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Nicor Gas opens applications for education and career readiness grants --- 8/3/2022

Submitted by Allison Gregoire

Expanding on its commitment to support secondary and post-secondary educational opportunities as well as technical and vocational programs, Nicor Gas is announcing \$100,000 in funding to support education and career readiness grants.

Starting today, community nonprofit organizations may apply for these grants from Nicor Gas to support their educational programming that align with the company's workforce development initiatives.

Applications are available at www.NicorGas.com/CharitableGiving through Oct. 31 with funding decisions by Nov. 30.

Each community nonprofit organization selected will be eligible to receive up to \$5,000 in grant funds this year.

The company is committed to supporting initiatives that provide a path to social mobility and enhanced opportunities through education and career readiness programming, including institutions that offer areas of study important to the energy industry.

"At Nicor Gas, we are proud to support educational initiatives that enhance opportunities in career readiness and provide awareness of careers in energy that help develop the next generation of a qualified workforce across our service territory," said Jackie Nagel, manager of Community Engagement. "We are also committed to investing in organizations that offer areas of study important to our business, as well as programs that foster diversity, equity and inclusion."

Last year, the company provided grant support to:

- Alignment Collaborative for Education: Nicor Gas provided a grant to help build community partnerships that offer **Elgin Area School District U-46** students throughout Elgin, Bartlett, Carol Stream, Schaumburg, West Chicago and more, opportunities to participate in comprehensive career education and work readiness programs.
- Alive Center: Nicor Gas provided a grant to Alive Center, Naperville's teen-led, teen-driving community center, to support their Teen Initiated STEM programs in Aurora and Naperville.

Students encounter computer science, coding and robotics, and Alive has programs specifically targeted to girls and minority youth.

To submit an application for the education and career readiness grants, visit www.NicorGas.com/CharitableGiving.

To learn more about Nicor Gas' commitment to its communities, visit www.NicorGas.com/Community.