

PRESS RELEASE

For More Information, Call Holly Johnson, President,
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For Immediate Release

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$184,270 IN FIRST QUARTER GRANTS

The Boards of the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation, the Marion A. and Ruth K. Sherwood Family Fund, and the Youth Advisory Council are pleased to announce eight first quarter grant awards totaling \$184,270 to support the Tri-Cities community.

Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance (LEDA) – Continuing Racial Equity Education for NW Ottawa County

Amount Awarded: \$20,000

Purpose: Racial equity workshops are intended to foster inclusion and give local residents of all ages the tools to advance equity by understanding the role and impact of implicit bias in everyday interactions. Programs include youth workshops that focus on equity and inclusion specifically within our community's youth populations.

NW Ottawa Chamber Foundation – Regional Recreation and Healthy Living Programming and Feasibility Study

Amount Awarded: \$45,000

Purpose: A task force comprised of the Northwest Ottawa Chamber Foundation; the Chamber of Commerce of Grand Haven, Spring Lake, and Ferrysburg; the Northwest Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA); the Tri-Cities YMCA; and other local government entities is seeking a study on possible new or renovated community recreation facilities. This grant will fund a study that will address demand, current providers, current unmet wants and needs, desired programs and services, elasticity of price, effect on NORA and the YMCA, target population, types of facilities desired, and optimal location.

St. Mary's Catholic Church – Expand existing food pantry

Amount Awarded: \$35,000

Purpose: St. Mary's Food Pantry currently provides food, personal care, and paper items to 1,600 adults and 750 children living in the Tri-Cities per year. This grant will allow them to expand their services by 80%, increasing the number served to 3,000 adults and 750 children. Funds will also allow for a private entrance to the pantry.

Love, INC – Providence Place Capital Campaign

Amount Awarded: \$50,000

Purpose: The Providence Place Capital Campaign aims to establish income-based and accessible housing for individuals who need assistance to live semi-independently, as well as provide individuals with safe and affordable living options. This grant will assist Love, INC with the purchase and renovation of an 8-unit apartment building.

Ottawa County Department of Public Health – Prescription for Health program

Amount Awarded: \$4,000

Purpose: The Prescription for Health program works to improve healthy weight and chronic disease for high-risk, low-income participants by encouraging them to commit to weekly health goals, including fruit and vegetable consumption. This fund will provide tokens for program participants to purchase healthy food from our farmers' market.

R.E.A.D. Adult Literacy Program – Pair and Program Coordinator positions

Amount Awarded: \$15,000 over 2 years

Purpose: R.E.A.D. currently supports 40 student/tutor pairs and continues to grow. This grant will allow R.E.A.D to expand their services and increase their capacity.

The following grants were awarded by the Youth Advisory Council:

Ottawa County Health Department – Grand Haven Meet Up and Eat Up Summer Meal Program

Amount Awarded: \$5,270

Purpose: Meet Up and Eat Up is a national program that ensures children have access to healthy and nourishing foods when school is not in session. The Grand Haven program has expanded to include two locations— River Haven Mobile Home Park and Loutit Library—and this grant will allow the program to

expand and coordinate weekly events, which include enrichment, physical activities, and social engagement.

Camp Casey – Horsey House Calls

Amount Awarded: \$10,000

Purpose: Horsey House Calls provides an afternoon of horse-assisted therapy, craft projects, and lunch to children living with cancer, sickle cell disease, and aplastic anemia, along with up to 30 friends and family members. This grant will provide five Tri-Cities families with the opportunity for a Horsey House Call.

The Grand Haven Area Community Foundation is a public, charitable organization serving the Tri-Cities community since 1971. It encourages philanthropy by individuals, families, companies and organizations, and serves as a steward of their charitable funds and legacies. In addition to grants, the Foundation offers technical and management support to nonprofits, convenes nonprofit leaders on issues of importance, and engages in advocacy work with nonprofits primarily focused on the needs of the most vulnerable members of the Tri-Cities community. For more information, or to give a tax-deductible gift to the Greatest Needs Fund at the Foundation, visit ghacf.org or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/grandhavenareacomunityfoundation.

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