

Illinois American Water Announces Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Grant Recipients - Alton Athletic Association And Alton YWCA Among Recipients

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ALTON - Over \$22,000 will be shared by 12 organizations through Illinois American Water's Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Grant Program. The program provides

financial assistance to nonprofit organizations seeking to develop and implement programs, training, and/or community-related projects that aim to promote and foster inclusion, diversity, and equity in their community.

Rebecca Losli, Illinois American Water President, is excited “to be a part of the progress occurring in the communities we serve.” She said, “At Illinois American Water we celebrate and value the different perspectives and backgrounds each of us offer. Diversity makes our company and our communities stronger. This is why we created this program focused on partnerships for inclusion, diversity, and equity. We’re excited to collaborate with these impressive organizations.”

Twelve organizations across Illinois American Water’s footprint will receive funding. Illinois American Water’s 2022 Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Grant recipients and projects are described below.

Alton Athletic Association will receive a \$2,500 grant to support the Beautification Diversity Program which will use local banners to celebrate local athletes.

Alton YWCA will receive a \$2,500 grant for their self-care program focused on supporting Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color.

Black History Month Awareness Club located in Bolingbrook will receive a \$2,500 grant to secure scholarships for high school seniors.

Eastern Illinois Food Bank in Champaign County will receive a \$1,000 grant for their “just-in-time” produce delivery program to distribute produce to rural and under-served areas.

Lincoln Park District will receive a \$1,500 grant to support access for visitors with disabilities to local parks.

Loving Bottoms Diaper Bank in Peoria will receive a \$1,000 grant to provide diapers to families in need.

NAACP Champaign County will receive a \$2,000 grant to support educational scholarships for diverse students.

Peoria Public School Foundation will receive a \$1,500 grant to support the snack pack supplemental food program.

Stephens Family YMCA in Champaign will receive a \$2,000 grant for the Y on the Fly program which will support summer and afterschool programming.

The Bridges Program at Belleville West will receive a \$2,500 grant to create a pop-up farmstand to deliver nutrition and share information about agriculture while engaging students and increasing skills.

The Eagles Nest of St. Clair County in East St. Louis will receive a \$2,500 grant to support transitional housing for homeless veterans and training for staff members.

Titanium Force Cheer in the Peoria area will receive a \$1,000 grant to support the Cheerabilities program.

For more information about Illinois American Water and the Inclusion and Diversity grant program, please visit www.illinoisamwater.com.