

## Democracy in Middle America

With a history that combines political corruption in some places and progressive politics in others, Midwest states are coming together on a new agenda: promoting reforms to strengthen democracy. **14**



**The Joyce Foundation** supports efforts to protect the natural environment of the Great Lakes, to reduce poverty and violence in the region, and to ensure that its people have access to good schools, decent jobs, and a diverse and thriving culture. We are especially interested in improving public policies, because public systems such as education and welfare directly affect the lives of so many people, and because public policies help shape private sector decisions about jobs, the environment, and the health of our communities. To ensure that public policies truly reflect public rather than private interests, we support efforts to reform the system of financing election campaigns.

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*Work In Progress* is published three times a year following each board meeting.

For information on programs of the Joyce Foundation, please consult our Web site, [www.joycefdn.org](http://www.joycefdn.org), or call our offices to request a copy of our annual report at 312.782.2464.



**With gun crime rising, police work to keep firearms away from criminals and gangs. Research will help identify what strategies work. Also critical: undoing restrictions that tie the hands of law enforcement to fight gun trafficking.**

Dramatic reduction in homicides, mostly by firearms, has been a major success story in recent years. New York, Chicago, Boston, and other cities created aggressive strategies for breaking the nexus of gangs and guns that account for so much of the mayhem, and brought their murder rates down hard. Now, however—although the rates are still lower than a decade ago—the numbers are starting to creep back up.

Urban homicides increased nationally by 10 percent from 2004 to 2005, according to March figures released by the Police Executive Research Forum; aggravated assault with guns rose 10 percent as well. Midwest cities such as Milwaukee, Cincinnati, Cleveland, St. Louis, Detroit, and Ft. Wayne all find violent crime numbers, mostly firearms-related, pushing back up.

Such trends prompted police chiefs from around the Midwest to meet in Chicago in early April for a regional Summit on Gun Violence, organized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) with Joyce funding. Law enforcement leaders, including police, district attorneys, and attorneys general spent two days drafting strategies to reduce gun violence; recommendations are due this summer.

A particular focus of anti-violence efforts has been stemming the flow of illegal guns into cities. In Milwaukee, where homicides rose 17 percent in the last two years, Mayor Tom Barrett and District Attorney John Chisholm are focusing on illegal guns.

Chisholm, who previously served as Assistant DA, has long been an advocate of aggressively prosecuting gun law violations to get at guns that would otherwise show up later as murder weapons. As he puts it, “We need to step out of the role of reactive prosecutors and work on prevention.”

With Joyce funding, Chisholm will have the assistance of researchers at Johns Hopkins University, who will help track the efforts of Milwaukee law enforcement, assess the results, and provide feedback aimed at increasing their effectiveness in reducing gun trafficking.

“Roughly 80 percent of times when criminals are caught with illegal guns, they are not the purchaser of record,” notes Daniel Webster, co-director of JHU’s Center for Gun Policy and Research. “Commonly they are people who are not allowed to own a gun. So someone else made the transfer to them. We need to prevent that from happening.” His team will review gun trafficking cases, both successful and unsuccessful, analyze what worked and what didn’t, and identify loopholes in the laws that are letting gun traffickers get

away. In addition, Milwaukee police will debrief suspects arrested for other crimes to find out what they know about illegal guns: who supplies them, how much they cost, whether gangs have their own stashes, and whether there's a middleman involved between the original trafficker and the purchasers.

“Having solid information allows us to more effectively develop strategies and use our resources more intelligently,” says Chisholm—for example, to figure out whether the problem is with gun shops that skirt the law, or with private gun sales that avoid background checks. Webster adds that such information will also help researchers better understand how illegal markets operate and evaluate new policies and enforcement strategies. For example, he suggests, if the price of guns is low, that suggests they are plentiful and easy to get. If police push hard on illegal guns and prices rise, that in itself is a measure of success.

One place that's had some success in reducing gun crime is Chicago, where homicides have held steady and other violent crimes declined after law enforcement took several steps, including going after illegal guns. In 2004 the Chicago police initiated Area Gun Teams to focus on gang members with guns, find gangs' weapons stashes, and investigate the sources. Project Safe Neighborhoods brought together police and other agencies in persuading ex-felons returning to the community to stay away from guns and to offer them job training and other alternatives; the results, according to a 2005 evaluation, are strong.

Joyce funding will enable the Hopkins team to review the Chicago experience to see what lessons it might offer. The team will seek information about how police prioritize cases to investigate, as well as what success they have in making arrests, getting indictments and convictions, and seizing illegal guns. Webster says that interviewing police and prosecutors should yield lessons about what works and what doesn't in combating gun trafficking that other cities can emulate.

But law enforcement, mayors, and others fighting to stem the flow of illegal guns into cities cite weak federal and state policies that too often hamper their

efforts. A particular target has been a provision tacked onto federal appropriations in recent years that makes it impossible for the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, which is charged with tracing crime guns, to share that information with local law enforcement except in very limited circumstances.

The provision makes it impossible for local law enforcement or researchers to put together gun trace data from different states and jurisdictions to identify areas where weak enforcement of purchasing laws opens the door to traffickers, or to pinpoint rogue gun dealers. “Prior to that provision, we could see if dealers who sold crime guns recovered in Chicago were also the source of guns that showed up in Gary, Indianapolis, or Milwaukee crimes,” says Webster. Past research has shown that a small number of dealers are responsible for the vast majority of crime guns recovered—suggesting that pressuring such dealers to tighten up their operations could help choke off the supply. But police can't do that if they don't have the data.

Getting the provision dropped has been a particular target of both the IACP and Mayors Against Illegal Guns, a national effort organized by Mayors Bloomberg of New York and Menino of Boston that has so far enlisted the support of over 200 municipal leaders from across the country. “Asking law enforcement to combat gun crime with these restrictions in place is asking them to fight crime with one hand tied behind their backs,” said the mayors in a March open letter to Congress opposing the restriction. In the wake of the tragic shootings at Virginia Tech, the mayors unveiled a public education campaign aimed at mobilizing public opinion against the restrictions.

**IACP, [www.theiacp.org](http://www.theiacp.org)  
 Mayors Against Illegal Guns,  
[www.mayorsagainstillegalguns.org](http://www.mayorsagainstillegalguns.org)  
 Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research,  
[www.jhsph.edu/gunpolicy/index.html](http://www.jhsph.edu/gunpolicy/index.html)**



**Utilities still want to build coal-fired electric plants, with their huge carbon emissions. But regulation may be coming soon, and what today looks like cheap power would become much more expensive.**

Since the 1960s coal has been the backbone of the U.S. electric system. Today coal-burning plants are a leading source of U.S. carbon emissions. Yet despite rising public concern about global warming, utilities are still proposing 150 coal plants nationwide, and 30 in the Great Lakes states, the vast majority of which will use conventional coal-burning technology. The plants are essential, they argue, to meet the demand for “cheap energy.”

The question is, how cheap is it?

The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), a longtime Joyce Foundation grantee focused on energy issues, is

trying to find out. This month, the Foundation awarded \$75,000 to the Cambridge, MA organization to study and highlight the financial risks for coal-burning plants if carbon emission limits are imposed.

Why focus on financial risk when so much information is already available on the environmental risks? “Describing risk in dollars and cents has much more relevance for investors and other key decision-makers,” explains Barbara Freese, a UCS consultant and author of *Coal: A Human History* (Penguin Books). “We believe many people are going to be swayed more by the argument surrounding financial risk than the collective environmental risk.”

Adds Steve Clemmer, research director for UCS’s Clean Energy program, “The rising prices of oil and natural gas have fueled the coal rush in the perception that it’s a cheaper fuel. But coal is much more expensive when you include the cost of future regulations on global warming emissions.”

UCS’s project is part of the Foundation’s climate change initiative, which put Midwest coal on its watch list in 2005. The Joyce Foundation has invested \$5 million in supporting projects that encourage development of clean coal technologies and discourage the construction of traditional coal-burning plants.

Cleaner technologies include integrated gasification-combined cycle (IGCC), which has the potential to capture CO<sub>2</sub> before it escapes into the atmosphere. Many experts believe that IGCC with carbon capture and storage can be a major breakthrough in the effort to clean up coal without eliminating it as an energy resource.

Meanwhile, local and state governments, private industry, and as of early April, the U.S. Supreme Court have started to push the energy industry toward cleaner environmental alternatives that minimize climate-altering emissions.

On April 2, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Environmental Protection Agency could not avoid

regulation of greenhouse gases that contribute to global climate change unless it could provide a scientific basis for its refusal. At the same time it weighed in against exempting old, dirty coal plants from federal clean air laws.

Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota as well as the City of Chicago have taken executive action or passed legislation launching climate action task forces. “Cities will be faced with adaptation to global warming including additional stresses on our infrastructure and emergency services,” said Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley in announcing the city’s initiative. A Joyce grant of \$400,000 to Global Philanthropy Partnership is supporting development of the Chicago Climate Change Action Plan.

Investment giant Goldman Sachs—which has incorporated a “green” business strategy and even chauffeurs its executives in hybrid cars—has begun pushing its clients to compromise with environmental groups. TXU, a major Texas utility, abandoned its plans for coal-fired plants and is investing \$400 million in energy-saving initiatives instead (TXU later announced its intention to focus on nuclear power).

All these signs suggest that pressure is building for federal action on climate change. If carbon caps are imposed, that will push up the cost of operating conventional coal plants. “We’re seeing a lot of momentum right now, and with the presidential election a little more than a year away, that’s going to continue,” says Clemmer. “There are going to be major opportunities for industry to reduce the cost of doing business and potential liability by adopting alternative energy strategies.” Meanwhile, UCS will be making clear the economic costs of continuing with business as usual.

**Union of Concerned Scientists, [www.ucsusa.org](http://www.ucsusa.org)**



## **Can the Great Lakes economy be revitalized by venture capital, enlightened employment policy, high-speed rail, and collaboration with our friends to the north?**

Last October, the Brookings Institution took the wraps off *The Vital Center—A Federal-State Compact to Renew the Great Lakes Region*, a landmark report focusing on the unique challenges and opportunities faced by the 12-state region in the 21st century.

Columnist Neal Peirce described *The Vital Center* as a “stunning,” ambitious, and effective prescription for improving the economic health of the Great Lakes region. He added, “The Great Lakes states aren’t just key battleground states (in the 2006 elections). Fixing their imperiled ‘Rust Belt’ economies and hollowed-out cities may be the key to America’s 21st century fate.”

To continue Brookings’ work, the Joyce Foundation has awarded a \$250,000 grant to its Metropolitan Policy Program (MPP) to continue research and outreach on its Great Lakes Economic Initiative through 2009.

In part, the funds will cover a series of major forums and summits to promote the findings of *The Vital Center* as well as research and policy development projects to refine its recommendations. In particular, Brookings is planning a Great Lakes regional summit at which a cross-section of business, civic, political, and labor

leaders will discuss the ideas for revitalization, with presidential candidates, who have in the past lavished so much attention on Midwest swing states, in attendance.

According to John Austin, co-author of *The Vital Center* and a non-resident senior fellow at Brookings, the coming year will be an important one for the recommendations in the report. “While we’re nonpartisan, we know the findings will definitely inform candidates in the presidential race....

The report has given people some unique specifics concerning what economic policies matter most to the economic vitality of the region—and a way for us to pull together for decent jobs and a cleaner environment here in the Great Lakes region.”

The 97 million people who live in the area produce 32 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product, according to the Brookings report. Add Ontario, Canada, and the Great Lakes region is the third-largest economy by GDP in the world. The region’s assets are important to U.S. competitiveness as a generator of talent and innovation, a leader in global connections, and a platform for sustainable growth. One indicator: the region generates 32 percent of the nation’s patents.

However, there are many obstacles to breaking away from the “Rust Belt” reputation. Ongoing restructuring in the manufacturing sector means regional unemployment is high overall, and many workers need new jobs, education, and skills. Brain drain is a continual problem, particularly from the once-strong industrial base.

*The Vital Center* calls for the region’s states and the federal government to create a “common marketplace” for education and employment throughout the Great Lakes, allowing credit and credentialing as well as fully portable pension plans to allow workers more mobility throughout the region. It also calls for a Great Lakes compact focused on producing highly skilled graduates of K-16+ school systems with rigorous curriculums in science, technology, engineering and design, and math disciplines.

Business investment in workers and workplaces will be critical. The report proposes a Great Lakes venture fund whereby state governors and other public and private sector leaders agree to dedicate a portion of state and private pension funds, university endowments, and foundation investments to growing new companies in the region. The pension and healthcare issues go hand in hand: the report proposes that all states band together to create low-cost, portable health insurance plans funded by employers and workers.

“It’s crippling our manufacturing base not to have affordable and portable benefits. We’ve begun a presidential dialogue on this, and we’re helping legislators, governors, and the presidential candidates by pointing to major agendas that can help our economy the most. By working together, we can create the next technologies and industries that this region is uniquely qualified to do,” Austin says.

New transportation options will also be key to the future health of the region. The report encourages the design of a “competitive vision for transportation policy that includes high-speed rail, greater access to ports and freight hubs, and better maintenance and preservation of existing highway and transit systems.”

*The Vital Center* also calls for leveraging proposals for a multi-billion dollar investment in Great Lakes restoration with strategic water-based economic development projects, cross-state branding and promotion initiatives, and improved public access to the lakes and their waterways.

This year, the program will extend its reach formally to Canada. The Canadian government has taken an interest in the project and the next phase will incorporate economic data from Canada. “It will make for a true Great Lakes regional view,” says Austin.

***The Vital Center, Brookings Institution,***  
**[www.brookings.edu](http://www.brookings.edu)**

# Democracy in Middle America



**Midwest advocacy groups are coming together to promote political reforms and, they hope, strengthen democracy.**

They're the purple states—one big purple region, in fact. Less inclined toward the fierce reds of the South or the true blue of the coasts, Midwest states have been swing states in the last two elections.

They also have something of a common political culture, one that reflects local values of pragmatism, hard work, engagement in community, and the common good, suggests Wisconsin activist Mike McCabe. And now, if McCabe and others have their way, the Midwest states will have a network of activists working to build on those values to create a stronger democracy across the region.

McCabe, who heads the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, has drafted a concept paper for “an alliance of political reform advocates committed to improving democratic institutions in Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.” Participants would include state-based reform groups (see list on p. 17) as well as national organizations, such as the Brennan

Center for Justice at New York University School of Law, partnering with them on Midwest reform issues. They would share ideas and strategies, and collaborate on projects to advance an overall democracy agenda, meshing policy and legal expertise with smart and energetic on-the-ground organizing, public education, and advocacy. This large-scale, comprehensive approach to political reform is unique; there's nothing remotely like it anywhere else in the country.

Actually, the groups are already collaborating. Last fall, nine groups jointly released (with the Joyce Foundation) a survey of 2,000 midwesterners that showed voters concerned about corruption—which turned out to be a critical issue in the fall 2006 election. Voters expressed concern about rising health care costs and the loss of industrial jobs, and said they were worried that politicians were becoming too beholden to special interests to take on the real issues where the public wants action.

After that came two “Midwest News Index” studies by the University of Wisconsin-Madison Newslab, which revealed that, in the crucial months before the election, voters watching television newscasts saw much more in the way of political ads than political news—by a ratio of nearly three to one. The state groups used the studies effectively in a compare-and-contrast strategy to pressure local broadcasters to do better on public affairs.

More recently has come a series of reports early this year by the Brennan Center examining campaign laws in all five states. The reports focused on such issues as public financing of campaigns, contribution limits and disclosure, and enforcement of campaign laws. Again, groups in each state collaborated on the release.

The Brennan Center reports show the flip side of political commonalities: when it comes to cleaning up politics some states have more scrubbing to do. Ohio and Illinois were criticized for having weak laws—and indeed these are states where political corruption is inescapable in both the history and the headlines. Minnesota—though it has its problems—looks better by comparison.

Drawing on those contrasts is part of the network's strategy, says McCabe. The Brennan Center reports on both Wisconsin and Michigan spotlighted the problem of sham issue ads (spots by interest groups that support or oppose a candidate just before the election without using explicit electioneering words). In those states the ads are unregulated, leaving voters in the dark about the special interests behind them. Illinois, by contrast, is doing a relatively good job on disclosing the money behind such ads. "We always think we're superior to Illinois," says McCabe. "I was able to use that with editorial writers."

His counterpart to the south, Cindi Canary of the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform, does the same thing. "It's very important to be able to demonstrate to the media and the legislature where your state stands alongside neighboring states," she says, citing her recent testimony before the Illinois legislature on a variety of reform issues. "Our work sometimes gives us tunnel vision; this [the Brennan Center collaboration] widens it out."

Deborah Goldberg, director of the Democracy Program for the Brennan Center, adds that "with such a range of issues and a range of states, we have the poster child for what's right and what's wrong on a lot of issues." She cites public financing in Minnesota and Wisconsin, disclosure laws in Illinois, technology to protect the integrity of voting in Michigan and Minnesota, and recent steps to reform election administration in Ohio as examples where states can look to each other for models.

The Brennan Center reports, the polling, the MNI studies of political coverage are also examples of activities that no one group could have done on its own. With typically small staffs and an expanding agenda, the groups have a hard enough time keeping up with the ingenuity and money that keeps threatening to overwhelm their modest reform efforts. The network gives them shared resources and collaborators.

Going forward, the groups expect to collaborate on more joint projects. One priority, says Canary, is to join together in calling on Midwest states to take the lead

in adopting the new Model Code of Judicial Conduct, approved in February by the American Bar Association after three years of work. Also coming: an update of the MNI research that looks at local TV coverage of government; a study of Midwest election laws and administration from the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University; and computer-generated maps, being developed by George Mason University and the Brennan Center, to help states develop mechanisms for drawing legislative and congressional districts along reasonably fair, competitive lines—which, if they succeed, could provide a model for the rest of the country, where redistricting struggles have become even more partisan over the years.

Having good models at the state level can be crucial to advancing reforms both in other states and nationally, Goldberg and others say. This summer, Wisconsin Democracy Campaign, the Illinois Campaign, and their counterparts will jointly issue a document that outlines their shared vision for reform, both to establish their own agendas and, they hope, provide a national vision for renewing democracy. "This region has been responsible for some of the great national reforms," says Mike McCabe. "It behooves us all to work as hard as we can to have a voice on the national stage. And that's best accomplished by working regionally."

**Michigan Campaign Finance Network, [www.mcfn.org](http://www.mcfn.org)**

**Ohio Citizen Action Education Fund, [www.ohiocitizen.org](http://www.ohiocitizen.org)**

**Wisconsin Democracy Campaign Education Project, [www.wisdc.org](http://www.wisdc.org)**

**Common Cause in Wisconsin, [www.commoncause.org](http://www.commoncause.org)**

**League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund, [www.lwvohio.org](http://www.lwvohio.org)**

**TakeAction Minnesota, [www.takeactionminnesota.org](http://www.takeactionminnesota.org)**

**Illinois Campaign for Political Reform, [www.ilcampaign.org](http://www.ilcampaign.org)**

**League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund, [www.lwvmn.org](http://www.lwvmn.org)**

**League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund, [www.lwvwi.org](http://www.lwvwi.org)**

## Education

### Teacher Quality Key Reform Strategy

Improving teacher quality and other measures that hold promise of raising student achievement should be an essential counterpart of a reformed funding package for Illinois schools.

That was the message of a May 1 forum for legislators in Springfield, organized by the Joyce Foundation in partnership with the Gates Foundation and the Chicago Community Trust, along with the Education Caucus of the Illinois General Assembly.

Speakers focused on improving educator quality, rewarding teachers who take on tough assignments and do a good job, using data to improve learning, and expanding the number of public charter schools. Joyce grantees Dr. Barnett Berry of the Center for Teaching Quality and Dr. Timothy Knowles of the Center for Urban School Improvement at the University of Chicago addressed the legislators, along with Nicole Gales, principal of Springfield Ball Charter School. Moderating the panel was Cornelia Grumman of the *Chicago Tribune* editorial board; the ideas in the forum

largely drew from a *Tribune* editorial series (“From Here to Excellence”) supporting increased funding for education coupled with essential reform strategies.

Berry’s group recently issued the consensus statement of a group of eighteen top teachers from around the country on the often politically sensitive issue of reforming teacher compensation to reward first-rate performance in challenging situations. In *Performance Pay for Teachers*, the educators assert that the old uniform salary schedule for teachers has “outlived its usefulness,” and that “a carefully crafted performance-pay system has huge potential to transform the teaching profession in ways that can help all students learn.”

The teachers echo other calls for increased investments in teaching that would raise the base pay for all teachers; they suggest supplementing that with a performance pay system and incentives to teach in high-need schools. Teachers who have a strong record of achievement should be involved in any effort to overhaul compensation systems, the group suggests.

The report came from the Center’s Teacher Solutions project, which organizes a representative group of top teachers into a “virtual professional community” to discuss key educational issues.

Another report, issued earlier in the year by University of Chicago researchers, addressed another critical strategy highlighted at the Springfield forum: supporting new teachers.

*Keeping New Teachers*, released by the University’s Consortium on Chicago School Research, studied the experiences of new teachers in Chicago Public Schools. The researchers found that high-quality induction programs, including mentoring and feedback, guidance about CPS policies, and tips on classroom management, increased teachers’ likelihood of staying on the job and reporting a good experience.

Improving teacher quality was also a key focus of the National Commission on No Child Left Behind, which issued its long-awaited report in February.

Building on the original NCLB mandate that all children have “highly qualified” teachers, the Commission recommended adding a requirement that teacher quality be evaluated not just by formal qualifications but by achievement measures that demonstrate effectiveness.

The Commission, chaired by former Governor Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin and Roy Barnes of Georgia, was formed to examine the record of the landmark 2002 education law and make recommendations for strengthening it; Joyce and other foundations supported its work.

**“From Here to Excellence,”**  
*Chicago Tribune*,  
[www.chicagotribune.com/edfund](http://www.chicagotribune.com/edfund)

**Performance Pay for Teachers**, Center for Teaching Quality,  
[www.teachingquality.org](http://www.teachingquality.org)

**Keeping New Teachers**, Consortium on Chicago School Research,  
<http://ccsr.uchicago.edu/content/index.php>

**Commission on No Child Left Behind**, Aspen Institute,  
[www.aspeninstitute.org](http://www.aspeninstitute.org)

# GrantsApproved

The following grants were approved at the April 11, 2007 meeting of the board of directors:

## Education

### **Action for Children** *Chicago, IL \$150,000*

To promote policies aimed at increasing access to Preschool for All for the most isolated and at-risk children. (1 yr.)

### **Brown University** *Providence, RI \$249,998*

To host a summer institute on data-driven decision making in urban school systems with teams of teachers and administrators from the Chicago, Cleveland, Milwaukee, and Providence school systems. (1 yr.)

### **Center for Law and Social Policy**

*Washington, DC \$350,000*  
To update its 2003 *All Together Now* report, which highlighted state practices and policies supporting an integrated approach to pre-kindergarten, and to assist Illinois policy makers in increasing the participation of immigrant families in Preschool for All. (2 yrs.)

### **Education Sector, Inc.** *Washington, DC \$290,000*

To promote improvement in teacher policies at the federal and local levels. (1 yr.)

**Total Education \$1,039,998**

## Employment

### **American Association of Community Colleges**

*Washington, DC \$125,000*  
For partnership with the National Center for Education and the Economy to support its Center for Workforce and Economic Development. (1 yr.)

### **Center for Economic and Policy Research**

*Washington, DC \$250,000*  
For its Mobility Agenda project. (1 yr.)

### **Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues, Inc.**

*Indianapolis, IN \$340,000*  
To support its Indiana Institute for Working Families. (2 yrs.)

### **Northern Illinois University**

*DeKalb, IL \$200,000*  
To continue its research on labor market conditions in Illinois. (2 yrs.)

**Total Employment \$915,000**

## Environment

### **Chicago Council on Global Affairs** *Chicago, IL \$100,000*

To support the 2007 Chicago-Shanghai Dialogue III project aimed at fostering collaboration on energy and environmental challenges facing both cities. (1 yr.)

### **Clean Air Task Force, Inc.** *Boston, MA \$60,000*

To retain local counsel and technical experts to appear in the licensing hearings for a proposed IGCC project. (1 yr.)

### **Council of Great Lakes Governors, Inc.** *Chicago, IL \$173,453*

To continue to educate state policy makers about the Great Lakes and Saint Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact. (1 yr.)

### **Council of State Governments** *Lexington, KY \$157,162*

To organize and convene a summit on energy and global warming for midwestern governors. (1 yr.)

### **Energy Center of Wisconsin, Inc.** *Madison, WI \$100,000*

For planning and convening the Energy Transition 2050 Conference in Chicago. (1 yr.)

### **Global Philanthropy Partnership** *Chicago, IL \$400,000*

To support the development of a Chicago Climate Change Action Plan. (1 yr.)

### **Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, Inc.**

*Chicago, IL \$500,000*  
To build its capacity to organize and represent the Great Lakes cities in policy deliberations. (3 yrs.)

### **Great Plains Institute for Sustainable Development, Inc.**

*Minneapolis, MN \$99,400*  
To brief Midwest lawmakers and regulators about how advanced coal technologies are currently deployed in Europe and encourage their support for similar adoption here. (1 yr.)

### **Illinois Environmental Council Education Fund**

*Springfield, IL \$175,000*  
To continue organizing support for the Great Lakes compact and clean energy policies in Illinois, and to broaden and strengthen its coalition. (2 yrs.)

### **Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.** *St. Paul, MN \$350,000*

To continue to encourage the deployment of advanced coal generation in Minnesota and to promote policies that enable and encourage carbon capture and storage. (2 yrs.)

### **Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy**

*St. Paul, MN \$300,000*  
To establish a media center to provide communications tools and services to regional and national organizations working on energy issues. (2 yrs.)

### **Union of Concerned Scientists, Inc.** *Cambridge, MA \$75,000*

To support its efforts to study and highlight the financial risks of future carbon dioxide emission limits. (1 yr.)

**Total Environment \$2,490,015**

## Gun Violence

### **Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health**

*Baltimore, MD \$175,000*  
To study two Midwest-based law enforcement initiatives focused on preventing firearm violence. (2 yrs.)

### **Legal Community Against Violence**

*San Francisco, CA \$400,000*  
For general operating support. (2 yrs.)

**Total Gun Violence \$575,000**

## Money and Politics

### **League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund**

*St. Paul, MN \$100,000*  
To support the State of Democracy in Minnesota project, a collaborative effort of civic groups, scholars, legal experts, and policy makers. (2 yrs.)

### **League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund**

*Madison, WI \$100,000*  
To support its participation in a collaborative effort with other civic groups to develop and promote a comprehensive political reform agenda for Wisconsin. (2 yrs.)

### **Michigan Campaign Finance Network**

*Lansing, MI \$100,000*  
To develop and promote the adoption of a broad political reform agenda for Michigan. (1 yr.)

### **University of Minnesota—Twin Cities Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs**

*Minneapolis, MN \$200,000*  
For its Center for the Study of Politics and Governance to support the Minnesota Redistricting Project. (2 yrs.)

**Total Money and Politics \$500,000**

## Culture

### **Arts & Business Council of Chicago**

*Chicago, IL \$160,000*  
To strengthen infrastructure at three cultural organizations by providing management assessment, board development, and financial and marketing services. (2 yrs.)

### **Chicago Children's Museum**

*Chicago, IL \$200,000*  
To continue support of its institutional plan to increase the diversity of its audience, staff, and board. (2 yrs.)

### **Chicago Human Rhythm Project**

*Chicago, IL \$30,000*  
To support efforts to increase staff, board, and audience diversity. (1 yr.)

### **Chicago Tourism Fund**

*Chicago, IL \$50,000*  
To support Made in Chicago: Jazz Series 2007, a series of six free concerts in Millennium Park presented by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the Jazz Institute of Chicago. (1 yr.)

### **Deeply Rooted Productions**

*Chicago, IL \$60,000*  
To support staff salaries and its collaboration with the Arts & Business Council to build organizational capacity. (2 yrs.)

**Greater Washington Educational  
Telecommunications Association, Inc.**

Arlington, VA \$200,000

To support expanded arts coverage on the nationally syndicated *NewsHour* program and the MacNeil/Lehrer Productions Web site. (2 yrs.)

**Guild Complex**

Chicago, IL \$30,000

To support its bilingual poetry series, "Palabra Pura"; a residency for two Latino poets; and a new series of public programs and readings showcasing the works of Muslim women writers. (1 yr.)

**Illinois Humanities Council**

Chicago, IL \$50,000

To continue support of the Public Square's Know More: Conversations That Matter series in Englewood and Humboldt Park. (1 yr.)

**Institute of Puerto Rican Culture  
and Art**

Chicago, IL \$60,000

To support staff salaries and its collaboration with the Arts & Business Council on capacity-building initiatives. (2 yrs.)

**Neighborhood Writing Alliance**

Chicago, IL \$35,000

For continued support of its literary arts program for adults in Englewood and Humboldt Park. (1 yr.)

**Puerto Rican Arts Alliance**

Chicago, IL \$100,000

For continued support of capacity-building initiatives. (2 yrs.)

**Total Culture \$975,000**

## Special Opportunities

**Alliance for Justice, Inc.**

Washington, DC \$150,000

For its Nonprofit Advocacy Project and Foundation Advocacy Initiative. (2 yrs.)

**Archimedia Workshop**

Chicago, IL \$50,000

To support a documentary film, *Make No Little Plans: Daniel Burnham and the American City*. (1 yr.)

**The Brookings Institution**

Washington, DC \$250,000

For its Metropolitan Policy Program's Great Lakes Economic Initiative, a multi-year research and policy development initiative designed to improve the economic vitality of the Great Lakes region. (2 yrs.)

**Latinos United**

Chicago, IL \$105,000

To strengthen its capacity to become an effective policy research, development, and advocacy center, with an emphasis on access to quality early childhood education services. (1 yr.)

**Total Special Opportunities \$555,000**

**Total Grants Approved  
\$7,050,013**

### Next Proposal Deadlines

**August 15, 2007 for the November 2007 board meeting**

**December 10, 2007 for the April 2008 board meeting**

#### Board of Directors

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#### Staff

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**Gun Violence**  
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Administration)**  
**Tracy Weems (Employment,  
Money and Politics)**  
**Jean Westrick (Culture,  
Communications)**

**Work In Progress**  
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The articles on pages 8 and 11  
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**The Joyce Foundation**

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# Work In Progress

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