



*FIRST* Equity & Inclusion Financing Initiative for  
*FIRST* in Upper Midwest  
(FEI FI FO FUM GRANT)

*FIRST* in Upper Midwest

September 23, 2022

Re: Grant Award for FEI FI FO FUM Equity and Access Initiative

*FIRST* in Upper Midwest (FUM) is pleased to announce the recipients of the latest round of *FIRST* Equity & Inclusion Financing Initiative for *FIRST* in Upper Midwest (FEI FI FO FUM) grants.

The FEI FI FO FUM Grant Program is a funding opportunity that provides FUM *FIRST* Robotics Competition (FRC) teams with a grant to implement a project that will make changes to culture intended to increase the participation and success of underserved, underrepresented and/or vulnerable populations in *FIRST* Robotics in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

The following 10 FRC teams were awarded grants:

- Team 2052: KnightKrawler, Irondale High School, New Brighton, MN. \$750, for hosting a College Application Day for Irondale High School students to apply to college with adult support, reliable wifi/devices, and a positive environment in which to work with peers.
- Team 2220: Blue Twilight, Eagan High School, Eagan, MN. \$894, for modification to the team onboarding program to encourage and engage more girls to join the team via a special female lead training with more individual training and equipment.
- Team 2549: Millerbots, Washburn High School, Minneapolis, MN. \$1000, to reduce barriers to team participation by eligible students by waiving team entrance fee, supporting transportation and food costs associated with off-campus events, and providing food for meetings during non-school days.
- Team 2823: The Automatons, Highland Park Senior High School, St. Paul, MN. \$150, for a membership drive that will be completed in cooperation with other clubs from the school that are focused towards people from underrepresented and underserved populations and vulnerable youth.

- Team 3134, The Accelerators, Cass Lake – Bena High School, Cass Lake, MN. \$1000, for travel support for team members to give presentations on high school Robotics, FIRST and STEM to Native Students and Leaders at the U.S. Unity Conference.
- Team 3275, The Regulators, Cass Lake – Bena High School, Cass Lake, MN. \$1000, for travel support for team members to attend and present at the 2022 American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) conference.
- Team 3291, Golden Pirates, Park Center Senior High School, Brooklyn Park, MN. \$1000, for “Breaking Bread Together”, an initiative to increase student access and inclusion by providing meals for all students when traveling to competitions.
- Team 5653, Iron Mosquitos, Ely Memorial School & North Woods School & Northeast Range School, Babbitt, MN. \$1000 for student STEM presentations at Bois Forte Boys and Girls Clubs at Nett Lake and Vermilion in order to recruit more Native students into robotics.
- Team 7235, Red Lake Ogichidaag, Red Lake High School, Red Lake, MN. \$1000 for team recruitment events at two Pow Wows held on the Red Lake Indian Reservation.
- Team 7258, Robolobos, Hiawatha Collegiate High School, Minneapolis, MN. \$1000 for hosting an event that includes team alumni and women mentors in order to increase the number of girls on the team.

To be awarded a grant, teams submitted a grant application proposing a new and creative proposal to make positive change that increases the participation and success of underserved, underrepresented and/or vulnerable populations in robotics. This program represents an important ongoing effort to support equity, diversity, and inclusion efforts by *FIRST* Robotics Competition teams in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota.