



Community Foundation of Wabash County

We're here for giving. We're here for good.

Press Release

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Community Foundation spring grants total more than \$63,600

In the Community Foundation of Wabash County's first of three grant cycles in 2008, the Foundation awarded \$63,615 to local schools, organizations and groups that serve vital needs in the community. The grants come from the Foundation's Good Deeds Unrestricted Endowments, which support perpetual grant giving. Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

American Red Cross (\$1,000) – Computer Upgrades. **Description:** The American Red Cross of Wabash County will upgrade computers and software in the local office. These computers are used by paid staff and volunteers to provide the administrative support for all programming, which includes disaster relief, blood drives, military services, health and safety training and community education. This program is funded, in part, by the **Paul L. Speicher Foundation Good Deeds Endowment**

Charley Creek Foundation (\$3,000) – Arts Festival. **Description:** The Charley Creek Foundation (CCF) will host its first Arts Festival on June 27, 28 and 29, 2008. This festival will provide an opportunity to experience professional and amateur musicians throughout an arts-filled weekend. The Paradise Arts Festival is merging with Charley Creek's Arts Festival to offer a stronger and more varied program. CCF will partner with other non-profits and events including the Honeywell Center, the Dr. James Ford Historic Home, the Charley Creek Gardens, the Manchester Symphony and the Paradise Arts Festival (PAF). This grant will help fund music at the PAF which will host arts and crafts booths in Paradise Spring Park, concerts at the Dr. James Ford Historic Home and in the Charley Creek Gardens. This program is funded, in part, by the **Beauchamp & McSpadden Charitable Endowment** and the **North Manchester Fine Arts Club Endowment**.

CSNM (Garber-Simmons Adult Center) (\$3,840) – Operating Expenses **Description:** The mission and purpose of the Garber-Simmons Senior Center (a United Fund Agency) is to build community among the older adults (over 55) in North Manchester and the surrounding areas by providing educational and recreational programs, encouragement and support, volunteer and social opportunities (like Hospice), and an accessible place to renew, cultivate and strengthen friendships. The funds requested for rent and utilities would help maintain the security of the Center and ensure programs for seniors. This program is funded, in part, by the **David D. & Jane C. Grandstaff Charitable Endowment**.

CSNM (Manchester Recreation Association) (\$1,625) – Background Checks. **Description:** The Manchester Recreation Association (MRA) is the non-profit organization that runs the summer baseball and softball leagues at the Glenn W. Ruppel Sports Complex. This grant will help the MRA pay for required background checks for all adults within the MRA (coaches, assistant coaches, umpires, employees).

Field of Dreams (\$10,000) – Soccer Restrooms and Concession Area. **Description:** Hundreds of children participate in soccer, flag football and tackle football at this facility. The Field of Dreams will use these grant funds to build a new restroom/concession area at the soccer/football complex.

Habitat for Humanity (\$4,000) – The LaFontaine Habitat Home Project. **Description:** Wabash County Habitat for Humanity (WCHFH) is beginning construction on a home in LaFontaine. WCHFH will facilitate a real

opportunity for a local family to become first-time homeowners.. Not only will the home provide stability, security and a sense of pride for the partner family, as attractive, quality housing it will also help attract economic investment and development, contribute to the local school system and other community organizations.

Heartland Career Center (\$6,050) – Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Lab Panel. **Description:** The Robotics, Computers and Electronics program will use the lab equipment to train 40 area high school students and 30 adults during the adult evening classes offered through Ivy Tech, to install, maintain, and test residential heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems. This program is funded, in part, by the **Galley Family Charitable Endowment**.

Manchester College (\$3,000) – Wandering in the Wonders of Science. **Description:** Third through fifth grade students from Wabash County will be invited to Manchester College to get back to nature. They will participate in demonstrations, nature games, literacy connections, nature walks, science trails and webquests all while being guided by Manchester College teacher candidates. With nature as a focus, children are able to reconnect with the outdoors. All activities and literacy choices link to Indiana Academic Standards and truly enhance, or enrich, what is already happening in schools. This program is funded, in part, by the **A. Blair & Patricia Kennedy Helman Charitable Endowment** and the **Galley Family Charitable Endowment**.

Manchester Community Child Care Assoc., Inc. (Manchester Early Learning Center) (\$3,207) – Operating expenses. **Description:** The Manchester Early Learning Center is a nonprofit day care that provides care to 51 children ages two through 12-years-old. Grant funds will be used to purchase equipment, provide professional development for the Executive Director and the Board of Directors, and provide better communications through the installation of DSL and new phone equipment. This program is funded, in part, by the **Strauss Family Charitable Endowment**.

MCS-Manchester Jr/Sr High Band Boosters (\$3,000) – Marching Band Uniforms. **Description:** Manchester Music Boosters Club, Inc. will use grant funds to purchase 70 new marching band uniforms for the Manchester Jr/Sr High School (MJSHS) band. This program is funded, in part, by and the **North Manchester Fine Arts Club Endowment**.

MSD-Northfield Junior-Senior High School (\$1,000) – Laptop Computer for Robotics. **Description:** This grant will be used to buy a laptop computer for the Northfield Robotics team. This program is funded by the **Galley Family Charitable Endowment**.

North Manchester Parks & Recreation (\$5,200) – Frantz Park Grant. **Description:** The funds requested will purchase supplies and labor to build a 12' x 24' pavilion for Frantz Park.

TenderHearts Child Care Ministry (\$451) – Art of Learning. **Description:** TenderHearts Child Care Ministry is a full range childcare program. TenderHearts will use grant funds to purchase art and craft supplies to assist the teachers with their daily curriculum. This program is funded by the **Paul L. Speicher Foundation Good Deeds Endowment** and the **A. Blair & Patricia Kennedy Helman Charitable Endowment**.

Wabash Area Community Theater, Inc. (\$3,000) – A Christmas Carol. **Description:** The Wabash Area Community Theater (WACT) offers an opportunity for Wabash County Residents to participate in all areas of the production of quality theater. This year it will produce three shows, including Dickens "A Christmas Carol" in November. This program is funded, in part, by the **North Manchester Fine Arts Club Endowment**.

Wabash County Alcohol and Drug Court Program (\$742) – Updated software for the Substance Abuse Education program. **Description:** The Wabash County Alcohol and Drug Court Program provides substance abuse education to convicted drug and alcohol offenders. This program is funded by the **Paul L. Speicher Foundation Good Deeds Endowment** and the **A. Blair & Patricia Kennedy Helman Charitable Endowment**.

Wabash County Historical Museum (\$2,100) – Hearing Our History: A Sound Project. **Description:** Hearing Our History: A Sound Project will make an audio tour available to museum visitors. This program is funded, in part, by the **Beauchamp & McSpadden Charitable Endowment** and the **David D. & Jane C. Grandstaff Charitable Endowment**.

Wabash Friends Counseling Center (\$3,000) – Windows for Opportunity (WOW). **Description:** Windows for Opportunity for Women (WOW) is a program that focuses on women as a viable piece of the workforce. As women reenter the workplace after staying home to raise families, retiring from their present position, deciding to

improve their current skills, or changing their life goals or careers, WOW provides a connection for these women, to area businesses looking for quality employees, to university programs for additional education, and to information and workshops that improve their leadership and job skills.

Wabash Street Level Ministries, Inc./The Access (\$2,500) Reconditioned Snack Vending Machine.

Description: Wabash Street Level Ministries emphasizes personal involvement with kids by the volunteers while they are in the facility and strives to make The Access a place where kids want to be. Providing low cost snacks and drinks help make the facility enjoyable to kids and volunteers.

Wabash Valley Music Association (\$3,600) – Wabash County Honors Band & Choir Program. **Description:** The Wabash County Honors Band and Choir annual concert features approximately 130 students from Manchester, Northfield, Southwood and Wabash High Schools.

WCS-Wabash City Schools (VPA) (\$2,000) – Summer Youth Theater. **Description:** Wabash Valley Music Association (WVMA) Elementary Children's Concert introduces classical symphonic music to elementary age children with a goal of encouraging them to appreciate and understand fine music. This program was funded, in part, by the **Strauss Family Charitable Endowment** and the **North Manchester Fine Arts Club Endowment**.

WCS-Wabash High School Band Boosters (\$1,300) – Summer Marching Band. **Description:** The summer marching band program serves 30-40 students in grades 7-12. Although it is a program of Wabash City Schools, it is open to area schools that do not offer a summer marching band. The purpose of the program is to improve the musicianship of students through summer performance and competition opportunities. Students practice music and marching drills for 3-4 hours daily, participate in a week long band camp, and compete in contests, culminating at the Indiana State Fair Band Day competition.

Grants, like the 21 listed above, are awarded from the Foundation's Good Deeds Endowments, which were created to address ever-changing, vital needs in Wabash County. Foundation staff works with a committee of volunteers to evaluate grant applications and select recipients. Staff member award grants, do site visits and review grant reports to ensure that donor gifts are used appropriately.

The next grant application deadline is July 15, 2008. Application forms are required for consideration. The Foundation will hold a grant writers' workshop in June 2008, which will contain information about an updated process. Anyone interested in applying for a grant is encouraged to attend. For information about making a contribution to an endowment, applying for a grant, or attending the workshop call 260-982-4824, visit our web site at www.cfwabash.org, or stop by the office at 218 East Main Street, North Manchester.



Caption: John Knecht and Roger Tate of Habitat for Humanity come to the Community Foundation of Wabash County's office to accept a check for their upcoming home construction project in LaFontaine from Foundation Assistant Director Shelly Leifer.