

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



*Braidwood Area
Healthy Community
Coalition ~ Local
Youth Advisory
Committee
(2017 grant recipients –
listed in
first summary below)*

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Winter 2017

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$93,324 TO ELEVEN AREA NONPROFITS

The Community Foundation of Will County gathered community leaders to award eleven grants in the priority areas of health, education, human services, and the arts at the fall reception. Through the many donors who participated, \$93,324 was awarded. The non-profit organizations who received these funds will provide transportation for seniors, therapeutic alternatives for hospice patients, prevention programs for youth, and adult education for underserved populations, among other services for residents of Will County.

The following is a list of the Grant Recipients awarded in 2017:

- **Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition** - \$8,000 for development, maintenance, and sustainability of a Local Youth Advisory Committee. Funding will provide incentives encouraging teens to join a sub-group of the Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition and participate in strength-based prevention programs.



- **Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Joliet** - \$7,834 for a Renovation at Daybreak Center. Catholic Charities will renovate a 480 square-foot room at the Daybreak Center, turning it into an adult educational classroom where critical courses will help secure employment and improve the lives of clients. (This grant is partially funded by The Spesia & Ayers Charitable Fund; an inaugural gift from The Women's Leadership Fund; and The Center for Economic Development Education Grant Fund.)



- **Easter Seals-Joliet Region** - \$5,000 for Care Giver Awareness.

The 12-month project includes identification of caregivers, public feature caregivers with unique stories, convene a caregiver awareness event, identify, and refer services for underserved populations.



- **Family Bridges** - \$5,000 for an Original Theatre Production. Family Bridges' original theatre production is written and produced by Latinos and features original music and choreography. The play is designed to have a positive impact on families and communities by raising awareness of healthy relationships. (This grant is fully funded by The Wadsworth Family Cultural Arts Endowment Fund.)



• **Joliet Area Community Hospice Corporation** - \$10,000 for Complementing Integrative Therapies. to improve the quality of life of their hospice and bereavement clients. (This grant is partially funded by The Michael F. Rittorf Fund, and The Sentinus Charitable Grant Fund.)



• **Joliet Area Historical Museum** - \$5,000 for the Interpretive Audio Tour Project. The project uses mobile- device or basic cell phone technology for educational translations in any language to accommodate international guests. (This grant is fully funded by The Jay and Lori Bergman Charitable Fund.)



• **Northern Illinois Food Bank** - \$15,000 for a Forklift to be used at the new South Suburban Center in Joliet. (This grant is partially funded by The DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund and The Jay and Lori Bergman Charitable Fund.)



• **One Hope United-** \$7,490 for Conscious Discipline Training. Childcare center staff will receive Conscious Discipline Training, an integrating classroom management and social-emotional learning model. Also, two staff members will receive intensive training to educate new staff to the school culture. (This grant is fully funded by The Voyager Group Fund.)



• **Senior Services Center of Will County, Inc.** - \$10,000 for Senior Express, an innovative transportation initiative that assists low income seniors in their travels for food, medical care and events that will lessen isolation by education, collaboration and connecting to resources within the community. (This grant is partially funded by The Sharing Blessings Fund, The Bill and Diane Habiger Charitable Fund, and The Joliet Women's Club Grant.)



• **Trinity Services, Inc.** - \$15,000 for Development of an Assistive Technology Lab. Trinity staff will develop low-tech solutions, both stand-alone and complementary equipment. The lab will feature an assistive technology loan pool, so those served may try products before investing in them. (Partially funded by The Rink Family Grant Fund.)



• **Will-Joliet Bicentennial Park, Inc.** - \$5,000 for Summer Drama Camp, which teaches teamwork, confidence, life skills and diversity. Campers are encouraged to be original, confident and success-oriented in a safe nurturing environment. (This grant is fully funded by The Christian & Meredith Spesia Family Fund.)

~~~~~ *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](mailto:mtrench@cfwill.org), 815.744.9223.

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*Ira Rollover*

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, and satisfying their RMD.

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.

Please join us in Welcoming our NEW Board Members



Brian Murphy  
Village  
Administrator,  
*Plainfield, IL*



Dr. David Livingston  
President,  
Lewis University,  
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Dr. Theresa Rouse  
Superintendent,  
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## Retiring Board Members ~ Community Foundation of Will County's Impact on Volunteers



Brother James F. Gaffney, FSC; Jay Bergman; Michael F. Rittof; Jan Viano; and Ed Dollinger.

There are no words that can adequately acknowledge and recognize the time, commitment, and pure humanitarian effort these retiring Board members have given to The Community Foundation of Will County, the community and its residents. Joining the Board as founding members or early members, they have served a full complement of eligible terms. We, at The Community Foundation of Will County, are humbled by their continued engagement with the Foundation and with their help we will continue to connect people who care with causes that matter!

Perhaps it is said best by some who have volunteered on the Board of Directors:

~ **Brother James. F. Gaffney**, “Today the Community Foundation of Will County is a very viable entity playing a leadership role among the hundreds of 501-C-3 organizations serving the needs of the citizens of Will County, in such critical areas as education for the underserved, youth services for at-risk young persons, the health care needs of the elderly and the indigent, environmental protection, and promotion of the fine arts for citizens at all income levels. Indeed, the CFWC has become a remarkable resource for Will County, while steadily fostering a culture of philanthropy and creating endowed funds to make a dramatic difference in the lives of a growing number of individuals and families throughout this regional community. Its future is each year ever brighter, and its influence on an improved quality of life for thousands of area residents is cause for much gratitude, hope and pride.”

~ **Edward J. Dollinger**, “It’s not that often that a person has an opportunity to be involved in something bigger than all of us, that will benefit the community forever. Something where my family and other in Will County can leave a lasting legacy. It’s been a true honor and privilege having served.”

~ **Michael F. Rittof**, “I’d like to echo Winston Churchill’s quote: “We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.” “The Community Foundation has helped me give to our Will County Community.”

Join us on:



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 join our e-mail list from our website at [www.cwill.org](http://www.cwill.org)  
 or e-mail [mchampagne@cwill.org](mailto:mchampagne@cwill.org).