In summer 2021, the Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board (YCB) was presented with an opportunity to support children and youth outside of the school day when the Minneapolis City Council allocated $940,000 of the City’s American Rescue Plan Act (SLT-0825) dollars to YCB. After conversations with youth-serving providers, staff and the Minneapolis Youth Congress co-created the Youth in Minneapolis Afterschool Programs (YMAP) Fund to invest in qualified afterschool approaches that address educational disparities exacerbated by COVID-19 in disproportionately affected communities. Interested organizations were asked to focus their applications on helping children and youth to re-engage, recover, and accelerate learning and development after the severe disruptions caused by the pandemic.

There was significant interest in this funding opportunity—YCB received over $17 million in requests from 48 Minneapolis organizations, more than 17 times as much as was available to allocate. This deluge of requests demonstrates a unique opportunity for public and private institutions in the region to come together and make deep and durable investments in children and youth.

Each application went through a thorough review process by YCB adult partners and members of the Minneapolis Youth Congress. YCB and the Minneapolis Youth Congress are delighted to announce the following 3-year awards:

1. **Asian Media Access**: $257,250 to hire and train youth Cultural Brokers to address social issues through producing content and multimedia projects in both English and their heritage languages that speak to the AAPI community. Cultural Brokers will conduct community engagement and advocacy efforts, and build social emotional, academic, and career navigation skills.

2. **Minneapolis American Indian Center**: $317,250 to build resilience among American Indian youth (age 5-18) so that they can thrive in the multi-cultural urban environment through a strong sense of identity and belongingness. The Ginew/Golden Eagle program addresses academic support and success, making healthy choices, Native culture and traditions, and sports and fitness.

3. **Minnesota African Women’s Association**: $195,500 to assure African teen girls re-connect with their peers and community, succeed in high school, and attend college. AGILE will be key to participants healing from the trauma and isolation of COVID, developing personal goals and aspirations and confidence and skills to succeed in high school, avoid teen pregnancy, drug use, and gang involvement, and plan for and pursue post-secondary education programs leading to self-sufficiency.

4. **WE WIN Institute**: $170,000 to build leadership, compassion, and respect in Rites of Passage participants. WE WIN programs center Black American culture along with using conventional and innovative approaches to help youth academically and socially by combining academics, community service projects, field trips, and cultural activities in fun and engaging ways to assist children and youth in becoming successful.

To receive updates about Minneapolis afterschool opportunities, [sign up for e-newsletter updates](#).