



United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley, P.O. Box 460, Winchester, VA 22604

NEWS RELEASE/MEDIA ALERT

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Making an Impact: United Way NSV Announces 2016-2017 Impact Grant Awards

Winchester, VA, May 20, 2016 – Last year, United Way funding was responsible for reaching over 148,000 local residents of Winchester, Frederick, Clarke and Shenandoah Counties. Focusing on the areas of education, income, and health, the intent of the impact grant program is to respond to local priority needs as established through the United Way Community Needs process.

The United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley has completed its review of 2016-2017 Impact Grants, a process which determines the distribution of donor funds that were specifically designated to the impact grant program.

This year \$462,923 of funding was available from donors for Impact Grants (\$67,844 more than last year) with the United Way NSV receiving program funding requests totaling more than \$692,504 from area non-profit agencies. The review process involved a record 57 community volunteers, who were split up into six panels. Volunteers reviewed funding applications, undertook site visits and recommended grant funding to focus on priority human care needs as defined in a community study performed by United Way, Valley Health and Lord Fairfax Community College. Darlene Kent, United Way's Volunteer of the Year (along with her husband Dick Kent) participated in the impact grant process as a volunteer on a panel, saying, "It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve on the fund distribution panels. Through the process I was able to learn about the many wonderful agencies we have that support our community in the areas of health, education and income. It is an opportunity to Live United!"

Thirty-five agencies applied for and received funding in 2016. There was an increase in programs seeking funding to address mental health concerns as well as access to basic health care in our community. These are all important programs to the fabric of our community, with health related grants making up 14 of the 35 grants awarded this year.

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition was one of the agencies that applied for funding for the first time in 2016. They were awarded \$25,000 to support the drug court program launching in 2016, aiming to rehabilitate and treat drug addicts in lieu of traditional incarceration. "At United Way we have seen a rising concern with the heroin epidemic occurring in our community as well as other drug related challenges and have been looking for a way to respond and break the cycle of drug use. We are happy to be able to support the Coalition launch this new court drug treatment program and be involved in the forefront of

change in our local community,” said Nadine Pottinga, CEO of the United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley.

In addition to health needs, there was an increase in program funding requests to help assist the homeless population as well as increase access to affordable housing. Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter and Habitat for Humanity both received grants as new programs applicants in 2016. These two grant programs included funding for a Winchester north-end revitalization project called *Rock the Block* with Habitat for Humanity, as well as funding for a Centralized Housing Intake Coordinator position to serve Clarke County, Frederick County, Shenandoah County and the City of Winchester completing assessments for the homeless and near homeless population and work to place them in homes.

Six agencies based out Shenandoah County received funding for healthcare and access to human care services. United Way also supported several other agencies that serve Shenandoah County but are based in Winchester. According to Kurt Beyreis, chair of the Fund Distribution Committee, “There is some incredible work happening in Shenandoah County as well as a very high level of need. We are very proud to be able to support the work being done in Shenandoah from providing books to children, healthcare to uninsured adults and housing for those looking for shelter.”

In addition to donor designated grant funds, United Way NSV will distribute \$229,278 in United Way and Combined Federal Campaign donor specified funds to various agencies both local and outside the area, as designated by each donor. Specific agency designated gifts made by donors are distributed separately and in addition to impact grant funds. Distribution of 2016-2017 Impact Grants will begin July 1. For more information or to see the full list of impact grant recipients, please visit United Way NSV’s website, unitedwaynsv.org. **See the following pages for the full list of grants.**

About United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley: Since 1946 the United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley has worked to impact the community human care needs that matter most to the people of Clarke, Frederick, Shenandoah Counties and the City of Winchester. United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley convenes the people and organizations necessary to create solutions to our region’s most pressing challenges and collaborates with effective partners. United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley seeks to serve as the catalyst for community change by supporting over 42 partner agencies in the area on Income, Health and Education. For more information visit our website www.unitedwaynsv.org. Follow us on Twitter @UWNSV.

Education- Helping Individuals and Youth Achieve Potential

Organization	Grant Rec.	Purpose
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	\$12,525	Site based mentorship program called BigTIME. TIME is an acronym for Teaching, Impacting, Mentoring, and Encouraging.
Boys & Girls Club	\$67,000	Every Member, Every Year program model is designed so Clubs can partner with youth, parents, schools and other community stakeholders to implement approaches to strengthen academic enrichment and school engagement; and targeted dropout prevention. Funding also helps supplement the snack program (school year) and lunch program (summer).
Fremont St. Nursery	\$7,500	Funds five programs that serve 84 children. Funded programs include: Soccer Shots Program, Garden Project, Summer Program, Music Program and a new Art Program.
Girl Scout Council, Nation's Capital	\$6,000	Science Discovery after school STEM program for 150 girls.
Heritage Child Development	\$7,000	Funds the completion of the Clubhouse Playground project with a playground/Equipment climber.
Shenandoah Area Boy Scouts	\$2,000	Exploring career education program for young men and women in sixth grade through 20 years old.
Shenandoah Discovery Museum	\$13,255	Provides children and families served by Head Start unlimited access to Museum education for one year.
Shenandoah Education Foundation	\$12,000	Provides a free book to registered children every month until they turn five, upon which they receive a graduation book.
Winchester Day Nursery	\$15,000	Provides scholarships to families who could not afford a quality preschool education.

Income- Helping Families Become Financially Stable and Independent

Organization	Grant Rec.	Purpose
American Red Cross	\$11,780	Helps fund the Disaster Cycle Services program to alleviate human suffering in times of disaster. The program provides immediate direct assistance, recovery planning services and preparation resources.
Blue Ridge Legal Services	\$8,500	Provide free legal assistance to low-income residents of NSV.
Faithworks	\$1,500	Pay It Forward Fund to be used to assist individuals needing minimal financial assistance for application fees, gas or transportation expenses, or small household items that they cannot secure through other sources.
Habitat for Humanity	\$4,200	Provides resources for north end revitalization project – Rock the Block.
Highland Food Pantry, Inc.	\$10,000	Funds the Special Delivery Project, which reduces food insecurity among senior citizens by providing bags of nutritious food to identified persons-at-risk each month.
Literacy Volunteers Winc.	\$12,000	Adult Basic Literacy program provides tutoring in reading, writing, math, English language, computer skills, and personal finance for adults with low literacy skills in the community.
NW Works, Inc.	\$8,500	Training and job coaching for six individuals with disabilities to work at Firefly and learn transferrable skills to then transition to community employment.
Response	\$13,388	Employment related skills, life skills training and basic needs support services for victims of domestic violence.
Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter	\$27,000	Centralized Housing Intake coordinator to serve Clarke County, Frederick County, Shenandoah County and the City of Winchester. CHI offers a coordinated intake assessment for the homeless and near homeless population.
The Laurel Center	\$21,025	Provides a comprehensive emergency shelter program, 24 hour confidential hotline, education and supportive counseling, and environment of wellness, advocates and support for women and families.
The Salvation Army	\$25,000	Provide basic needs including, meals, food vouchers, clothing vouchers and utility assistance to those in need.
Winchester Area Temp Thermal Shelter	\$9,200	Supports operations by subsidizing the cost to bus homeless adults to participating churches.

Health- Improving Health and Reducing Risk Behaviors

Organization	Grant Rec.	Purpose
Adult Care Center	\$2,000	Purchase equipment in order to improve and expand daily exercise sessions with clients, offer a weekly exercise class for family caregivers, and offer two community programs that focus on exercise and dementia.
Aids Response Effort	\$18,000	HIV Prevention activities that include both education and risk reduction tools. Increased accessibility to free Rapid HIV Counseling, Testing and Referral (CTR) Services.
Child Safe Center CAC	\$18,900	To assess and provide mental health treatment services to child abuse victims and their non-offending caretakers.
CLEAN	\$16,000	Rx123 outreach campaign to provide extensive education and awareness on the dangers of prescription drug abuse and addiction.
COA Lord Fairfax House	\$7,500	Provides transitional residential scholarships for chemically dependent individuals.
Concern	\$8,500	Implement Mental Health First Aid trainings quarterly, and ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) trainings.
Dental Clinic of NSV	\$2,500	To provide dental screenings during the Healthy Living Events.
Faith In Action	\$9,000	To maintain capacity and increase service delivery by 15% providing non-emergency medical transportation to residents living in the City of Winchester and Clarke, Frederick and Shenandoah Counties
Healthy Families SC/JMU	\$10,000	Provides in-home support and education to parents of young children to address the local priority need for prevention of the effects of risk behaviors such as teen pregnancy and abuse/neglect.
NAMI	\$7,300	To strengthen and expand programs that directly help clients affected by serious mental illness, programs include, In Our Own Voice anti-stigma presentations, Peer-to-peer recovery education course, basic education courses and family to family education courses.
Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Abuse Coalition	\$25,000	Provides funding for the treatment of five Drug Treatment Court individuals.
Shen. Area Agency on Aging	\$9,000	Matching funds for Well Tran Program - transportation services offered transports those individuals who face barriers to transportation.
Shen. Co. Free Clinic	\$14,250	To provide counseling sessions and mental health services to patients.
Shen. Dental Clinic	\$20,600	To provide treatment to uninsured, indigent adults in Shen. County.