Press Release…

October 26, 2020

GREENVILLE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS OVER $402,000 IN GRANTS FOR 2021

(Greenville) – The Greenville Area Community Foundation (GACF) Board of Trustees is pleased to announce it recently awarded $402,938 in grants to area non-profit organizations in its general grant cycle of 2021. Grants were awarded to eighteen organizations from seventeen endowment funds held at the GACF.

The largest grants were awarded to Have Mercy for building renovations to complete their corporate offices, new kitchen equipment for their Washington Street men’s recovery facility and completion of the alarm system for that building and the other shelter facilities; and Randy’s House and the Montcalm Alano Club for operational support needed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Additional organizations receiving grants include:

- **Community Hope Christian Counseling & Mental Health Center** – a grant for needed window replacement in the counseling office.
- **Montcalm Care Network** – funding to support a new, independent website for Trauma Champions Network
- **Greenville Area Senior Center** – building upgrades including painting the building interior, electrical upgrades, repairs to access ramp and installation of an ADA-compliant door.
- **Greenville Recreation & Community Center (GARCC)** – funds to purchase twelve (12) commercial grade two-way radios; and a two-way hands-free intercom system and ten (10) wireless lapel microphones to meet growing theater needs.
- **Area Six Special Olympics** – help for adult registration fees for Summer, Fall and Winter State events for Special Olympic adult athletes.
- **The Chosen Ones** – funds to broaden the range and number of children they could help with back to school backpacks and supplies.
- **For Goodness Sake** – support for the Holiday Helpers Project that provides sponsored children with holiday boxing including clothing, coats, essential toiletries, socks, and toys/other items on their wish lists.
- **Montcalm Area Reading Council (MARC)** – funding to make free literacy tutoring available to all Montcalm County residents
- **Montcalm Economic Alliance (MEA)** – support to allow the MEA to continue to support economic development in Greenville and greater Montcalm County.
- **City of Greenville** – grant for purchase and implementation of twelve portable water-filled traffic barriers for the protection of pedestrians during community events
- **Montcalm Area Intermediate School District** – support for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program, a literacy-based school readiness program that sends one book per month to each enrolled child in the Greenville Area School District
- **Greenville Rotary Club** – support renovation and modernization of the Rotary Club’s food trailer
- **Montcalm Prevention Collaborative** – funding for a county-wide, youth-led summit addressing the mental health and substance use issues related to the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Belding Fire Department** – assistance to complete the purchase of emergency equipment to use for their UTV; on the Rails to Trails from Greenville to Lowell area, Fred Meijer Flat River Trail and Flat River State Game Area
- **United Way Montcalm-Ionia Counties** – capacity assistance in supporting 2-1-1 and funding to purchase a new volunteer management software.
Proactive grants were also awarded from Donor Advised Funds to support the Montcalm Area Intermediate School District for Critical Incident Stress Management Training for county school districts and Montcalm Community College, the Montcalm CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocate) Program, Community Hope Christian Counseling & Mental Health Center and Have Mercy for general support purposes.

Endowment Funds contributing to the fall grant cycle awards and proactive grants include the Stafford Fund for Community Enhancement, Bill & Harriette Cook Literacy Fund, Byron & Delores Cook Administration Fund, Moore Administration Fund, Ray & Mary Tower Family Fund, Aggressive Tooling Fund, Svendsen Unrestricted Fund, Creative Arts Fund, Dr. Joyce London Memorial Fund, Ash Community Improvement Fund, Henry & Alice B. Walker Fund, Bill & Helen Braman Fund, Braman Family Fund, Buescher Foundation Fund, Reisch Memorial Fund for Children, and Ranney Family Fund.

The next cycle of grant funding is the Spring Educational grant cycle that deadlines in late February. Non-profit, tax exempt organizations in the Greenville area can apply if their request has a strong educational component. For more information on grant eligibility, and ways to support the endowed funds that make these grants possible, visit www.gacfmi.org.