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Newsletter- March 2006

From the Membership Committee...

Please join us!

The 11th Annual Meeting: April 22nd 2006 - 7:00 PM

We are meeting this year at the Red Cedar Medical Center Education Room. Following a short business portion of the meeting, we look forward to hearing from several of our recent grantees. A brief tour of the new RCMC construction will be offered as well as an update on the project from Dr. Simpson and his staff.

Please note: This evening's program is free and open to the public. Please help us with publicizing this event by inviting your friends and neighbors. Refreshments will be served!

From the Finance Committee...

The investment advisors were in to meet with the committee following the close of 2005 and had generally good things to report. The year finished with some positive market results which provided a second consecutive year of full funding of the grant allocation. The totals this year were \$53,558 in new money added to the pool for community grants and \$107,117 added to the pool for hospital grants. The new money combines with carry-over amounts to make up total amounts of \$110,279 and \$154,262 respectively.

From the Grants Committee...

The foundation awarded \$32,840 in grants for the first grant period of 2006. The four programs receiving funding were: The Arc of Dunn County, Inc., \$2,340 funding for the purchase of care-giver training materials; Rural Dental Health Clinic \$25,000, Indianhead Enterprises, \$1,300 – defibrillator (AED); and, an Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (AODA) program run by the Dunn County Jail was funded in the amount of \$4,200. A synopsis of the programs follows:

The grant to the Arc of Dunn County, Inc. will be used to purchase new up to date training materials for care-givers including The Crossings day program, (Alzheimer's disease), House Calls, the Noreen Family Homes, the Dunn County Office on Aging, and the 30 staff and 7 volunteers at the Arc. The planned program includes obtaining the latest, best-practice materials relevant to the Residential, Respite and The Crossings programs. These materials will

Over please...

then be used for in-house staff training, as well as being shared with other agencies. More than 50 people are currently scheduled to receive this training.

The proposal from the Dunn County Jail recognizes the need to provide therapeutic programming and education for inmates experiencing low educational levels, work placement and substance abuse / dependence. Three primary goals of this program are: 1) Provide intensive counseling and education to provide relapse prevention and increased awareness to inmates of the impact substance abuse has on successful community integration, individual health, employment opportunities, relationships with family members and friends and other life areas; 2) Increase usage of internal jail resources and via provision of linkage and referral information as inmates complete their sentences and pre-release to provide resources for inmates when they re-enter the community; 3) Strengthen inmate support networks during incarceration and re-entry into the community by increasing coordination and community within the jail and community service agencies. The Dunn County Jail has an average daily population of 105 inmates. The average age is between 17 and 23 years old, and 70% of the population has a drug and alcohol addiction. This program also addresses treatment and rehabilitative needs of the methamphetamine epidemic.

The Rural Health Dental Clinic (RHDC) is a non-profit dental clinic that was established in 1997 to provide comprehensive preventative and restorative dental services to low-income families, individuals with disabilities, and to residents of nursing facilities. They have been sharing clinic space with the Dental Hygiene Program at the Chippewa Valley Technical College. The Dental Hygiene Program relocated to Eau Claire last year and has resulted in the need for RHDC to identify other clinic space. This grant is to supply the extra funding necessary for the relocation costs and 19 months of rent. The RHDC is scheduled to move to the Harmony Centre upon its completion in the spring of 2006. State and federal funding and are combined with the Medicaid billings and cash receipts (sliding scale) to be sufficient for operating the RHDC. In part because the State budget can not be adjusted until 2007, there are insufficient funds to cover the costs of moving and those costs previously covered in the form of in-kind contributions from CVTC.

Indianhead Enterprises, Inc. has been providing vocational rehabilitation services for now more than 30 years. Many of the individuals served have medical conditions that present various challenges and concerns. As the clients age, their medical issues tend to increase in severity. Additionally, most of the new referrals received are those with the most severe disabilities, which often include severe medical needs. This medically vulnerable population creates a unique opportunity to take a pro-active approach to dealing with emergencies.

Grant applications are available at the Health Foundation office 500 Main Street, Suite 322 or by calling the office at (715) 232-9557. Individuals interested in applying for funds for a community related project are encouraged to meet with Foundation staff to review their proposal.

Welcome Community Representatives!

Mary Zwygart-Stauffacher & B. Jill Smith agreed to serve on the grants committee. Special thanks go to each of these important volunteers.

...Membership Deadline March 21st please contact the office if you need more information, (715)-232-9557, fax (715) 232-9636, or Email: mchf@macf.org