

# FINNEGANS

IRISH AMBER

## An overview of FINNEGANS and the FINNEGANS Community Fund

FINNEGANS Inc. is a social business based in Minneapolis, MN, which builds partnerships with community-minded businesses in providing the marketplace with high quality products whilst also providing the marketplace with a means of giving back to the community.

### FINNEGANS Mission Vision and Value Statements

#### Mission Statement

To be a self-sustaining and inspirational social business that creates positive social change in the community

#### Vision Statement

To be a leader in social entrepreneurship with multiple revenue generating streams funding FINNEGANS branded projects which aim at eliminating poverty and serving as a catalyst for social entrepreneurs.

#### Values

We believe that we are all responsible for creating healthy communities.

Creating awareness and action about critical community issues through projects that are fun, social and a win-win for our volunteers, pro-bono partners and business partners.

Share our 'lessons learned' and our FINNEGANS story with other organizations and businesses in hopes of inspiring others to engage in making a difference in their community.

FINNEGANS Irish Amber donates 100% of profits to the FINNEGANS Community Fund. The FINNEGANS Community Fund is a charitable 501(c)3 which funds programs for those living in poverty in Minnesota. The FINNEGANS Community Fund accepts no government grants of any kind and is solely funded by the revenues from the sale of FINNEGANS Irish Amber, fundraising events and the generous donations of its supporters.

### FINNEGANS Community Fund Mission Vision and Value Statements

**Mission:** Create sustainable change for those affected by the cycle of poverty through profits from FINNEGANS Irish Amber and other innovative products and events.

**Criteria for Funding programs:** We fund projects in the geographic areas that support our product, which is currently anywhere in MN, ND, and WI. Our goal is to expand our distribution in coming years and to expand our giving as well!!

1. The program must be designed to improve the quality of life of the homeless and working poor, men, women, children and families, in our community.
2. The program must address the core issues and barriers identified with keeping the homeless and working poor from enjoying a self-sustaining livelihood.

FINNEGANS has donated over \$118,000 back to the community since first being profitable in 2003.

[www.finnegans.org](http://www.finnegans.org)

Visit our new on-line community at  
[www.finnegansfamily.org](http://www.finnegansfamily.org)  
Sign up to volunteer!



## FINNEGANS COMMUNITY FUND 2008 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The FINNEGANS Community Fund donated over \$30,000 to non profits in 2008 raising total donations through 2008 to over \$118,000. Below are non-profit organizations that received a FINNEGANS Community Fund grant through our grant program – these grants are disbursed in the spring and autumn of each calendar year. For more information visit [www.finnegans.org](http://www.finnegans.org)

### St. Paul Area Council of Churches, St. Paul, MN

The Saint Paul Area Council of Churches (SPACC) is a nonprofit organization composed of 700 member congregations from the East Metropolitan area. The FINNEGANS Community Fund grant supports the American Indian Parenting program. This program uses the Early Childhood Family Education model to build parenting skills and educate parents on the growth, development, and academic readiness of their children in an American Indian context.

### Person to Person, Twin Cities, MN

Person to Person's mission is to break the cycle of poverty by supporting the efforts of our low-income neighbors as they strive to achieve self-sufficiency. The FINNEGANS Community Fund grant supports the Independent Living Skills Program which helps stabilize low-income families during critical times in their lives. The program provides occupational therapy based evaluation, intervention, workshops and individual coaching to teach independent living skills.

### Pillsbury United, Minneapolis, MN

Pillsbury United Communities (PUC) addresses the complex causes and effects of poverty in the core neighborhoods of Minneapolis Minnesota. Full Cycle is transforming into a fully operational bicycle repair and maintenance services for the neighborhood's low-income residents at reasonable prices. The grant from the FINNEGANS Community Fund is used to pay homeless and street dependent youth a stipend after completing the bike mechanics course, in which they learn how to build and maintain their own free bike, learn bicycle repair skills and take a break from the stress of street life.

### Youth Express, St. Paul, MN

The mission of Youth Express is to provide youth with an outlet to build positive relationships and participate in opportunities that improve their lives and the communities where they live. The FINNEGANS Community Fund grant supports the Youth Internship Programs. By focusing on improving business literacy, entrepreneurship and work skills through experiential learning, this program seeks to provide urban youth with the knowledge, skills and confidence to successfully compete in the marketplace and maximize their potential.





### **New Pathways, Brainerd, MN**

New Pathways provides comprehensive support services to families during the day with the goal of enabling families to become self-reliant through skill development. The FINNEGANS Community Fund grant supports the Brainerd Day Center's ability help to get personal care items, clothing, etc. for these families that are in need.

### **Project GEM, Mankato, MN**

Project G.E.M. (Growth Experience Motivation) addresses problems and needs of special needs youth, ages 10 to 17. The FINNEGANS Community Fund grant goes towards art supplies and general operating expenses for the Creative After Thoughts (CAT) program. CAT is a free after school art class that serves low income/at-risk youth ages 9-15 years old in the south central region of the state to develop their creative self-expression through the art media. This program enriches their out of school time by doing something productive and educational, along with building relationships with volunteers who serve as positive role models.

### **Lutheran Social Service (LSS)/Crisis Nursery, St. Cloud, MN**

Central Minnesota LSS is a non-profit corporation that provides birth parent services, mental health counseling for individuals and families, temporary care for children of parents experiencing a crisis, day treatment for emotionally disturbed youth and customized living services for older adults. Funds from FINNEGANS Community Fund will assist in the start-up of the Parent Tip Line, which provides free, confidential, 24 hour support for area families resulting in much-needed bridge between services as well as a base for families in crisis.

### **Three Rivers Community Action Head Start, Southern Minnesota**

Head Start is a Federally Funded pre-school program that supports not only pre-school children living in poverty, but their families as well. Three Rivers Community Action supports Head Start centers in Zumbrota, Wabasha, Red Wing, Northfield and Faribault. Funds from the FINNEGANS Community Fund will be used for a variety of classroom needs and resources for family involvement including: a set of Spanish language backpacks, filled with literacy activities for children to take home and work on with parents.

### **Dakota Woodlands, Dakota County, Minnesota**

For 27 years, Dakota Woodlands has served Dakota County as the only shelter for homeless women and children in our community. Dakota Woodlands assists families to help them to achieve residential stability, become more economically stable, demonstrate educational advancement, improve their health, and strengthen their families. Funds from the FINNEGANS Community Fund will go toward helping children and their families in school related after-school activities.

### **Heading Home Hennepin, Hennepin County**

Heading Home Hennepin is the community plan to end homelessness in Minneapolis and Hennepin County over the next ten years. Heading Home Hennepin was created in 2006 by a group of 70 diverse stakeholders representing businesses, faith communities, government, community providers, philanthropy, and people experiencing homelessness.