

Emma Howe Foundation awards first grants

Nearly \$1 million was given to 37 Minnesota groups in its first round of grants, the Emma B. Howe Memorial Foundation announced Monday in Minneapolis.

The largest grant was \$75,000 to help a St. Paul program help welfare recipients who want to become self-employed.

Emma Howe left a \$31 million endowment for the foundation after living modestly in northeast Minneapolis. She amassed her fortune during years when she and her sisters were the initial employees of Deluxe Check Printers in 1915 and frequently were paid with stock. The founda-

organization, which employs minority workers in the Phillips neighborhood.

PPL Industries, Minneapolis, \$20,000 to support the Career Development Program, in which workers receive counseling that helps them find work outside the agency; Project for Pride in Living, Inc., Minneapolis, \$15,000 to help start the Industry Enabler Project to help qualified inner-city people get jobs with larger corporations; Winona County Development Achievement Center, Winona, \$20,000 to help start a horticulture therapy and rehabilitation program for handicapped adults; Women's Economic Development Corp., St. Paul, \$75,000 to develop a project helping welfare recipients become self-employed.

Education and Training Programs: CHART, Minneapolis, \$10,000 to help

Wayside House, Minneapolis, \$10,000 to help start Employment Development for Women, a program to help chemically dependent and economically disadvantaged women.

Economic and Professional Development: Arrowhead Economic Development, Virginia, Minnesota, \$25,000 to help start a project to assist regulatory agencies in providing training; St. Paul, \$25,000 to help start a final vocational training program; Soc the Min

gram of family and parenting education for students in alternative high schools; Minneapolis public schools, \$50,000 to help start the Early Childhood Learning Center at Shingle Creek Elementary; Parents Anonymous of Minnesota, \$25,000 to help expand the Parent Community Awareness Program; Wilder Foundation, \$23,000 to help start the program aimed at pre-

Chance to expand the program of brain-space, Minneapolis residence and Rapids; \$23,000 by Services direct client



Emma B. Howe

HOWE TO SAVE

Proofreader. Philanthropist. Thriftster. Hardworking and frugal with a knack for wise investments. The end of her life was the beginning of her perpetual legacy – a \$27 million endowment for the community through The Minneapolis Foundation.

Emma B. Howe was the sixth of 13 children in a struggling farm family. She grew up to be a hard worker, putting in six days a week as a proofreader for Deluxe Check Printers in the Twin Cities. One of the first employees of the fledgling company, she was often paid in stock and acquired more over the course of her working life. She never sold a share.

Emma was a frugal woman who saved half of everything she earned. She usually rode the bus, rarely splurging on a taxi. Yet at the time of her death at age 94, she was the largest individual shareholder of Deluxe, which had grown to become a Fortune 500 company. Her estate was worth \$22 million.

Emma's generosity attracted national attention when word spread that a woman, completely unknown to the Twin Cities community and living modestly in northeast Minneapolis, had amassed a fortune—and left much of it to the community. In her will, she made her philanthropic aims clear: to aid “children, the poor and the handicapped, and to support medical research, health services, education, and civic improvement.”

Emma's vision is a reality today. After leaving a gift of Deluxe Check stock to The Minneapolis Foundation, her fund has reinvested more than \$50 million in the community – supporting AIDS research, pediatric cardiology, a teen center in the new Minneapolis Public Library, and much, much more.