

REALTORS® Charitable Foundation

Saint Paul Area Association of REALTORS® (SPAAR)



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REALTORS® Support the

Revitalization of Rondo Neighborhood

St. Paul's Rondo Neighborhood was once the state's largest African American community. During the 1950s to 1960s, construction of Interstate 94 bulldozed through the heart of Rondo displacing thriving businesses and an estimated 650 families. The area is still negatively impacted by a lack of businesses and affordable housing to this day.



SPAAR partnered with Rondo Avenue Inc. earlier this year donating \$50,000 to assist with the purchase and remodel of the last remaining commercial building from the original Rondo neighborhood, the New Jerusalem Baptist Church. Marvin Anderson, co-founder of Rondo Avenue Inc., joined SPAAR REALTORS® and Toni Carter, Ramsey County Commissioner at a check presentation ceremony in the neighboring Rondo Commemorative Plaza on October 2, 2018.

“First and foremost, we’re going to have programs and activities here that will benefit the whole community... Next summer, this place is gonna be filled with elders, with kids, with residents throughout the community, but it will also be a place for people to come to atone and reconcile.”

~ Marvin Anderson, Rondo Avenue Inc.



Our Mission

The Saint Paul Area Association of REALTORS® Charitable Foundation works to improve the quality of life within communities where our Members live and work.

Making A Difference



*“Only a life
lived in the
service to others
is worth living.”*

~ Albert Einstein

Five scholarships totaling \$10,000 were awarded during this year’s reception in July - double what has been awarded in past years. Pictured are this year’s scholarship winners and their parents in addition to members of the Foundation and SPAAR Board of Directors.



Since 2012, the Foundation has provided 33 scholarships totaling nearly \$40,000 to students in our Members’ families who are pursuing an Associates degree, Bachelor degree or training in the trades.

One recipient’s father noted, ***“REALTORS® are competitors. We are out there competing every day. When my daughter received this recognition, it made me feel like part of a family.”***

Improving Communities

The Foundation has awarded more than \$350,000 in community grants to positively impact a variety of organizations and local projects within our service area. Past recipients include:

- * Minnesota Housing Partnership
- * Rondo Community Land Trust
- * 360 Communities
- * Harriet Tubman Center
- * Rebuilding Together Twin Cities
- * East Side Neighborhood Development
- * Two Rivers Community Land Trust
- * Rondo Avenue Inc.
- * SPAAR Hero Recognition Program
- * Hope 4 Youth
- * The Link
- * Solid Ground
- * Spare Key
- * Toys for Joy
- * Upwardly Global
- * Housing Our Heroes
- * Jeremiah Program
- * Ujamaa Place



“On behalf of the Jeremiah Program families, thank you for making a difference in helping us to transform lives two generations at a time.”

~ Justin Kutzer, Associate Director of Annual Fund

Annual Fundraising Events



In addition to Member contributions and the Foundation’s investment income, the **annual golf tournament** has been a major source of fundraising. The history of the tournament began at Mendakota Country Club in 1923.

This year’s Hawaiian themed golf and bean bag tournament was played at Highland National Golf Course. **Join us on September 11, 2019 at the same location for even more fun!**

SPAAR’s Affiliate Members have also organized popular annual events that benefit the Foundation. **Cheers for Charity** typically takes place the last week in April at one of the area breweries where attendees may sample local beers and enjoy appetizers while networking at this fun event.

The **Wine & Dine Experience** is the most delicious night of the year, taking place within the autumn ambiance of the Town and Country Club. Plan to join us for gourmet samplings, fine wine pairings and great company!

Want To Help?

To make a tax deductible contribution, learn more or get involved, contact Joe McKinley at jmckinley@spaar.com or visit our website at <https://spaar.com/community-engagement/charitable-foundation/> .



2018 Foundation Board of Directors

Tina Angell
Kate Beckman
Mark Espersen
Chris Jensen
Shelley Johnson

Brianne Lawrence
David May
Amy Peterson
Patrick Ruble
Jeff Sundsmo



Who Is SPAAR?

Better Agents

Established in 1886, the Saint Paul Area Association of REALTORS® (SPAAR) is dedicated to promoting the dream of homeownership with the highest level of professionalism and integrity. The Association serves as a resource to its 7300+ Members and Affiliates, providing relevant educational programs to increase knowledge and professionalism. SPAAR also promotes and participates in the National Association of REALTORS® Commitment to Excellence Program to enhance the quality of services offered to buyers and sellers.

Better Communities

SPAAR organizes community service programs to engage Members and continue building a positive public image of the real estate industry. Members also work regularly with local governments to advocate for public policy that supports property rights and communicates benefits of stable real estate markets. Since 2013, SPAAR has awarded a “Better Communities Award” annually to honor a Member whose involvement in various community groups and projects goes above and beyond. SPAAR’s service area encompasses twelve counties and over 200 cities from Mora through St. Paul to Fairmont and stretching to the Wisconsin border in between.



BETTER AGENTS ♦ BETTER COMMUNITIES
SAINT PAUL AREA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®