

# The Youngstown Foundation Distributes Over \$1.3M to Area Agencies

Sixteen area organizations have been awarded grants totaling \$1,083,842 by the Distribution Committee of The Youngstown Foundation during the first quarter of 2012. The grants, which include Hine Memorial Fund recipients, were approved at the March 6, meeting and range from \$1,000 to just over \$700,000. An additional \$215,000 has been distributed through the Foundation's Restricted Funds to designated local non-profit organizations.

"Through these grants it is our goal to continue to fulfill critical needs and strengthen our community's health care, arts and culture, education, economic development and social services for years to come," said Janice E. Strasfeld, Executive Director.

Youngstown Foundation first quarter grants include:

<b>Levy Gardens/Youngstown Area Jewish Federation</b>	<b>\$12,750</b>
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>
<b>Second Harvest Food Bank</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Ursuline Sisters of Youngstown</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Western Reserve Land Conservancy</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>
<b>Hubbard Rotary Club/ Harding Park Meeting House</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<b>Youngstown City Schools Community Engagement Plan</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>

Mrs. Strasfeld noted that innovation is needed now more than ever to revitalize our community and enrich the lives of our residents. Two of these awards represent new and innovative approaches being implemented to address critical issues in our community:

***The Mahoning Valley Manufacturers Coalition***, an organization of small and medium-sized, locally-owned manufacturers, has received a \$20,000 grant to support its initiatives to address local advanced manufacturing employment issues and growth particularly as it relates to having a qualified, skilled workforce.

***Youngstown City Schools Community Engagement Plan***: \$11,000 was awarded to the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation to support the Youngstown City Schools Community Engagement Plan which was recently approved by the school's Academic Distress Commission. As a component of the district's overall academic improvement plan, this effort will recognize and engage the voice of parents, families, students, teachers, administrators, businesses, the faith based community and other stakeholders to build ownership and form long lasting, working relationships to create greater success for academic improvement.

Of the sixteen grants awarded, eight area organizations committed to serving children with diagnosed disabilities received funds from the Foundation's Hine Memorial Fund. Recipients of the first quarter Hine grants include:

<i>Easter Seals, Youngstown Hearing &amp; Speech, and Operation Search &amp; Help</i>	<b>\$701,850</b>
<i>ACLD Learning Center</i>	<b>\$ 37,500</b>
<i>YWCA</i>	<b>\$ 15,000</b>
<i>Potential Development &amp; ARC of NE Ohio</i>	<b>\$ 52,339</b>
<i>Paula &amp; Anthony Rich Center</i>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>
<i>YMCA</i>	<b>\$ 51,000</b>
<i>Children's Rehabilitation Center</i>	<b>\$ 75,000</b>
<i>Help Hotline</i>	<b>\$ 31,403</b>

The largest award was \$ 701,850 to Easter Seals and Youngstown Hearing & Speech Center. This grant reflects the merger of these two organizations as well as the addition of the Operation Search and Help Program which had previously been managed by the Visiting Nurse Association. The grant encompasses such programs and services as Outpatient Medical Rehabilitation including the SuitAbility program, Weekend Respite Program, Outpatient Speech Pathology, Audiology, and the Deaf Kids Club. Operation Search and Help, which received \$ 241,850 of the award, employs a caseworker to respond to the needs of individual children with disabilities. The program assists with costs not covered by other sources including medical equipment, supplies, drugs, adaptive equipment, formula and transportation.

Celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year of service in downtown Youngstown, ACLD Learning Center has received Hine funding for many years. The organization addresses disability based learning problems for children who have been diagnosed with all types of learning related disorders including learning disabilities, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Sensory Integration Disorder, developmental handicaps, speech/language disabilities, visual/auditory and motor delays, Autism Spectrum Disorders and Asperger's Syndrome. The \$ 37,500 grant will provide scholarships to children unable to afford the services

### **About The Youngstown Foundation**

Founded in 1918, the mission of The Youngstown Foundation is to provide financial assistance to charitable, scientific and educational institutions that promote the mental, moral and physical well-being of the inhabitants of the City of Youngstown and vicinity. The Youngstown Foundation is the largest community foundation in the Valley, the 4<sup>th</sup> oldest in the country and ranked in the top 100 nationally. With approximately eighty five million in charitable funds, close to 4.1 million in grants is awarded annually. In addition to its Unrestricted Fund, The Youngstown Foundation is composed of Donor Advised Funds, Restricted Funds and Special Interest Funds.

**For more information on grant application guidelines, applying for a grant, or to donate to our Support Fund charities, please visit us at [www.youngstownfoundation.org](http://www.youngstownfoundation.org) or contact us at 330-744-0320.**

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