



**SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS
WOMEN'S FUND**

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**SOS PRESENTS TEN LOCAL NONPROFITS WITH \$213,333 IN
GRANTS DURING VIRTUAL AWARDS CEREMONY**

*Virtual Spirit Awards on May 20 overcomes challenges of Covid-19 to carry on
collective giving mission in greater St. Louis community*

SAINT LOUIS, MO (2020) — Though they couldn't gather in person, more than 150 women and men joined together on Wednesday, May 20, to share in a virtual celebration of collective giving.

Even from their own homes scattered across the region, members of the Spirit of St. Louis Women's Fund (SOS) managed to feel the impact of the annual Spirit Awards.

Powered by a diverse group of women from nearly every corner of the St. Louis region, SOS has been a quiet but mighty force for change since 2006, delivering **over \$2.7 million** in focused and informed grants to **more than 85 small nonprofits** throughout the community.

This year, due to the social distancing guidelines of Covid-19, the members and guests couldn't gather in person to honor the SOS grantees for the upcoming year. Still, the joy was infectious as the names were announced.

The philosophy that propels these "angel investors" is simple: they can do more together than on their own, pooling their resources for greater social impact.

They have seen that impact first hand in the work being done by those who benefit from their grants, including nonprofits such as domestic violence shelters and crime

advocacy centers, to name a few. The SOS grantees are often short on staff and money, but big on dedication and vision.

SOS support can act as the first stepping stone for these fledgling nonprofits, giving them the credibility to gain larger funding. It is collective giving in its finest form. And the work continues.

To learn more about SOS and the difference these women are making in the community, visit www.spiritstlwomensfund.org.

Grant recipients recognized at the virtual Spirit Awards:

Multi-year grant recipient: St. Louis Story Stitchers Artists Collective (\$100,000 paid in three \$33,333 installments, beginning in 2020)

Single-year grant recipients: Almost Home (\$25,000), Angels' Arms (\$20,000), Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, St. Louis Chapter (\$10,000), Eye Thrive (\$15,000), Home Sweet Home (\$25,000), Migrant and Immigrant Community Action Project (MICA), (\$25,000), Pianos for People (\$20,000), Urban Harvest (\$25,000), and Volunteers in Medicine, Inc. (\$15,000)

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