Shavlik Family Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Tenth Anniversary

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

In 2013 we launched the Shavlik Family Foundation by giving one grant to a local housing and supportive services organization - Solid Ground. From there we watched as the nonprofit community went from needing technology to help with operations - databases, websites, applications, and hardware equipment - to looking for ways to really expand how they operated and met their client's needs. In turn, we remained open to how we defined technology by being prepared to fund new tools nonprofits wanted to use to succeed, including things like mobile apps, 3D printers, Audio and Visual equipment, robots, IoT/smart connectivity devices, and artificial intelligence diagnostic tools.

The Foundation initially focused on closing the technology gap that nonprofit organizations had when compared to their for-profit counterparts in order to help level the playing field. But as the nonprofit community caught up their technology acquisitions to include basic tech needs to operate, we found

ourselves focusing more and more on the innovation they were bringing to their work and how they used devices and technology to realize their missions.

At ten years we continue to focus on building capacity for organizations through technology but with a stronger emphasis on innovation. We continue to be unique in our focus as a foundation including the belief of serving the larger nonprofit community regardless of mission. We have always focused a percentage of our grantmaking on Greater Minnesota including expanding to include tribal governments as potential grantees in 2020. And we continue to commit to be flexible in the next decade in order to meet the needs Minnesota nonprofits have for tech in all its iterations.
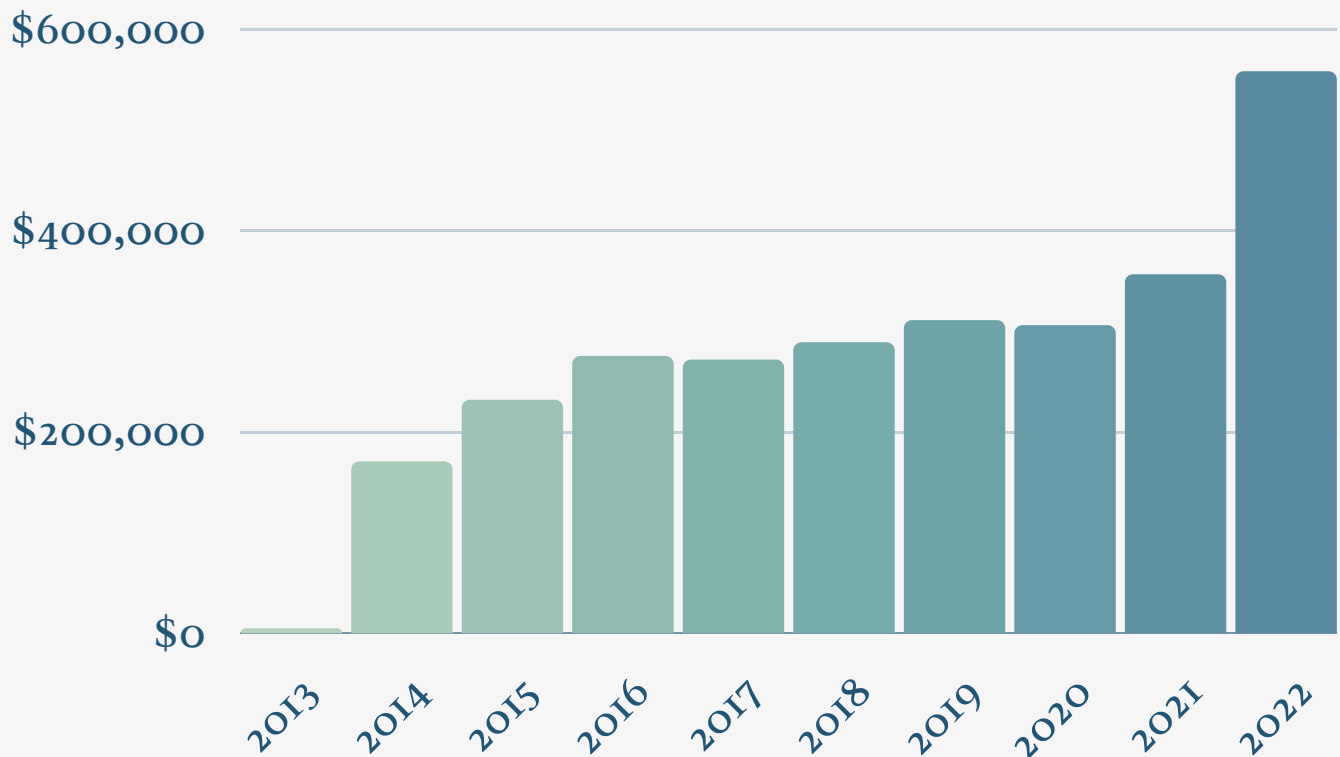
Rebecca R. Shavlik

REBECCA SHAVLIK
Founder and Executive Director

GRANTMAKING OVER A DECADE

To mark ten years of grantmaking, the Foundation piloted a second grant cycle to award a total of $550,000+ in 2022.
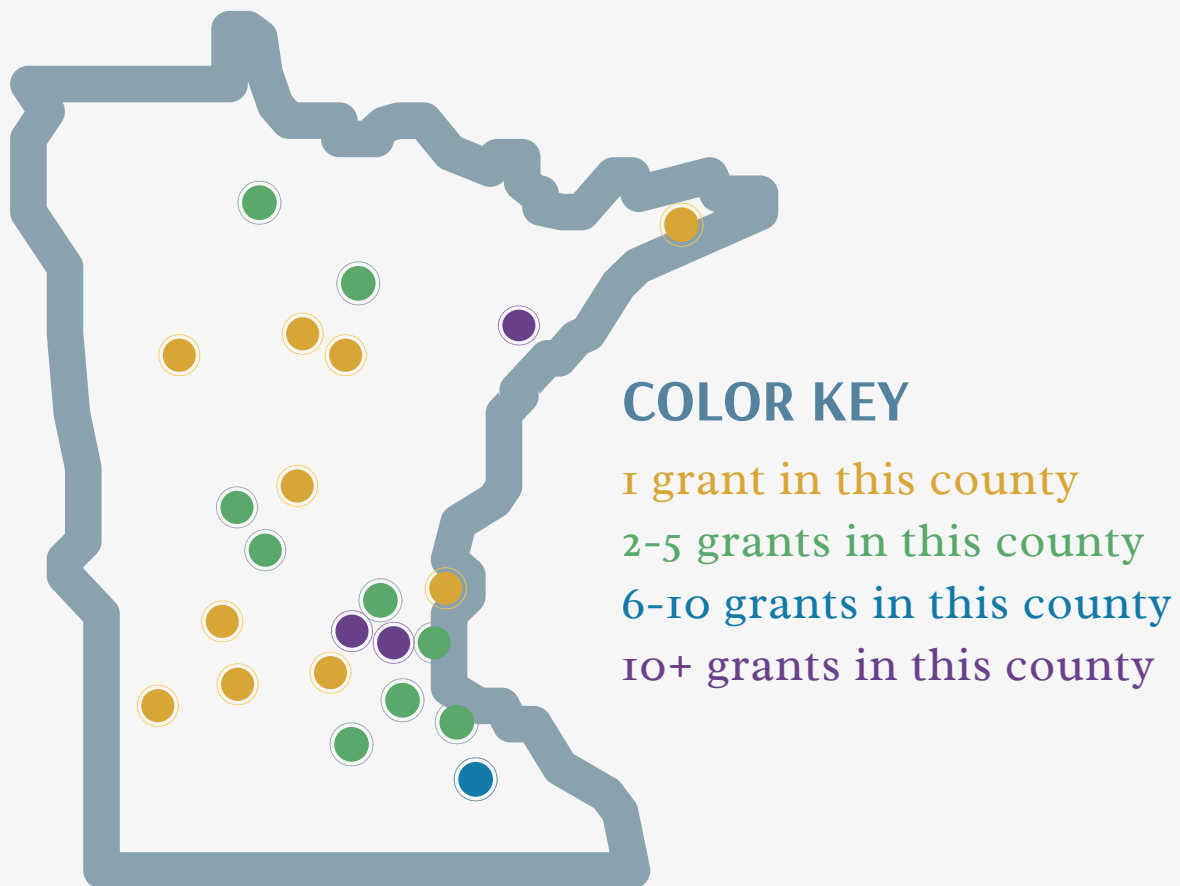

Since inception, The Shavlik Family Foundation has granted $2.7+ million to nonprofit organizations and tribal governments working to address critical community issues through the implementation of innovative technology.

ALL-TIME GRANTS BY COUNTY

The Shavlik Family Foundation has granted 159 awards to nonprofits and tribal governments across Minnesota.
In recent years, we have especially focused on supporting innovative technology projects from Greater Minnesota.
To date, 37% of our grants have been awarded to projects in Greater Minnesota, a number we hope to increase. See the geographic distribution of our all-time grants below.

COLOR KEY

1 grant in this county
2-5 grants in this county
6-10 grants in this county
10+ grants in this county

Learn about previous grantee projects on our website:
shavlikfamilyfoundation.org

IN 2022 WE...

- Celebrated ten years of grantmaking
- Moved into a dedicated office space
- Piloted a second grant cycle
- Increased giving by 64% compared to 2021 (by dollar amount)
- Added one grant reviewer to our team
- Maintained our annual giving rate well above the 5% IRS minimum
- Dispersed $557,647 to MN organizations

IMPACT ACROSS MINNESOTA

To celebrate a decade of grantmaking, the Foundation opened a second grant cycle in the summer of 2022, with a focus on Data Innovation. In recent years, some of the most innovative proposals have been from organizations thinking outside-the-box about what data they acquire, how they acquire it, and how they leverage it to drive decisions.

With this second RFP, we nearly doubled the number of awards distributed as compared to 2021. More importantly, we learned that Minnesota nonprofits are pushing the envelope on defining and implementing data justice practices, synthesizing data among partner organizations to better serve a larger community, undertaking large-scale research and mixed-methods analysis to inform ongoing priorities, and more. Going forward, we are excited to continue holding two grant cycles per calendar year.
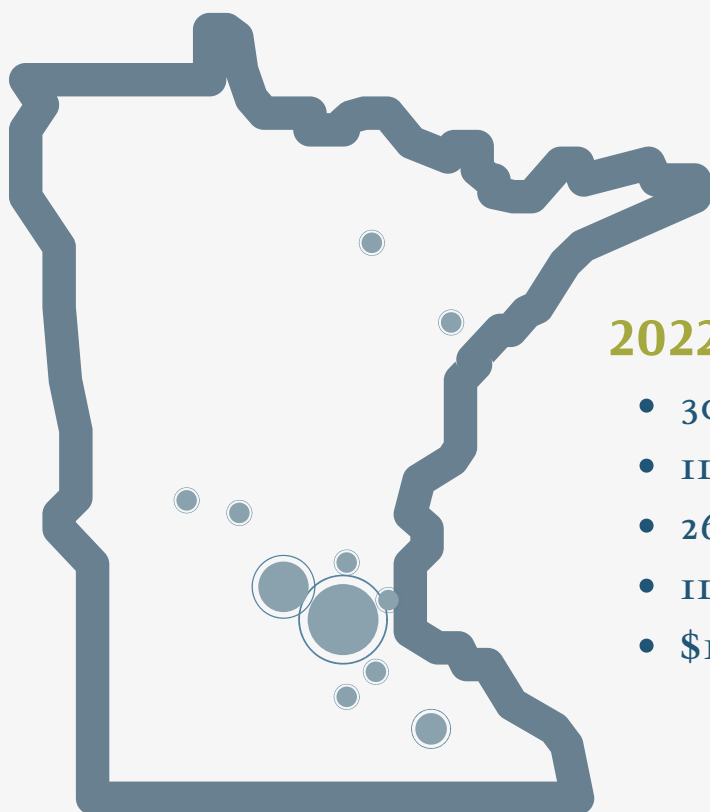
2022 GRANTMAKING

- 30 proposals funded
- 11 counties represented
- 26k+ people directly impacted
- 11k+ staff hours saved
- $1.78M saved or earned

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

The Shavlik Family Foundation is proud to support Minnesota nonprofits leveraging data and technology to transform their programs and operations. These are just a handful of innovative projects the Foundation has funded in recent years.

ECUMEN'S DINING ROBOT

Ecumen Seasons at Maplewood was awarded funding in 2022 to purchase an indoor service robot to support dietary service employees in the dining room.

The service robot, affectionately named SAMMY, is improving residents' dining experience while freeing other employees from covering dining duties. SAMMY did not replace any staff positions but does provide the equivalent work of 1-2 dining room servers and has already reduced strain on staff. SAMMY has also ingratiated herself with residents as she greets them in the halls or sings "happy birthday" whilst delivering their meal.

Implementing the robot adds efficiency and fun to the dining experience at Ecumen, while also addressing a larger staffing bottleneck for the organization.

FOSTER ADVOCATES AND THE MINNESOTA PROMISE

Foster Advocates is undertaking The Minnesota Promise Campaign, an effort to collect statewide data revealing Fosters' vision for child welfare systems change. Effective data collection and mixed-methods analysis of participants' shared expertise will inform ongoing advocacy priorities for Foster Advocates and their network of Foster leaders.

Foster Advocates is in the midst of a year-long listening session tour across Minnesota to engage Fosters in sharing their expertise around issues already on the organization's radar, identifying what's missing, and ideating possibilities for systems change.

After a test session with Community Board members, Foster Advocates conducted east- and west-metro sessions and is preparing for sessions in St. Cloud, Duluth, Bemidji, Moorhead, Rochester, and Mankato as well as partnering with tribal organizations for a reservation-based session and/or a virtual session for indigenous Fosters statewide.

Funding from the Foundation's Data Innovation grant pilot has allowed Foster Advocates to purchase technology and programs to support data analysis; they started a codebook from initial sessions that will be iteratively added to with each new session.

In addition to gathering data, the sessions create opportunity to build relationships across the state and expand the Foster network. In session feedback, Fosters have stated they never had a space to share their insights and ideas in this way or with peers who understand their experiences–they feel heard and are excited to engage in ongoing advocacy around these issues.
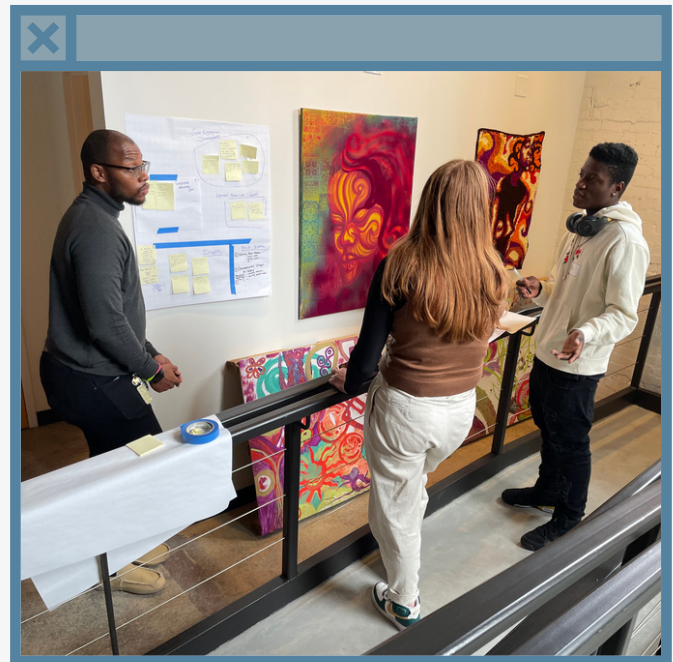
HIRED'S DATA FOR IMPACT DASHBOARD

Shavlik Family Foundation provided funding to launch phase two of Hired's multi-phase Data for Impact project. The goal of Hired's Data for Impact Project is to strengthen program impact and organizational data culture by equipping staff with data storage, management, and visualization tools to analyze program results.

Hired embarked on this project after recognizing the database they are required to use by the state of Minnesota only provides individual client-level data and does not offer program-wide summaries or trends in an easily accessible format. While many similar nonprofits must invest in a secondary database to support program data analysis, Hired leveraged the support of the Shavlik Foundation to build a series of custom program dashboards using the data already captured in their original database.

With dashboards customized for program staff, managers, and organizational leaders, the Data for Impact Project will save staff countless hours of double data entry while also equipping them with visual and user-friendly program analysis tools in real time. Hired hopes that these tools will help staff to continue strategically supporting participants while identifying programmatic trends and collective participant outcomes as well as promising strategies and opportunities for program improvements.

"With the capacity-building support of the Shavlik Family Foundation, we have created the foundational tools to support our data culture, continuous learning, and program improvement at Hired. These dashboards are bringing our program data to life in new ways and will be vital tools for our staff as we strive to advance racial equity in employment." - Kendall Carlson, Impact and Innovation Officer at Hired

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE BROADBAND

Since 1999 the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe have operated their own MIS/IT Division that has managed the telephone lines to its buildings and the outlying 14 communities, including broadband access points. The team has diverse knowledge of telephony, fiber, and fixed wireless communications.

The tribe had been securing internet capacity leading up to 2021, including hardwiring its buildings with fiber. This included working with the Blandin Foundation's Community Broadband Program which boosted collaboration of rural leaders to set a broadband tech vision and get access to resources.

One of the last parts of the project was bringing a fiber line from the tribe's central office to a tower one mile away. The fiber link would then provide a fixed wireless signal (2.5 GHz spectrum) which would have the capacity to reach distant towers and could reach through wooded areas to outlying communities. The COVID-19 pandemic had begun earlier that year prior to their application to the Shavlik Family Foundation. The very rural citizens in Cass County and on tribal lands needed the signal to be able to work from home, conduct distant learning and receive telehealth during the pandemic.

The tribal government had the funds for most of the project but needed a bit more from the Shavlik Family Foundation to finish. While our grant was small, funding the last part of this project and bringing the final piece on-line meant we could impact over one thousand households with the new wireless transmission. The grant also helped the tribal government set a vision and foundation for a larger-scope project to serve its citizens who lacked broadband during the pandemic and still had that need.


In 2022 the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of the Biden Administration committed funds to connecting Tribal communities to affordable high-speed internet service. The tribe, armed with a new plan based on what they accomplished with the Shavlik grant seized the opportunity to apply to the Department of Commerce for a larger grant. The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe was awarded an $18.7 million grant from the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration in early 2023 that will bring ownership of their own fiber and fixed wireless network, including nine new towers in the coming years.

MYHEALTH ONLINE APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER

myHealth for Teens & Young Adults provides healthcare and mental health counseling to over 1,000 clients, ages 12-26 each year. In 2019, the only way to schedule an appointment was to call the clinic and speak to a scheduler. Funding from the Shavlik Foundation allowed myHealth to implement an online appointment scheduling system. The benefit to online scheduling for both staff and clients is primarily time savings and convenience. But more importantly, online scheduling reduces a barrier to obtaining healthcare. myHealth clients are likely seeking confidential care and limiting their ability to schedule an appointment by making a phone call, during school hours, may prevent them from getting the care they need. Integrating online scheduling keeps current patients satisfied while also recruiting new patients. It also reduces staff time needed to assist with scheduling appointments on the phone and in person when patients arrive as walk-ins at the clinic.

In its first year of use, myHealth had 180 online bookings and saw 74 new clients who booked using the online system. Of those bookings, 80% were made when myHealth was closed. These early results indicate the online scheduler reduced a major barrier to young people needing care at the clinic. With the implementation of online scheduling, myHealth staff has more time to spend with clients who have questions, talk with them about signing up for insurance, and calm their nerves when they arrive at the clinic.

At the time of this implementation, the online scheduler put myHealth far ahead similarly-sized clinics, and allowed them to meet clients' needs during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
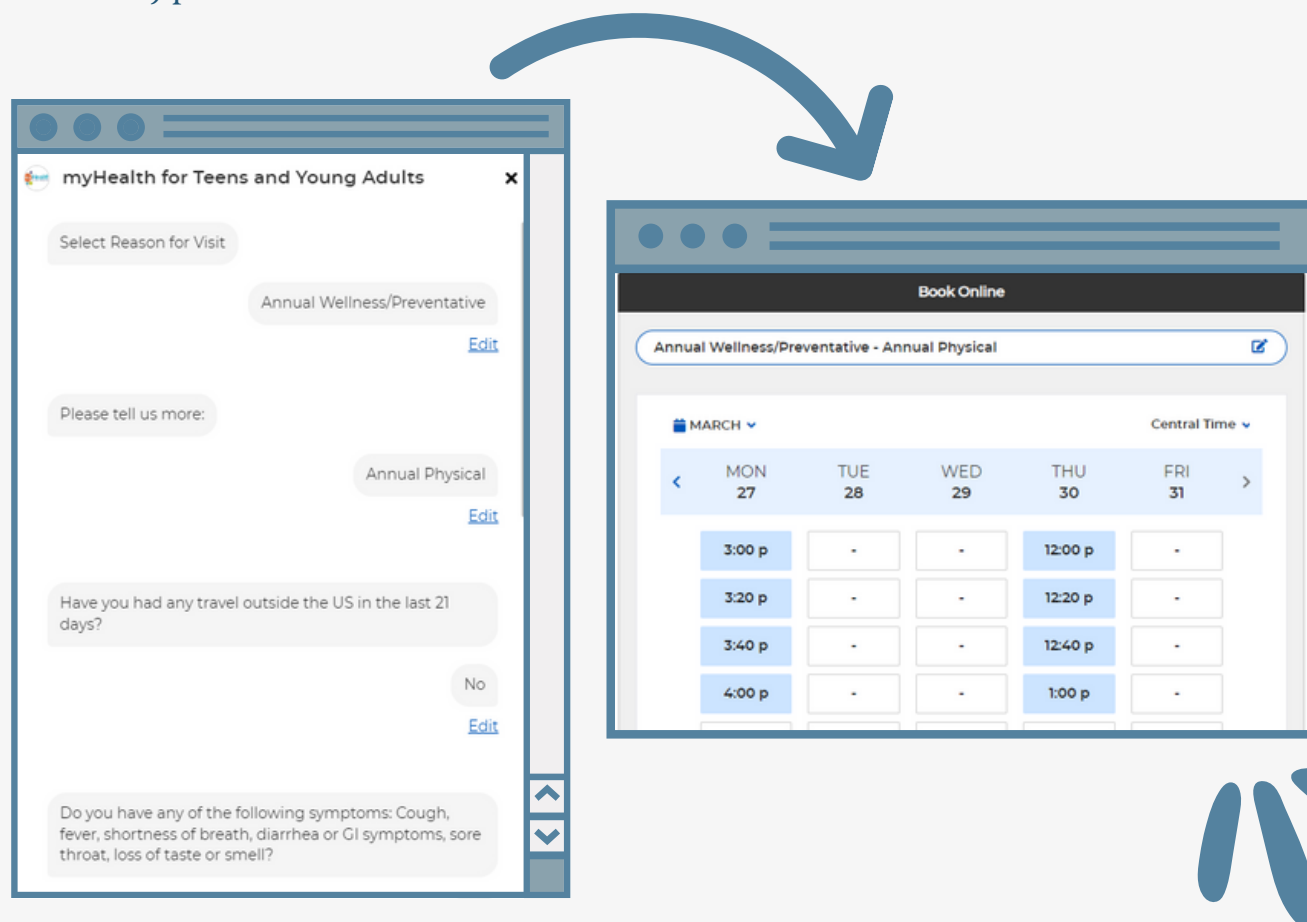
NORTH HOUSE FOLK SCHOOL ONLINE STORE

Leading into the 2021 holiday season, North House Folk School developed and launched an expanded online store and transformed their connection with students, craftspeople, and shoppers around the world.

In its first year of use, the expanded online store saw a drastic increase in merchandise sales, as well as membership support and gift certificate purchases. North House also saw an increase in brick-and-mortar store sales, indicating the new online store is facilitating additional sales, not replacing sales that would have occurred in person. The total online sales in 2022 exceeded $20,000, approximately 8% of the total store sales!

The online store connects shoppers with gift certificates, books, and unique craft, and plays an important role in generating mission-supporting revenue and highlighting the work of North House's talented instructor community.

"As we celebrated our 25th anniversary in 2022, this broader virtual platform allowed us to highlight the work of our talented artisan instructors' craft while generating mission-supporting revenue and setting the stage for our next quarter century of growing connections!" shared Executive Director Greg Wright.
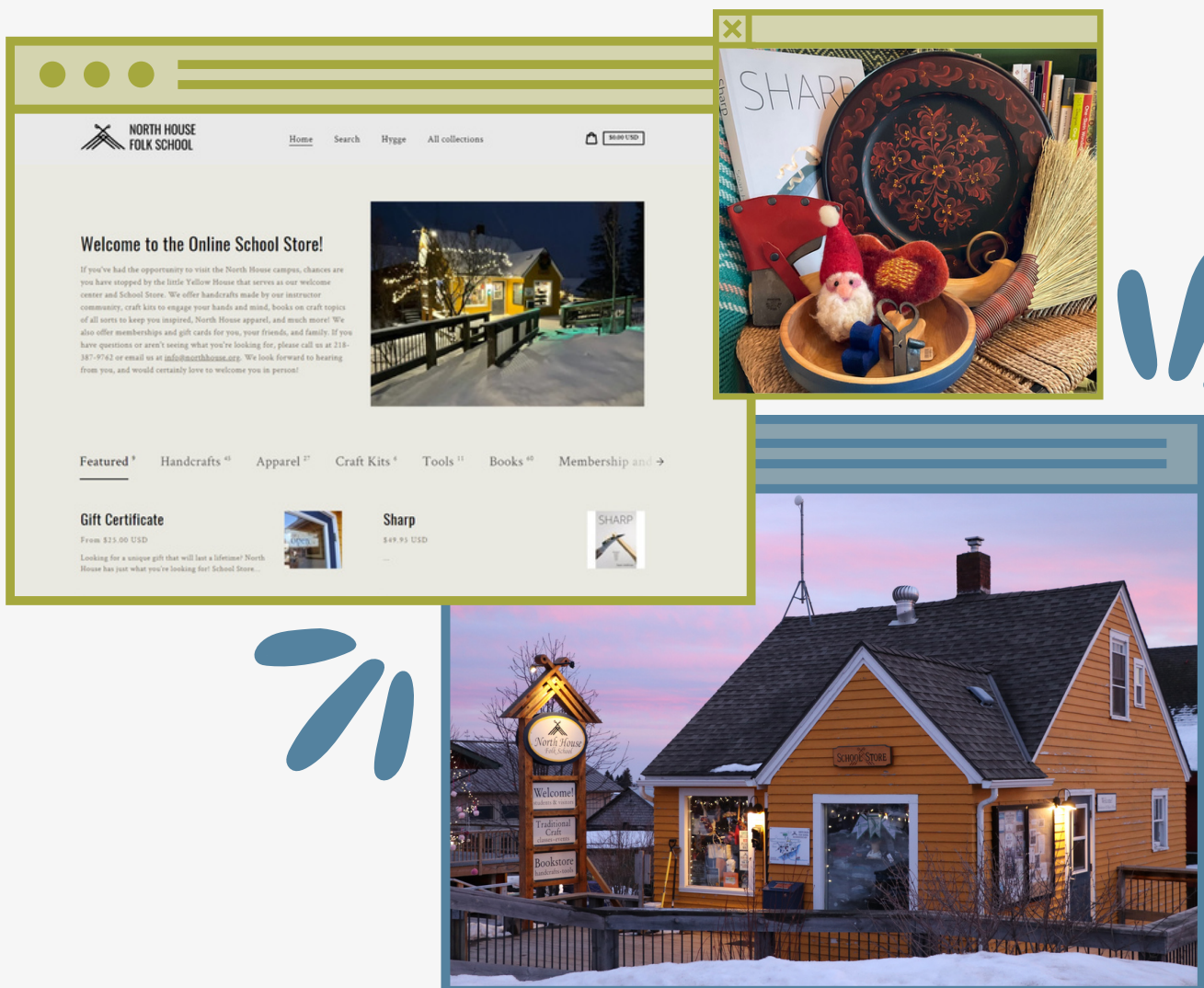
UMN VETERINARY NETWORK DASHBOARDS

The University of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center utilized funds from the Shavlik Foundation to develop a data visualization dashboard for veterinary clinics participating in the Companion Animal Veterinary Surveillance Network (CAVSNET).

CAVSNET receives data from ~115 small animal general practices and the UMN Veterinary Medical Center. With the Shavlik Family Foundation funding, UMN has developed an interactive dashboard for veterinarians across the U.S. to review their clinical practices. The dashboard's initial release focused on compiling and displaying antibiotic use (AU) data, shown below.

Increased attention is being paid to antimicrobial resistance and AU in small animals by the FDA and CDC. The CAVSNET initiative provides a scalable framework for collection of antibiotic use data from veterinary settings, which will allow the UMN Veterinary Medical Center to meet the needs of the veterinary profession, researchers, and federal agencies to understand how antibiotics are being used in this population.

The dashboard allows clinics to view practice data, set targets for practice initiatives, provide situational awareness, and allow practitioners to communicate AU best practices to staff and pet owners.
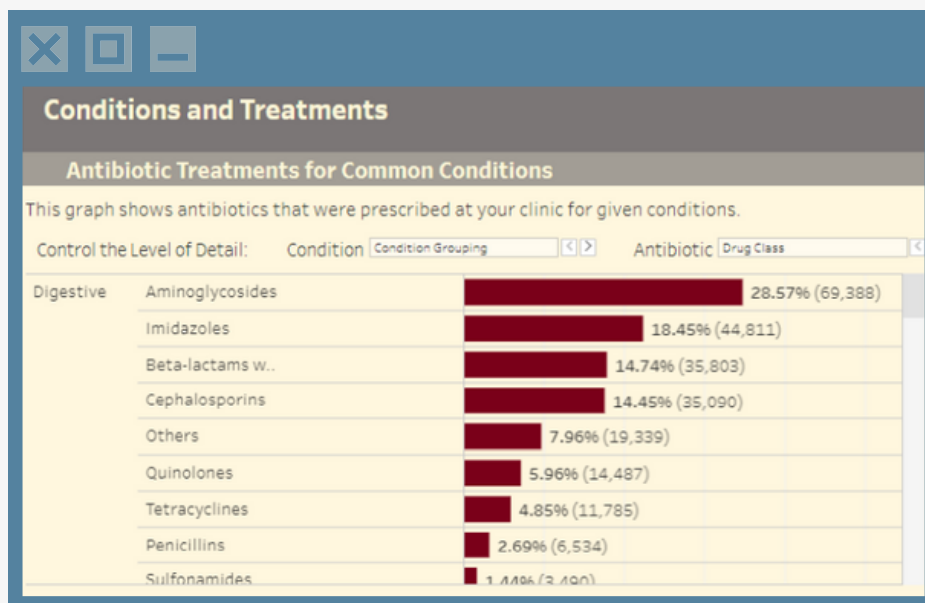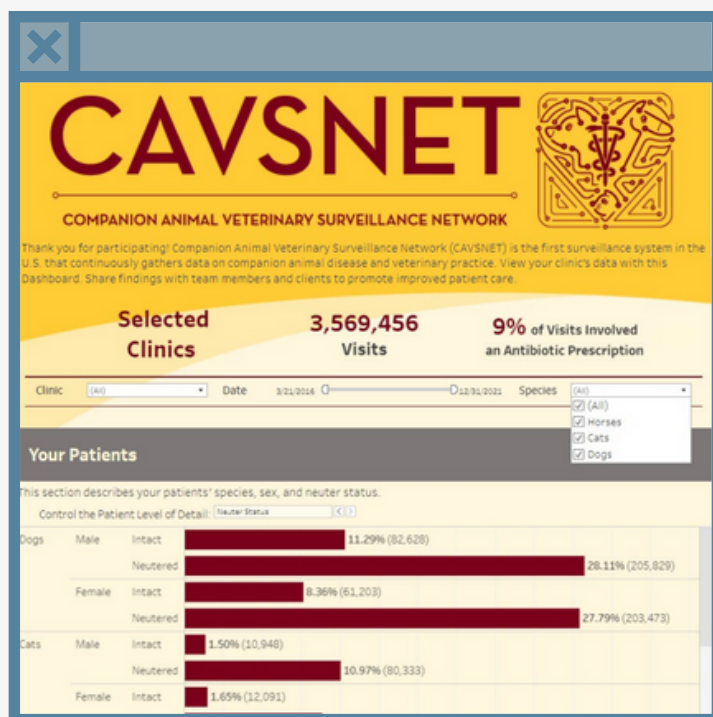
2022 GRANTEES

SPRING

180 Degrees

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Minnesota

Century College

Ecumen

Friends of the Mississippi River

Genesys Works Twin Cities

Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota

Hamm Memorial Psychiatric Clinic

High Tech Kids

Hired

Keystone Community Services

Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities

Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums

Minnesota State Horticultural Society

Midwest Special Services

PCs for People

Project for Pride in Living

Reif Arts Council

Ronald McDonald House of Rochester

FALL

Avenues for Youth

Boys & Girls Club of Rochester

Cancer Legal Care

Foster Advocates

Habitat for Humanity Douglas County

HOPE Center

Minnesota Opera

Minnesota Recovery Connection

Monarch Joint Venture

Northeast Entrepreneur Fund

Rise

Learn more about our work by scanning the code!

OUR PEOPLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND REVIEWERS

Our Board of Directors is composed of family members and outside consultants who each bring a unique set of skills and perspectives from the nonprofit sector.

Joel Barker
Experienced in philanthropic development, marketing, and technology strategies. President of Brave North Technology.

Karen Graham, MBA
Nonprofit technology leader and strategist who is a frequent writer and speaker. Former Chief Advancement Officer for Tech Impact.

Lindsay Hansen Anderson
Fundraising professional with focus on operations and strategy. Director of Fund Development Lutheran Social Services.

Barbara Pierre-Louis, PhD
A linguistics specialist, literature and language instructor and lecturer. Currently studying IT security and infrastructure.

Ryan Sweeney
Focused on data driven operations and technology innovation in nonprofits. Director of Operations, Minnesota Zoo Foundation.

Mark Shavlik
30 years of technical and business leadership experience. Former CEO of Shavlik Technologies.

Rebecca Shavlik, MLS
Decades of nonprofit leadership both on-staff and serving on boards, with an expertise in operations.

Kelsey McKenna, *ex officio*
Background in nonprofit development and grant management. Grants Manager of Shavlik Family Foundation.

AD HOC SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS

Anton Shavlik, MFA
American Film Institute cinematography alumni focused on audio/visual and fine arts technologies.

Irina Shavlik
Worked on social science research proposals for NORC at the University of Chicago, currently enrolled in a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program.

Shavlik
Family Foundation

Access. Technology. Futures.

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