



Mission Statement

The Mission of Encore Cleveland is to channel the time, energy and talents of experienced Clevelanders into solving community challenges and filling unmet needs.

Leveraging the Opportunity

Recognizing the ongoing need for community volunteers, the U.S. skilled labor shortage and the growing number of residents who are living productive lives long after retirement, the Cleveland Foundation seized a golden opportunity to bring the national Encore movement to Greater Cleveland. Encore Cleveland was officially launched at the Cleveland Foundation's 2013 annual meeting by President and CEO Ronn Richard, and since that time, the foundation has fostered the program through a series of strategic grants and convening roles among several of Greater Cleveland's venerable nonprofit programs.

Extending Support

The Cleveland Foundation has provided more than \$1 million in grants to support Encore Cleveland programs since launching the initiative. These grants include:

- **\$526,000** awarded to **Greater Cleveland Volunteers** in Q4 of 2013 to expand the local AARP Experience Corps (EC) intergenerational tutoring program, which focuses on improving the literacy skills of underperforming students in kindergarten through third-grade. Greater Cleveland Volunteers has managed the EC program in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District since 1997. This grant will allow Greater Cleveland Volunteers to double its capacity from 1,000 students in 13 schools to nearly 2,000 students in 19 schools.
- **\$245,000** awarded to **BVU: The Center for Nonprofit Excellence** in Q4 of 2013 to build on existing programs with an emphasis on attracting a broader audience of mature volunteers. BVU: The Center for Nonprofit Excellence plans to engage 50 Encore volunteers as pro bono consultants focused on providing new sources of expertise to Greater Cleveland's nonprofit organizations addressing critical issues in the community. The grant will also provide planning dollars so the organization can explore the launch of an Encore Fellows program, which could potentially provide paid opportunities for experienced Clevelanders through the Encore program.
- **\$197,930** awarded to **Cuyahoga County Public Library** in Q1 of 2014 to support two innovative programs that will provide opportunities for older adults to reinvent themselves:
 - **Encore Entrepreneurs** will help aspiring entrepreneurs aged 50-plus gain the knowledge and skills needed to launch a business. Five libraries will host a six-week program led by an experienced business consultant.
 - **Encore Community Connects** will link youths ages 11-18 with Cuyahoga County adults age 50-plus in a cross-generational learning environment. The program will focus on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art/design and math). A coordinator in each STEAM field will recruit and train Encore Community Connect volunteers to implement programs, including robotics, music mixing, animation, and computer programming.



- **\$70,350** awarded to **Teach for America** in Q3 2014 to match Encore Clevelanders with Teach for America corps members to serve as mentors and help engage and retain these talented young teachers in our community.
- **\$106,310** awarded to **Westside Industrial Retention & Expansion Network (WIRE-Net)** in Q2 2014 to place retirees or people transitioning from midlife careers who have technical skills in classrooms as teacher assistants at Max S. Hayes Career & Technical High School, a part of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District. In the 1990s, technical education was removed from most high school curricula, so despite the resurgence in Northeast Ohio manufacturing and Cleveland's shortage of skilled workers, many local teachers have limited expertise in this area. Encore teaching assistants and adjunct faculty will bring their real-world welding, machining, industrial maintenance, electronics and other trade skills to bear in vocational curricula that can help students enjoy the benefits of in-demand technical occupations.

Providing Valuable Service

Encore Cleveland offers several tracks for individuals who want to get involved. To learn more about our partners and how you can participate, contact encore@clevelandfdn.org.

School tutoring and instruction tracks:

- Literacy Skills through Greater Cleveland Volunteers
- Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Design, and Math (STEAM) via Cuyahoga County Public Library Encore Community Connects
- Career and technical programs with Westside Industrial Retention & Expansion Network (WIRE-Net)
- Mentoring young teachers via Teach For America

Entrepreneurship track:

- Cuyahoga County Public Library Encore Entrepreneurs program

Nonprofit consulting and professional services track:

- BVU: The Center for Nonprofit Excellence

For more information on the Cleveland Foundation, please visit www.ClevelandFoundation.org.