. Giving back with time and money is among the most important and valuable things we can do as neighbors in doing so, we collectively help each organization with us this evening achieve its goals and mission.

No matter how tough life is, there's always someone who has to face challenges that are even tougher than our own. Being involved in local not for profits, serving as a City Councilman, and as the liaison to this amazing organization, I know the need in our community is great. I am also fortunate to have witnessed first-hand the power of making tremendously fruitful connections between people who might otherwise have never met and the power of stepping up to make a difference - together. As we work together, we weave a network that is strong and becomes so much more than the sum of its parts.

Thank you to Chairman Nancy Mills, the HPCF board of directors and staff for recognizing the critical role of community service and the value of giving where you live. Thank you to each organization here this evening for making sure that no neighbor is left behind.

I will leave you with this – I stopped by one of our grantees and heard a teacher reading to young students from a Dr. Seuss book, and she read “unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.” We are so fortunate to be surrounded by so many who truly and deeply care and share a passion for this organization and this community by providing support as we make a positive difference in someone's life.