

MAKING CONNECTIONS

NEWS ON PHILANTHROPY, GRANT-MAKING AND OUR NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY

THE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF WILL COUNTY

AN AFFILIATE OF
THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST



Co-Investors: The Voyager Group Fund and the Christian and Meredith Spesia Charitable Fund partially fund a project at One Hope United's Joliet Early Learning Center

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Fall 2016

FOUNDATION AWARDS \$90,221 IN GRANTS TO ELEVEN AREA NONPROFITS

The Community Foundation of Will County awarded Community Partner Grants in the priority areas of health, education, human services and the arts at the fall reception. "For the second year, we invited those who have Donor Advised Funds with us to help fund grants. Through their generosity we are able to increase our total impact by over 65%, adding over \$35,000 of their support to our \$55,000, for total grants awarded of \$90,221." noted Grant Committee Chair, Kathy Cawley. "And for the first time, we are excited to have the DuPage Medical Group as a community partner even though they don't have a fund with us, but with our sister Foundation in DuPage County."

Nonprofit organizations serving Will County apply for grants through the Foundation's annual Community Partner Grant program. In 2016, with more than \$264,000 of

funding requests received from 26 organizations, and with exciting work happening in our community, the Board of Directors had difficult decisions to make.

Community Leaders, Foundation donors, Trustees and other friends joined representatives from the recipient organizations at the reception on Wednesday, October 5th to celebrate the distribution of the grants and learn more about how they will be used to support the projects and initiatives of the various recipient organizations.

The following is a list of the 2016 grant recipients and projects they will be implementing:

Camp Fire Illinois Prairie - *Campsite Renovations* - \$7,300 to improve the use of their primary program site in Bolingbrook through bathroom

renovations and roof repairs to facilitate educational programming and prepare for move of offices to this site in Will County.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet - *Ombudsman Program* - \$5,579 to purchase computer equipment and software to conduct the Ombudsman Program services offering advocacy and assistance to 960 seniors at 49 long-term care facilities in our region. (Co-investor: *The Sharing Blessings Fund*)

Farmworker & Landscaper Advocacy Project - *Community Legal Education and Outreach for Immigrants, Migrant and Seasonal Workers in Will County* - \$3,500 to educate local low-income immigrant, migrant, and seasonal workers about their rights at work and provide pro bono counsel to laborers with legitimate workplace claims. (Co-Investor: *The Sharing Blessings Fund*)

George Werden Buck Boys & Girls Club - *Future Stars Transitional Success Program* - \$7,000 to purchase software to launch this new vocational education and training program for club members 10-18 years of age, conducted in a new computer center. (With partial support from *The Spesia &*

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FOUNDATION AWARDS \$90, 221 IN GRANTS TO 11 NONPROFITS (CONTINUED)

Ayers Charitable Grant Fund, The Sentinus Charitable Grant Fund, The Center for Economic Development Education Grant Fund, and Co-Investor: The Mark and Judy Inserra Charitable Fund).

Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra- 2016 Opening Night Concert -\$5,000 to fund a Guest Artist (Serbian-Italian virtuoso violinist, Stefan Milenkovich) for their Opening Night Concert that was held at Governors State University on October 15th. *(Funded by the Wadsworth Family Cultural Arts Endowment and Co-Investor: The Danny and Tricia Simpson Family Fund)*

Northern Illinois Food Bank- South Suburban Center-\$15,000 to purchase two pallet jacks for use in new center located in Will County and opening in 2017 to enhance access to food for network partner members. *(With partial support from the Michael F. Rittoff Fund and Co-Investor: The Fred and Maria Schaffer Charitable Fund)*

One Hope United –Joliet Early Learning Center- \$9,842 to purchase

education and assessment materials including Creative Curriculum Studies and Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scales to add classrooms and increase the number of children served. *(Co-investors: The Voyager Group Fund and The Christian and Meredith Spesia Charitable Fund).*

Senior Services Center of Will County Inc.- Safe@Home -\$7,000 for tools and supplies to launch their new program to provide minor home repairs to over 60 Seniors to ensure their well-being in their own home. *(Co-investor: The Fred and Maria Schaffer Charitable Fund)*

The Cancer Support Center –The Cancer Support Center Programs offered at Aunt Martha’s Joliet East- \$10,000 to provide psychosocial and wellness oncology support services to Will County residents at the Aunt Martha’s Joliet East facility. *(Co-investor: The DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund)*

Trinity Services, Inc.- Assistive Technology and Information Technology

for Persons with Disabilities-\$15,000 to purchase technology to support the learning and communications needs of adults who have developmental disabilities or a dual diagnosis (developmental disability and mental illness). *(With partial support from the Rink Family Grant Fund)*

Will-Joliet Bicentennial Park Inc.- Summer Camp for All-\$5,000 to provide the summer camp program that encourages children/teens to embrace the diversity of abilities within each of their fellow campers. *(Funded by the Wadsworth Family Cultural Arts Endowment and Co-investor: The Christian and Meredith Spesia Charitable Fund)*

Since 2006, the Foundation and its donors have built its assets to over \$3.2 million and awarded more than \$1.6 million in grants to nonprofit agencies serving the residents of Will County and beyond. We look forward to the next ten years.



The Michael F. Rittoff Fund and Co-Investor: The Fred and Maria Schaffer Charitable Fund partially funded the Northern Illinois Food Bank’s South Suburban Center project.



The Spesia & Ayers Charitable Grant Fund, The Sentinus Charitable Grant Fund, The Center for Economic Development Education Grant Fund, and Co-Investor: The Mark and Judy Inserra Charitable Fund partially funded the Future Stars Transitional Success Program at the George Werden Buck Boys & Girls Club.

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS – PARTNERS IN PHILANTHROPY

There are many ways to implement your charitable goals. If you want to support an organization now and you want to write a check to the organization today, you don't need much help. However, you may be concerned about having enough money to live on in retirement but you still want to help an organization that helped you along the way. Maybe there are multiple organizations that you want to help and you want each of them to get something. There are ways to accomplish this through your will, beneficiary designations or a Fund at The Community Foundation.

In these situations, your attorney, accountant, or financial advisor may be the person that can help you with the planning and implementation of your wishes. That is why we provide support to professional advisors in our community. We do this in the form of learning opportunities or one-on-one consultations when an advisor has a question about charitable strategies.

Maybe your advisors are not familiar with The Community Foundation of Will County and you have charitable goals you would like to discuss. We can work with you and your advisor as part of a team to help implement your goals.



On September 29th, Kate Warne, Ph.D., CFA Principal, Investment Strategist, Edward Jones, provided a program for over 35 professional advisors.

The Legacy Society

Working with you and your professional advisors we can work together to design a legacy that supports your values and your community. To learn more about **The Legacy Society** contact Michael Trench, Executive Director, **The Community Foundation of Will County**, mtrench@cfwill.org, 815.744.9223.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

In 2015, the Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes (PATH) Act became law, and among the beneficiaries were charitable Americans age 70½ or older and their favorite charities.

Now the IRA Charitable Rollover provision is permanent, allowing individuals who have reached age 70½ to donate up to \$100,000 each year to charitable organizations directly from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA), without treating the distribution as taxable income.

Since the IRA Charitable Rollover provision was first introduced, The Community Foundation has received a number of these gifts— especially from those not wishing to take the required minimum distribution from their IRA. There are several fund types eligible to receive these gifts. For a gift to qualify, there are very specific steps to follow, so please call us to work with you and your advisor to ensure your gift qualifies.

The Community Foundation staff is just a phone call away at 815-744-9223 to help you learn how an IRA Charitable Rollover can help reduce your taxable income and fulfill your charitable goals.

Thank you for being a part of the first 10 years.

We look forward to the next 10...

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Michael Trench, the Executive Director of The Community Foundation of Will County, can be reached at e-mail mtrench@cfwill.org or by phone at 815.744.9223.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Thank you for sharing in the celebration of our 10th Anniversary throughout this year. We have grown together as a community, and collectively we are building a community foundation for Will County that will be here to serve generations to come.

We have seen donors establish endowment funds to provide resources to serve our communities today and forever. Some have established donor advised funds to support their personal goals for giving back to the community. Others have chosen to leave legacies through their will or beneficiary designations. Together we have provided grants to organizations that are improving the quality of life for children, seniors, the disabled, and the hungry. We have provided access to the arts and formed a collaboration that is helping healthcare providers throughout the County work together.

As your Community Foundation, we are facilitating connections between the people who want to help their neighbors and those providing the programs. If you would like to help us continue this work:

- a gift to our **Operating Endowment Fund** is building resources to support the sustainability of our work
- a gift to our **Community Grant Endowment Fund** enables us to fund our Community Partner Grants annually

Please use the reply envelope that is included in this newsletter or donate online at www.cfwill.org. Thank you and we hope you have a wonderful holiday season!

FALL 2016



Michael Trench
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of Will County**
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CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE, TO CAUSES THAT MATTER!