



WARREN COUNTY

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Community Grants

2020

What are Community Grants?

Each year, groups and organizations find themselves in situations where they have needs. These needs change year to year, and the organizations needing assistance change from year to year too. Money donated to the community grants fund is considered unrestricted which means it can be used towards different grant requests each year. This flexibility allows the Foundation to help with some of the needs that don't already have specific funds directed to them.

In 2020, \$29,806.13 was granted to local groups and organizations from this fund. If you are part of a group who has a need that would benefit the community, let us know!



1

Group Funded: Fountain/Warren Health Department

Amount Funded: \$1,500

Project: Victory Garden Kits

In the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the school closure, the health department thought offering victory garden seed kits to the Bi-County citizens was a smart idea. We didn't know how the pandemic might impact food prices or availability. With the extra time at home, it was a great chance to learn gardening. Each kit had peat pots and soil for starting seeds inside, instruction sheets for all the types of seeds, 25 varieties of seeds, onion bulbs, seed potatoes, and local farmers planted some sweet corn plots as well. 6 truck loads of sweet corn were picked by volunteers and available for people to come and pick up one dozen ears of sweet corn each time the truck load was brought to town. Over 450 families picked up garden kits and the project was a huge success

2

Group Funded: Seeger Dual Credit Scholarships

Amount Funded: \$7,000

Project: Dual Credit Teacher Certification

This grant is to offer a small compensation to the teachers who are spending their own money to get certified in courses that students can earn college credit for while they are still in high school. The Class of 2019 earned a total of 1435 college credits which transfer directly to Indiana Colleges and Universities. This saves the students \$145.01 per credit earned. This could add up to a total savings of \$208,089.35. This grant is a small way to recognize and appreciate the sacrifices of the teachers to complete additional coursework so that their students can save money.



3

Group Funded: Eagle Scout Trail Project

Amount Funded: \$200

Project: Funding for Eagle Scout Project Materials

Travis Beckett, a Seeger student, was working on completing his Eagle Scout badge. He got the idea of doing work at the Williamsport Falls. As part of the grant, he was able to build and install three wooden benches along the trails. In addition, he filled in all of the carvings in the overlook and repainted the overlook.

4

Group Funded: NICHEs Land Trust

Amount Funded: \$2,000

Project: Funding for Monarch Butterfly Prairie Planting

The Williams Woods NICHEs property was working on a 34- acre restoration project of the upland oak woodland on the west side of Possum Run. Their current emphasis is 19-acre piece of land that is converting from agriculture land to prairie with an emphasis on monarch butterfly habitat. The goal is to return this property to its native grand prairie and oak woodland habitat. The total project cost was \$30,500, and the Foundation was asked to chip in \$2,000 to help cover the cost of collecting and preparing seeds to supplement the purchased base seed mix.



5

Group Funded: Attica Early Learning Center

Amount Funded: \$3,000

Project: Funding for the purchase of furnishings.

Purchase of furnishings- The Attica Learning Center was going to be offering 25% of its seats for Warren County children so they asked the Foundation for 25% of the funding for the remaining amount they needed to get the project up and running. This \$3,000 grant will help purchase the furnishings for 4 classrooms.

6

Group Funded: West Lebanon Fire Dept.

Amount Funded: \$2,856.13

Project: Funding for Thermal Imaging Cameras.

This grant helped purchase thermal imaging cameras for use at fire scenes, hazardous material spills, and accidents. The cameras help find hot spots and look for victims. These devices allow the firefighter to "see" through the smoke and search for victims. This grant provided 2 thermal imaging cameras. This fire department serves 3,300 residents in Jordan, Liberty, Pike, Steuben, and Kent townships.



7

Group Funded: Illiana Antique Power Association

Amount Funded: \$850

Project: Funding for Grain Bin Museum Art Project

This grant was for the paint and artist fee of a mural to be on display in the new grain bin museum.

8

Group Funded: Senior Center Improvements

Amount Funded: \$1,500

Project: Funding for Facility Improvements

This grant provided for materials to make the facility more COVID safe. In addition it will allow for paint for the restrooms, as well as curtains/blinds in the dining area and restrooms.



9

Group Funded: Parks Program

Amount Funded: \$2,600

Project: Funding for the summer parks program and utilities.

This marks the 20th summer of the Summer Parks Program. The theme for the year was "Blast from the Past". This grant will cover \$600 worth of utilities used for the breakfast and lunch program. Breakfast is available from 7:30-8:30. Each parks program day ends with lunch served in the 4-H Food building. The remaining \$2,000 will go towards helping cover the programming expenses of extending the program by an additional week longer than past years.

10

Group Funded: Williamsport Christian Church

Amount Funded: \$1,000

Project: Funding for the "Christmas store"

Local families who do not qualify for any other Christmas assistance program are invited to participate in the Christmas Store. New items are donated and this grant also buys new items. The items are laid out in a garage sale format where the parents can pick the items their children would like and then they pay prices that are only about 10% of the actual cost. This lets the parents have choices in what their children would want or need and makes the shoppers feel like they aren't just getting a hand out, but just getting assistance.



11

Group Funded: State Line Fire Dept. Building

Amount Funded: \$7,300

Project: Funding for the new Fire Station Project

At the end of the year, there was some grant money remaining for this important project. A new fire station is being built in State Line City. The project is mostly being completed by volunteers to keep costs down, but the overall costs are still going to require a loan to be taken out. Having a functional fire station is critical for all towns and the Foundation is happy to make a small impact on the overall cost of the project

2020 Community Grant Total:
\$29,806.13

**11 Local Organizations
received Grants**

For Good. For Ever. For Warren County