

**-- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE --
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TIPP CITY, OH-

EDUCATION AND SOCIAL NEEDS FIND SUPPORT THROUGH SEVERAL GRANT AWARDS

On the eve of the Tipp City Area Community Foundations' 71th birthday celebration, the Distribution Committee met for its third 2014 session to award grants. After reviewing many strong requests for funding, final selections were made. Education and services for the needy such as dental care, health care and food staples were among the recipients. In the end, nine organizations were chosen to receive 12 awards totaling \$22,037.68.

Bethel Local Schools, \$2,366, packs up the 5th graders and helps to send them on an adventure at Camp Kern in Oregonia, Ohio. The grownups think the students are being sent to learn about nature. The students think they are being sent to have fun. The Foundations think that both the grownups and the students are right!

Bethel Local Schools, \$1,695, customizes 3rd and 4th teaching toward unique learning styles. The purchase of this computer equipment brings adventures into the classroom including virtual field trips, podcasts and web quests.

Bethel Local Schools, \$625, replaces a marching French horn known as a mellophone for the high school marching band.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Miami Valley, \$1,300, expands this mentoring program begun in 2012. With a goal of 10 elementary-aged mentoring matches for 2013 met, bonds were formed that will shape young lives forever. Through this grant, some of those matches will now be able to continue into the middle school years.

Brukner Nature Center, \$3,000, supports appreciation and understanding of wildlife conservation by supporting the expansion of the Wonders of Wildlife exhibit. This nature center accomplishes its mission through education, preservation and rehabilitation.

Health Partners Free Clinic, \$1,500, expands the computer hardware of the only free clinic serving uninsured and under-insured neighbors of Miami County.

Miami County Dental Clinic, \$760, purchases a sterilizer for Traveling Smiles, Miami County Portable Dentistry. This on-the-road dental clinic partners with school systems to serve children in need of treatment.

Needy Baskets, \$5,000, helps this agency meet an expanding demand at the Holiday season. Specifically, Christmas Baskets will be prepared for families that contain the ingredients for a traditional Holiday meal.

St. John's Early Childhood Program, \$350, provides for a visit from the Dayton Philharmonic String Quartet. "The Three Little Pigs" will be this year's performance.

Tipp City Exempted Village Schools, \$1,341.68, captures the imaginations of 5th grade students on a visit to Victoria Theatre. "The Lightening Thief" based on Rick Riordan's book series, is this year's performance.

Tipp City Exempted Village Schools, \$1,000, brings "The Rock Man" Mike Manning, a retired geology and earth science teacher, to 3rd grade students. He will share his enthusiasm for rocks through a series of hands-on activities that include pantomime.

Tipp Monroe Community Services, \$3,100, defrays the cost of the annual 5th grade excursion to Camp Kern in Oregonia, Ohio, which is now being sponsored by this local nonprofit.

Since 1943, the Tipp City Area Community Foundations has awarded \$1,750,319 in grants as of December 31, 2013. Members of the Distribution Committee are Jim Ranft, chair, Heather Bailey, Dave Grim, Claire Cain Timmer and Jackie Wahl. Other trustees include Jesse Chamberlain, Joan Creech, Mike Lightle, Jim McKee, Marilyn Richards and Beth Ewald van Haaren.

The Tipp City Area Community Foundations is a member fund of The Troy Foundation. If you would like information about how to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation, or how your organization can apply for a grant, please contact Jim Ranft at (937) 667-1270.

For more information about the Foundations' volunteers, donors and funds, visit the web site at www.tippfoundation.org.

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