

# AWEF News

August 31, 2020

**Board of Directors**

- Amy Baudouin
- Gretta Bieber
- Kris Machajewski
- Rhonda Mont
- Linda Pilmer
- Zaida Rodriguez
- Eva Serrano

**Fund Development and Community Outreach**

- Amy Seyller

Contact us:

www.awe-  
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815-316-6120

info@awe-  
foundation.org



## FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2020 GRANT RECIPIENTS

After reviewing many worthy applications, and taking into consideration the current social and economic circumstances regarding Covid-19, the AWEF Board of Directors awarded grants to the following organizations:

### The Fox Valley Grantmakers COVID-19 Response Fund

This fund was launched in March as a collaborative effort between the Aurora Women's Empowerment Foundation, Dunham Fund, Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley, Fox Valley United Way and INC Board. The committee reviewed the needs of local non-profits on a weekly basis and has helped more than 50 organizations with the average gift exceeding \$11,000.

AWEF initially contributed \$25,000 and decided to contribute another \$30,000 to the fund, based on the overwhelming need facing our community during this time.

Check out this [awesome video](#) highlighting the recipients, from our partners at the Dunham Fund!

### Dominican Literacy Center

Programs that give women the tools to improve their lives, and the lives of their families are priorities for the AWEF Board. They were excited to award \$20,000 for the purchase of new program materials to help teach immigrant women in Aurora to speak English. Since 1993, over 2,900 women have been tutored through the Dominican Literacy Center. The vast majority of these women go on to continue their education, improve their economic situation, and tutor their own children and families. AWEF is excited to hear and share future success stories from the women of the Dominican Literacy Center.

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TO 44321**

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Amy and Duff Seyller  
Eva Serrano

**Support Level**

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Compact Industries	Two Brothers
Forever Birdy	Carol Edwards

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## RACIAL JUSTICE VIRTUAL EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

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It is a time of reckoning, a time of healing and a time of unlearning and dismantling our own biases and ideas regarding race. AWEF is eager to add to the conversation, by hosting a Racial Justice Virtual Event on Monday, October 19th.

Our online event will feature Reverend Naomi Tutu and her daughter, Ms. Mungi Ngomane, author of the book *Everyday Ubuntu: Living Better Together, The African Way*, who will join us for an incredibly special evening. Reverend Tutu and Ms. Ngomane are the daughter and granddaughter of Nobel Peace Prize recipient and human rights activist, Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

They proudly carry on their family legacy of fighting for racial justice and equality, while highlighting the ways we are more alike, than different. Our event will feature Ms. Ngomane discussing the Southern African philosophy of ubuntu, that celebrates the universal human bond and Reverend Tutu demonstrating how we can use these principals to further racial justice initiatives in our own communities.

We are currently seeking sponsors with whom to host this wonderful event. If you would like to be a part of this important evening, and conversation, click [here](#) for more information or contact Amy Seyller at 708-209-7597 or amys@awe-foundation.org.



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## REMINDER!!

The 2021 grant cycle application will open January 29, 2021 and close March 26, 2021. Grant awards will be announced at an event in May 2021.



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