



## Drawing the Line

Every time Americans vote for representatives in Congress, the races are less competitive, the House of Representatives becomes more polarized, and democracy suffers. One solution: take a cue from Iowa, and reform the way political maps are drawn. **11**

The Joyce Foundation supports efforts to protect the natural environment of the Great Lakes, to reduce poverty and violence in the region, and to ensure that its people have access to good schools, decent jobs, and a diverse and thriving culture. We are especially interested in improving public policies, because public systems such as education and welfare directly affect the lives of so many people, and because public policies help shape private sector decisions about jobs, the environment, and the health of our communities. To ensure that public policies truly reflect public rather than private interests, we support efforts to reform the system of financing election campaigns.

# InThisIssue

## Environment

### **Water Water Everywhere 4**

Sewage contamination of the Great Lakes is a big problem—and may require many small solutions.

## Education

### **Teams for Top Teachers 8**

Partnerships in Milwaukee and Ohio bring together groups with a common goal: putting high-quality teachers in the classrooms that need them most.

## Money and Politics

### **Drawing the Line 11**

Legislative districts are often drawn to give incumbents or the majority party an advantage. The Brookings Institution has some better ideas.

### **Capital TV 14**

Illinois Channel wants to follow in C-SPAN's footsteps and put the state government in every citizen's living room.

### **Progress Notes 16**

Goodman Theatre's festival provides top Latino performers with a wider audience.

### **Grants Approved 18**

Grants approved at the July 27, 2004 meeting of the Board of Directors.

### **About the Foundation 23**

*Work In Progress* is published three times a year following each Board meeting.

For information on programs of the Joyce Foundation, please consult our web site, [www.joycefdn.org](http://www.joycefdn.org), or call our offices to request a copy of our annual report or guidelines pamphlet. 312.782.2464



## WaterWaterEverywhere

**When big storms overwhelm local sewers, untreated waste ends up contaminating the Great Lakes. It's one huge problem—and may need many small solutions.**

May was a wet month in Milwaukee. The sewage treatment system couldn't cope. So the city's sanitary district dumped 4.6 billion gallons of sewage and rainwater into Lake Michigan.

Yuk. Everyone protested: the EPA, the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*, the mayor of Chicago. U.S. Rep. Mark Kirk deplored the "cheesehead sewer water" floating toward his northern Illinois district. Beach closings in Chicago were blamed on the Milwaukee dump, though the link is uncertain. Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett set up a task force to study the problem.

How Milwaukee treats storm and sewer water isn't just a local issue. All around the Great Lakes, cash-strapped communities are struggling to make aging infrastructure keep up with new development and protect the Lakes from contamination. Exacerbating the problem are an apparent rise in extreme weather events (which some think may be evidence of climate

change)—and a proposed cut of \$500 million in federal funding for wastewater infrastructure.

But before Milwaukee (or anyone else) rushes to build the next big pipe and dig the next deep tunnel, some water experts say it's time to stop and think. Smaller, more localized approaches may offer a better way to handle water, they argue, and may turn out to be less expensive, and more sustainable, over the long term.

"Engineers have been building big pipes for 150 years, and that's what they're comfortable doing, but it's creating a lot of problems," says Valerie Nelson of Massachusetts-based Coalition for Alternative Wastewater Treatment. "Maybe before it was good for public health, but it's hugely expensive, removing water, redirecting it here and there, with streams drying up—there must be a better way."

The better way involves "catching raindrops where they fall, rather than bottling rainstorms," according to Scott Bernstein of Chicago's Center for Neighborhood Technology, a research and advocacy group that champions small-scale approaches to energy, waste, and other infrastructure needs.

"Catching raindrops" may sound quixotic (the formal term is "green infrastructure"). In practice it involves straightforward measures to handle waste and rainwater locally: redirecting downspouts so that water flows into gardens rather than sewers; designing roads so that storms drain onto nearby greenspace; filtering waste through wetlands or other vegetated areas, which both treat sewage and preserve open space.

With a \$197,777 grant, CNT will study state-of-the-art models and develop a tool to help policymakers cost out such measures versus more conventionally engineered approaches. Meanwhile, Nelson's group works with federal policymakers to give states options and incentives to include green infrastructure in their federally funded water projects.

Milwaukee has spent \$2.3 billion over two decades on wastewater/stormwater projects and still not solved

the problem. Today the city has several projects under construction or on the drawing boards, from expanding its deep tunnel to creating huge retention ponds for storm and wastewater; also included are smaller-scale approaches such as investing in rain-barrels, raingardens, and preserving open space.

Mayor Barrett's task force will take a hard look at whether these infrastructure projects are likely to fix the problem and, if not, what else may be needed. Task force member Peter McAvoy notes that waste from the city and 27 smaller communities feeds into the Milwaukee treatment system. Many of those communities' sewers are crumbling, as are the individual lines that connect homes to city sewers.

An even bigger problem, McAvoy says, is stormwater runoff, which carries salt, oil, and other waste from city streets, fertilizers and pet waste from lawns, pesticides and cattle waste from farms, runoff from bluffs, and everything else that's on the surface into the waters. Finally, there's growth: not only are there more people using water and generating waste, but communities are sprawling out and paving over the landscape, leaving less soil to absorb stormwater.

"It's very complex, it will cost money to fix it, and it will be very hard for local governments to deal with," says McAvoy, of the 16th Street Community Health Center, which has worked with government and the private sector to redevelop brownfields. "What we really need to do is step back and look at the broader context. What is happening on a regional watershed basis? What are the contributors from outside the watershed that may affect water quality? Are we organized properly to deal with this?"

Those and related questions will be the focus of a year-long study by the Public Policy Forum, a Milwaukee research organization that brings local stakeholders together around complex issues. The Forum's study, funded in part by a Joyce grant of \$100,000, will go beyond Milwaukee's infrastructure problems to look at what needs to be done in the watershed as a whole.

McAvoy, who is providing assistance on policy develop-

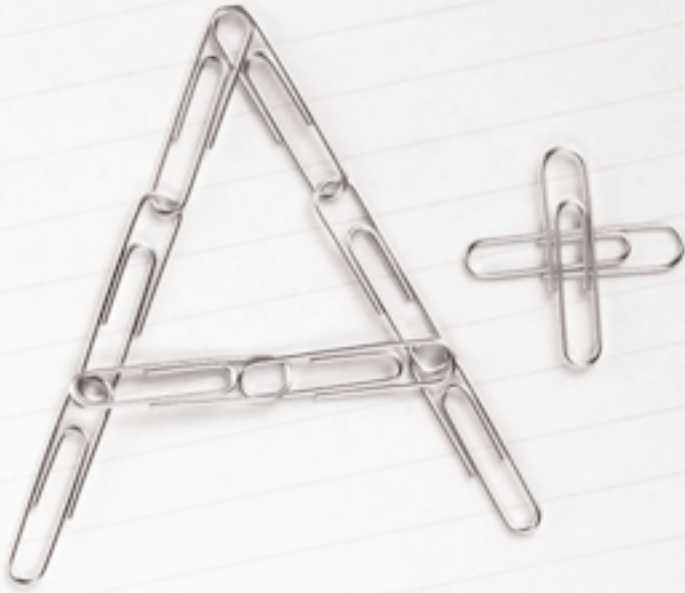
ment, believes that aging communities and new developments both could benefit from smaller-scale approaches. "If new communities start out with green buildings and landscaping designed to hold and treat water, that will start to have a big effect going forward. The same with individual homes: if one home disconnects its downspout and channels the water to a rainbarrel, that captures the first 100 gallons of rainwater from the roof; if you get 10,000 homeowners to do it, you start to have a big incremental impact."

Advocates of such approaches point out that they not only treat water, they also enhance open space and natural surroundings that people increasingly prefer. That advantage is also being discovered on the other side of the lake, in northwest Michigan, where rapid development threatens to strain local infrastructure. Residents and businesses rely mostly on septic systems (i.e., individual underground tanks and drainfields that treat waste onsite); expanding communities have looked into mainline sewer systems but found them expensive and geographically impractical.

Last year, a Joyce grant funded the Northwest Michigan Onsite Wastewater Task Force to study cost-effective waste treatment options. The task force has come up with recommendations, both for maintaining existing septic systems and for developing such alternatives as sand filtration and constructed wetlands. A second grant of \$69,000 will enable them to educate policymakers and the public on the possibilities.

Task force chair John Kelley says alternative treatment options are increasingly popular. "Some people just want standard septic systems, which if properly installed and maintained will function fine. But other people want open space, wetland, habitat—these can treat waste, through community or clustered septic systems, and still be an amenity for a subdivision."

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## How can the schools that most need high-quality teachers attract and hold on to them?

Teaching is hard work everywhere, but urban schools face unique challenges in finding and keeping quality teachers. That's why union, district, and university representatives are teaming up in Milwaukee and Ohio to find solutions to the difficult task of getting talented teachers in the schools that need them most.

One promising collaboration, the Milwaukee Partnership Academy, brings together district and union officials with leaders from business groups, colleges, and the city's Board of School Directors.

"The mission is to have all children on grade level in reading, writing, and math," says Christine Anderson, executive director of the Partnership. "It's a lofty goal, but we think we can achieve that if all the partners in the community are at the table working jointly."

Two grants will go to member organizations to support the Partnership's work. A \$100,703 Joyce grant to the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Education will allow it to evaluate the effectiveness of school-based learning teams, a key initiative. Learning teams (comprising the principal, math and

reading specialists, and other school leaders) currently provide professional development and are slated to provide mentoring support to new teachers next year.

"Learning teams foster a culture of professional teacher learning and on-site professional development tied to teachers' daily work," Anderson says, adding that a better understanding of what drives reform is essential to providing teachers with strong support.

A second grant of \$65,824 to the Milwaukee Teachers Education Association will support the Milwaukee Partnership Academy's exploration of potential alternative compensation systems for teachers.

The current pay scale encourages teachers to work in higher-performing schools, which provide better working conditions, because teachers receive no monetary rewards for helping kids advance from low performance to a higher level. One theory is that if teachers are compensated for working in hard-to-staff schools or for consistently raising student achievement, and if higher pay is accompanied by other key supports, more teachers might want to work in high-need schools. Pay structures rewarding teacher performance—as opposed to rewarding seniority—are generally controversial. But union leaders in Milwaukee have supported studying the idea.

"Teachers want to make sure that they do what is in the best interests of the students they're teaching," Anderson says. "If you can show teachers that putting our high-performing teachers into low-performing classrooms makes a difference, then they're interested in studying that. Just paying teachers more won't make a difference, but the support system to help teachers help their children reach their goals, that will make the difference."

Improving teacher quality in struggling schools is also on the agenda of the eight largest urban school districts in Ohio, which have a combined enrollment of 272,000 students. As members of the Ohio Eight Coalition, the superintendents and teachers' union presidents of those districts meet regularly to share

ideas, partially supported by a \$50,000 Joyce grant to the Knowledgeworks Foundation.

The Ohio Eight is a powerful voice in state policy and has identified several teacher-quality policy objectives it wants to see represented in the state budget.

“When we come to the meetings, we have eight superintendents and eight union presidents, but when those folks come in they check their management hat or their union hat at the door,” says executive director William Wendling.

In another collaboration in Ohio, all 50 of the state’s colleges of education, plus the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Board of Regents, have joined together to form the Teacher Quality Partnership. This five-year research effort will examine Ohio’s teacher education programs and measure the effectiveness of the teachers they train. The Joyce Foundation is aiding these efforts with a one-year grant of \$200,000 to the University of Cincinnati Foundation for the Teacher Quality Partnership.

The Partnership will survey teacher education graduates, review teachers’ classroom methods, and observe new teachers to determine which ones have the skills of effective veteran teachers. It will also evaluate how teacher education programs and other experiences influence new teachers’ skills.

The research will shed light on what Nancy Zimpher, president of the University of Cincinnati, calls “the ultimate black box”: what do the best teachers do to help their students learn, and what do the best teacher training programs do to develop outstanding teachers? “The initiative had to get all of these teachers’ colleges to agree to submit to such scrutiny,” Zimpher says. “This really gives power to the findings, and the big challenge is linking the outcomes to good education policy.”

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**Sonja Smith, Teacher Quality Partnership, 740.392.6868**  
**William Wendling, Ohio Eight Coalition, 216.241.9400**

## Redistricting reform: an idea whose time has come again?

Last year Texas treated the nation to some choice political theater. Upset at a redistricting plan put forward by the Republican majority, Democratic state legislators twice fled the state to avoid a quorum and a vote. GOP leaders sent out the Texas Rangers and at one point even tried to enlist the Department of Homeland Security to haul them back. Editorialists and late-night comedians had a good laugh at both parties’ expense.

Lost in the runaway representatives revue, however, was an even more dramatic constitutional story. The GOP proposal, enacted when the Democrats finally returned to Austin, signals a new approach to redistricting that, if widely copied, could reshape American government along even more intensely partisan lines.

Under the Constitution, after every census, the 435 Congressional seats are reapportioned among the states, and state legislatures draw up new districts. The process has always been partisan, notes political scientist Thomas Mann of the Brookings Institution. The term “gerrymander,” for oddly shaped districts drawn for personal or partisan advantage, goes back to the beginning of the republic. Congress and the courts have stepped in at various times to set standards—“one man, one vote,” derived from a 1964 Supreme



Court decision, being perhaps the best known. But today partisanship and technology have brought the art of redistricting to new lows. Political leaders use sophisticated computerized mapping to handpick their voters, rather than the other way around.

What Texas added was temerity and timing. Traditionally, redistricting takes place once a decade. Texas already had a map, drawn up after the 2000 census under court order, which gave the state delegation a two-seat Democratic majority in the 2002 election. But that election also gave Republicans control of the Texas Legislature. The new leaders decided to revisit the map. They redrew districts to force out Democrats, not just in marginal seats but across the board, creating a new balance likely to favor the GOP by a dozen seats.

The Texas saga was the latest in a recent spate of partisan redistricting plans. Also common are bipartisan maps drawn to favor not one party, but incumbents of both parties. Only one of California's 53 districts is evenly enough balanced to have a truly competitive race. Nationally, challengers won only four House races in 2002; most didn't even come within ten points of beating the incumbents. "That's a really profound drop from ten years earlier," says Mann. "We're moving toward a less competitive environment for our congressional elections. This cannot be good for our democracy."

Lopsided districts demoralize minority voters and make it harder to get fresh faces and new energy into Congress. But, Mann points out, they also further polarize our politics. If most voters in a district are Democrats, candidates will concentrate on appealing to Democrats; vice versa in districts where Republicans prevail. Left out are candidates with moderate positions that might appeal to independents and voters of both parties. The result, increasingly, is a Congress of fierce partisans, with fewer members who stake out middle positions that can serve as a basis of compromise to get the public's business done.

That very fact makes Congress an unlikely source of reform. Reformers don't hold out much hope for the

courts either, after the Supreme Court recently let stand a grossly partisan Pennsylvania redistricting plan, largely on the grounds that there are no reasonably enforceable standards the courts could impose.

That leaves the states, where in fact some of the best reform models originate. Iowa offers a unique option: its Legislative Services Agency redraws the districts, using four criteria (equal population, contiguity, compactness, and unity of counties and cities)—and by law ignoring such factors as previous election results, the addresses of incumbents, or any other demographic information. As a result, races for Iowa's five House seats are generally competitive, the only state that can make that claim. Other state reform ideas include requiring a supermajority of legislators to approve new political maps, vesting powers in an independent commission, or even creating multi-member districts.

With a \$150,000 Joyce grant, Mann and his colleagues at Brookings will research a variety of reform options to see under what conditions they work best and what kinds of outcomes they produce. They will then publicize the results, in the hopes of influencing legislators and state courts—and voters, in states that allow ballot measures to change laws.

Is the time right for reform? The disputed 2000 election spotlighted serious weaknesses in the American electoral system, and the redistricting wars have become so extreme that editorialists and columnists on both sides of the political divide are calling for change. A June special issue of *Business Week* asked "Does Your Vote Matter?" and lamented that "voter cynicism is rising as more Americans realize how little choice they really have for Congress." "If Americans want to live in a democracy worthy of the name," wrote *Chicago Tribune* columnist Steve Chapman recently, "they need to find ways to curb the excesses of partisan redistricting. That, or move to Iowa."

**Thomas Mann, Brookings Institution,**  
[www.brookings.edu](http://www.brookings.edu)

## Most Illinoisans have little or no idea what happens in the state capital. In only its second year, a small network is taking big steps toward changing that.

C-SPAN cameras have given citizens a window to Congress for more than two decades, but the activities in most state legislatures have remained difficult for anyone who can't visit the capital to see.

In 2000 a group of people at the University of Illinois at Springfield decided to change that. Their three-year study gave birth to Illinois Channel, which in its first year produced more than 100 hours of coverage of state government and public affairs issues, made available on the Internet and on cable access channels in more than 1.1 million homes.

Terry Martin, the executive director of Illinois Channel and a former C-SPAN employee, calls Illinois Channel a valuable resource in light of the scarcity of state news coverage on commercial channels. "We don't want to look at snippets of information; we want a foundation of understanding," he says. The Joyce Foundation provided significant startup funding when Illinois Channel began and has renewed that with a two-year, \$260,000 grant to support continuing expansion.

State governments affect citizens' lives in many ways that the federal government does not, and increasingly so, as Washington relinquishes more power over issues including welfare policy and the environment to the states. But televised coverage of state government is nearly nonexistent. In Illinois only one affiliate outside Springfield has a reporter assigned to the capital. Illinois Channel seeks to fill that void. "People in Chicago aren't getting enough state government coverage," Martin says. "State government is literally out of the picture."

Martin likes to say that "public policy doesn't begin and end under the capitol dome in Springfield," so in addition to showing the proceedings in the statehouse, Illinois Channel also features historical programming, interviews with policymakers, and information about Illinois-related books. Recent programs have included former Gov. Jim Thompson arguing a case before the Illinois Supreme Court, interviews with Senate candidates, and an NAACP education forum.

Because it carries no advertising, Illinois Channel has never measured its audience. Martin says the lack of pressure to draw ratings serves as an assurance that Illinois Channel will devote its resources solely to showing the best programming possible, with a special emphasis on the depth of coverage that other television outlets do not provide.

"Local news will spend 45 minutes at a press conference and do a story for a minute and a half," Martin says. "We can televise the whole 45 minutes."

Several other states have similar public affairs programming operations, and many states offer live video streams of their state legislatures via the Internet.

Martin hopes Illinois Channel will find a niche audience of citizens deeply concerned about the workings of the state. "The audience will find us because there's virtually no other source for this kind of programming. There's no statewide channel."

**Terry Martin, Illinois Channel, 217.525.7440. To find program schedules or view streaming video, visit [www.illinoischannel.org](http://www.illinoischannel.org).**



## Culture

### Latino Theater

Actors from Spain, Latin America, and the United States performed in English and in Spanish as Chicago's Goodman Theatre presented its second Latino Theater Festival this summer.

The centerpiece of the festival was a production of Luis Alfaro's "Electricidad: A Chicano Take on Sophocles' *Electra*."

Other plays presented in English included "Culture Clash in AmeriCCa,"

"Let the Eagle Fly," and "No Holds Barrio."

Chicago's Aguijon Theater Company presented "Blood Wedding" and Spain's Imaginary Theatre Factory presented "Yuri Sam," both in Spanish.

The Joyce Foundation supported the first Latino Theater Festival last summer as well as this year's effort. Joyce has long been a major funder of minority theater groups in Chicago.

*Nino (played by Edward Torres) tattoos Orestes (Maximino Arciniega Jr.) in "Electricidad."*  
—Photo by Michael Brosilow



*Clemencia (Sandra Marquez) prepares to set the body of her dead husband on fire as her daughter (Cecilia Suarez, playing the title role) watches in "Electricidad."*  
—Photo by Michael Brosilow



*Richard Montoya (left) performs with Herbert Siguenza in "Culture Clash in AmeriCCa."*  
—Photo by Kevin Berne

# GrantsApproved

The following grants were approved at the July 27, 2004 meeting of the Board of Directors:

## Education

### Center on Education Policy

Washington, DC \$600,000

To support a national study of the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act. (2 yrs.)

### Cleveland Initiative for Education

Cleveland, OH \$400,000

To strengthen principal leadership in high-need schools, improve teacher quality, and develop policy recommendations for improving teacher induction and retention in Cleveland. (1 yr.)

### Council of Chief State School Officers

Washington, DC \$514,666

To help state education agencies analyze, plan, and implement strategies that will strengthen teacher quality, particularly in high-poverty, low-performing schools, and create a more equitable distribution of teachers. (2 yrs.)

### Illinois Facilities Fund-Chicago

Chicago, IL \$85,000

For a study on the economic impact of Illinois' early care and education industry with a secondary report focusing on the metropolitan Chicago area. (1 yr.)

### Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies

Bloomington, IL \$200,000

For planning, research, and policy-related activities necessary to implement the Illinois Early Childhood Career Lattice. (2 yrs.)

### KnowledgeWorks Foundation

Cincinnati, OH \$50,000

To support the Ohio Eight Coalition, a collaboration of the superintendents and teachers union presidents of Ohio's eight largest urban school districts. (1 yr.)

### Learning Point Associates

Naperville, IL \$139,560

To conduct a qualitative opinion research study of teachers in Illinois, Ohio, and Wisconsin to help policymakers identify policies to recruit and retain high-quality teachers in hard-to-staff schools. (1 yr.)

### Milwaukee Teachers Education Association

Milwaukee, WI \$65,824

To explore development of a differentiated compensation system for Milwaukee Public School teachers. The Milwaukee Partnership Academy would help implement the project. (1 yr.)

### National Association for the Education of Young Children

Washington, DC \$64,000

To develop a system for accrediting early childhood associate degree programs. (2 yrs.)

### National-Louis University Center for Early Childhood Leadership

Wheeling, IL \$200,000

To educate policymakers and stakeholders about the importance of highly qualified early childhood program directors for universal preschool. (2 yrs.)

### Rethinking Schools, Ltd.

Milwaukee, WI \$50,000

To produce a series of articles on the quality of teachers in high-need schools. (1 yr.)

### Rutgers University Foundation National Institute for Early Education Research

New Brunswick, NJ \$200,000

To help two to three midwestern states evaluate the impact of their preschool programs. (1 yr.)

### Urban School News

Chicago, IL \$370,000

To support *Catalyst Cleveland*. (2 yrs.)

### University of Cincinnati Foundation Teacher Quality Partnership

Cincinnati, OH \$200,000

To examine the relationship between Ohio's teacher education programs and the effectiveness of teachers prepared by those programs. (1 yr.)

### University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Education

Milwaukee, WI \$100,703

For an evaluation of the effectiveness of Milwaukee's new school-based learning teams as vehicles for improving professional development and induction. The Milwaukee Partnership Academy would help to implement this project. (1 yr.)

### Total Education \$3,239,753

## Employment

### 9 to 5 Working Women Education Fund

Milwaukee, WI \$50,000

For policy analysis and advocacy work on a Wisconsin task force aimed at improving access to work-related benefits, such as childcare subsidies, food stamps, and child health insurance. (1 yr.)

### Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

Washington, DC \$700,000

For state-level technical assistance on programs that help low-income working families and support for the Center's federal work. (2 yrs.)

### Children's Defense Fund-Minnesota

St. Paul, MN \$200,000

For an advocacy campaign to improve funding for work-related benefits, such as the state's child health insurance program and its subsidized childcare program. (2 yrs.)

### Community Renewal Society The Chicago Reporter

Chicago, IL \$95,000

To support *The Chicago Reporter's* investigative journalism series on ex-offender reentry with a focus on employment. (1 yr.)

### Lifetrack Resources, Inc.

St. Paul, MN \$100,000

For a strategic communications campaign to promote transitional, publicly funded jobs as a leading employment policy solution for hard-to-employ individuals. (18 mos.)

### Michigan League for Human Services

Lansing, MI \$313,513

To continue its policy analysis, research, and advocacy on welfare and workforce issues in Michigan. (2 yrs.)

### New Hope Project, Inc.

Milwaukee, WI \$75,000

To continue a statewide advocacy campaign to build support for transitional jobs programs in Wisconsin. (1 yr.)

### University of Chicago Chapin Hall Center for Children

Chicago, IL \$150,000

For support of the Chapin Hall Center for Children, its Illinois Welfare Policy Symposium, and a series of Welfare Research Briefing Sessions. (2 yrs.)

### University of Wisconsin-Madison Institute for Research on Poverty

Madison, WI \$300,000

To support the Welfare Peer Assistance Network. (2 yrs.)

### Urban Institute

Washington, DC \$225,361

To research issues regarding access to and retention of childcare subsidies in seven Midwest states. (1 yr.)

### Total Employment \$2,208,874

## Environment

### Center for Neighborhood Technology

Chicago, IL \$197,777

To develop a mechanism to evaluate the costs and benefits of traditionally engineered water systems versus alternatives composed of either renewable, "green" systems or systems that combine the two. (1 yr.)

### Delta Institute

Chicago, IL \$150,000

To support the development of the Great Lakes Pollution Prevention and Energy Efficiency Fund, a revolving loan fund to help manufacturers modernize their operations and reduce environmental pollution. (1 yr.)

### Environmental Defense, Inc.

New York, NY \$500,000

For protection of Great Lakes water resources through implementation of federal farm conservation programs in Midwest states. (2 yrs.)

### Grand Valley State University

Grand Rapids, MI \$61,000

To study the potential economic consequences in the region if oceangoing vessels could no longer enter the St. Lawrence Seaway. (6 mos.)

### Great Lakes United

Buffalo, NY \$97,500

To support its participation in a coalition of environmental groups on Great Lakes restoration, its promotion of basin-wide restoration in Canada, its role as an organizer on water quantity policy, and to support a consultant hired to promote restoration in Canada. (1 yr.)

### Iowa Policy Project

Mt. Vernon, IA \$175,000

To prepare and disseminate six research reports addressing priority environmental issues in Iowa. (2 yrs.)

### Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.

St. Paul, MN \$300,000

To assist state regulators and electric suppliers in designing a renewable energy credit trading system for the upper Midwest and the Dakotas. (2 yrs.)

### Lake Michigan Federation

Chicago, IL \$350,000

To work with a coalition of Great Lakes environmental groups to advance a comprehensive Great Lakes restoration initiative and to conduct activities in support of the protection of Lake Michigan. (2 yrs.)

### Metropolitan Planning Council

Chicago, IL \$175,000

To support transportation efficiency and smart growth in northern Illinois. (1 yr.)

### Metropolitan Planning Council

Chicago, IL \$350,000

For a collaboration with the Openlands Project to improve state and local public policy on water quality and quantity in northeastern Illinois. (2 yrs.)

### Michigan Environmental Council

Lansing, MI \$154,628

For ongoing water protection and conservation efforts in Michigan. (2 yrs.)

#### **Michigan Environmental Council**

*Lansing, MI \$75,000*

To produce environmental briefing books for policymakers and opinion leaders in Michigan, Illinois, and Wisconsin. (1 yr.)

#### **Michigan Land Use Institute**

*Beulah, MI \$180,000*

To promote reforms to transportation policies in Michigan. (2 yrs.)

#### **National Wildlife Federation**

*Vienna, VA \$85,029*

For its Great Lakes Natural Resource Center to assist the states in implementing a new regional system for managing water use that improves the basin's ecological health. (1 yr.)

#### **National Wildlife Federation**

*Vienna, VA \$135,285*

For its Great Lakes Natural Resource Center to work with a coalition of environmental groups to advance a comprehensive Great Lakes restoration initiative. (1 yr.)

#### **Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc.**

*New York, NY \$220,000*

To establish new regulatory incentives in Wisconsin for investments in energy efficiency and to encourage electric utility managers in Illinois to advocate for more aggressive policies regarding climate change. (2 yrs.)

#### **Nature Conservancy**

*Arlington, VA \$255,000*

To support its Great Lakes Program's efforts to incorporate the sciences of land conservation and hydrology into major Great Lakes policy forums and to support policy work and additional scientific expertise. (2 yrs.)

#### **Northeast-Midwest Institute**

*Washington, DC \$393,000*

To continue to advance the protection and restoration of the Great Lakes through the Great Lakes Cities Initiative. (2 yrs.)

#### **Northwest Michigan Onsite Wastewater Task Force**

*Traverse City, MI \$69,000*

To promote the preservation and protection of drinking and surface water quality through the adoption of innovative, appropriate onsite wastewater treatment system technologies. (1 yr.)

#### **Pollution Probe Foundation**

*Toronto, Ontario, Canada \$100,000*

To demonstrate the concept of "net gain," or environmental improvement, in the management of watersheds feeding Lake Ontario, and for a binational forum for Great Lakes management issues. (1 yr.)

#### **Public Policy Forum Inc.**

##### **Researching Community Issues**

*Milwaukee, WI \$100,000*

For policy and funding recommendations for Milwaukee River watershed communities and the City of Milwaukee to address wastewater management and sewer overflows comprehensively. (1 yr.)

##### **Sustain**

*Chicago, IL \$150,000*

To help Midwest transportation advocates sharpen their message and communications. (1 yr.)

##### **Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council**

*Petoskey, MI \$79,829*

To work with a coalition of Great Lakes environmental groups to advance a comprehensive Great Lakes restoration initiative. (2 yrs.)

##### **Union of Concerned Scientists, Inc.**

*Cambridge, MA \$200,000*

To promote policies supporting renewable energy resources, such as wind, solar, and energy from crops in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. (2 yrs.)

##### **University of Michigan**

###### **Great Lakes Radio Consortium**

*Ann Arbor, MI \$200,000*

For coverage of water-related stories in the region. (2 yrs.)

##### **Wisconsin Wildlife Federation**

*Madison, WI \$138,000*

To research gaps in Wisconsin's new groundwater quantity protection act and to recommend improvements. (2 yrs.)

##### **Total Environment \$4,891,048**

## **Gun Violence**

##### **Boston University School of Public Health**

*Boston, MA \$40,000*

To support the Join Together Gun Violence Prevention Project. (6 mos.)

##### **Citizens for a Safer Minnesota Education Fund**

*St. Paul, MN \$32,000*

To support gun violence prevention policies in Minnesota. (6 mos.)

##### **Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence**

*Chicago, IL \$300,000*

To create a new network of state-based gun violence prevention groups. (1 yr.)

##### **Indiana University**

###### **Department of Pediatrics**

*Indianapolis, IN \$40,000*

To support the Indiana Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence. (1 yr.)

##### **WAVE Educational Fund**

*Milwaukee, WI \$40,000*

To support a coalition to reduce gun violence in Wisconsin. (6 mos.)

##### **University of California-Los Angeles School of Public Health**

*Los Angeles, CA \$250,000*

To study the impact of California's effort to implement firearm prohibitions that were part of the 1994 federal Violence Against Women Act. (2 yrs.)

##### **Total Gun Violence \$702,000**

## **Money and Politics**

##### **Brigham Young University Center for the Study of Elections and Democracy**

*Provo, UT \$30,000*

To develop and publish a book entitled *Assessing Reform: Financing the 2004 Elections*. (1 yr.)

##### **Brookings Institution**

*Washington, DC \$150,000*

For its Competition, Partisanship, and Congressional Redistricting project. (2 yrs.)

##### **Center for Digital Democracy**

*Washington, DC \$50,000*

To persuade the Federal Communications Commission to define and impose on the nation's 1,700 television stations a clearer and more exacting set of public interest obligations. (1 yr.)

##### **Center for Responsive Politics**

*Washington, DC \$375,000*

For its Open Secrets Project and the FEC Watch Project. (2 yrs.)

##### **Fund for Justice**

*Chicago, IL \$30,000*

For its judicial election voter education project in Cook County, which would invite attorneys and litigants to complete performance evaluations on 79 judicial retention candidates; conduct interviews with all the candidates; and publicize the results of the surveys and interviews. (1 yr.)

##### **Illinois Campaign for Political Reform**

*Chicago, IL \$260,000*

To support its policy research, development, education, and advocacy activities surrounding campaign finance, governmental ethics, lobbying regulation, judicial elections, and communications policy. (1 yr.)

##### **Illinois Channel Organization**

*Springfield, IL \$260,000*

To increase its statewide public affairs coverage and program distribution and develop a strategic plan focused on marketing, fundraising, and board and staff development. (2 yrs.)

##### **Proteus Fund, Inc.**

*Arlington, VA \$75,000*

To support educational and advocacy activities aimed at defending Arizona's public financing system against an organized effort to repeal by ballot initiative the state's successful, voter-approved Clean Elections Act. (1 yr.)

##### **University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication**

*Los Angeles, CA \$150,000*

To collect, code, and analyze fall television news coverage of political campaigns in selected media markets and disseminate the published evaluation to policymakers and media reform activists. (1 yr.)

##### **Wisconsin Democracy Campaign Education Project, Inc.**

*Madison, WI \$450,000*

For efforts to reform the state's campaign finance laws and associated regulatory agencies. (2 yrs.)

##### **Total Money and Politics \$1,830,000**

## **Culture**

##### **Arts & Business Council of Chicago**

*Chicago, IL \$40,000*

To provide assessment, board development, and marketing services to three minority arts groups, and to subcontract with the Nonprofit Financial Center and the IT Resource Center to provide financial management, staff training, and technology support to these organizations. (1 yr.)

##### **Chicago Sinfonietta, Inc.**

*Chicago, IL \$100,000*

For support of its upcoming season and expansion of its education outreach and community service program in Pilsen, Lawndale, Logan Square, and other underserved neighborhoods. (1 yr.)

##### **Chicago Theatre Group, Inc.**

*Chicago, IL \$325,000*

For an institutional diversity initiative, a fellowship program to recruit and train middle-management minority staff, and a presentation of an African-American Theater Festival at the Goodman Theatre. (2 yrs.)

#### Congo Square Theatre Company

Chicago, IL \$40,000

To support salaries, expand marketing efforts, implement a membership program, and create a plan to expand revenue. (1 yr.)

#### ETA Creative Arts Foundation

Chicago, IL \$35,000

For continued development of new programs to increase earned income. (1 yr.)

#### Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum

Chicago, IL \$120,000

For audience development and capacity-building initiatives. (2 yrs.)

#### Muntu Dance Theatre

Chicago, IL \$130,000

For support of a director of development to manage the capital campaign and fundraising activities for the organization. (2 yrs.)

#### Museum of Contemporary Art

Chicago, IL \$100,000

For its Performance Series, a diverse cross-section of contemporary performing arts. (1 yr.)

#### Old Town School of Folk Music

Chicago, IL \$50,000

To support AfroFolk, an audience development initiative that offers free admission to performances and workshops targeting the African and African-American audience. (1 yr.)

#### Teatro Vista, Theatre with a View

Chicago, IL \$50,000

To support staff salaries, marketing, and board development. (2 yrs.)

**Total Culture \$990,000**

## Special Opportunities

#### Chicago Metropolis 2020

Chicago, IL \$150,000

To revise the Illinois criminal code. (2 yrs.)

#### Friends of the Chicago River

Chicago, IL \$100,000

For a collaboration with the City of Chicago to develop a policy blueprint for making the Chicago River fishable and swimmable by 2020. (2 yrs.)

#### Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy

Washington, DC \$50,000

To inform Midwest policymakers, tax reform advocates, the media, and general public about the adequacy of state tax systems, with an emphasis on the distributional and revenue effects of state tax proposals. (1 yr.)

#### Northwestern University Joint Center for Poverty Research Institute for Policy Research

Evanston, IL \$77,500

To organize a series of policy forums for Illinois and federal policymakers. (2 yrs.)

**Total Special Opportunities \$377,500**

### Total Grants Approved

**\$14,239,175**

#### New Education Program Officer



Joining the Foundation this month as Program Officer for Education is John M. Luczak. Mr. Luczak recently finished his doctoral work in education policy analysis at Stanford, where he focused on teacher preparation and retention. He also holds an M.A. from Stanford in education administration and policy analysis.

Previously, Mr. Luczak worked for the U.S. Department of Education, first as special assistant to the deputy secretary and then as director of policy for the National Commission on Mathematics and Science Teaching for the 21st Century. He also previously worked for SRI International on curriculum reform and teacher quality issues; for the Ravenswood City School District; and as a student teacher in Providence, R.I., where he started mentoring programs while an undergraduate at Brown University.

The Foundation also announces two other recent staff appointments: Michael David Smith becomes communications assistant, and James Suh becomes information technology specialist. Mr. Smith has worked as a teacher and a journalist in California, and is a former editor at the *Daily Illini*, the student newspaper at the University of Illinois. Mr. Suh is also a University of Illinois graduate and has recently completed a masters in computer science from the University of Chicago.

**The next proposal deadline is:**

**December 10, 2004, for the April 2005 board meeting**

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