MCWEF ANNOUNCES 2011 GRANT RECIPIENTS

In uncertain economic times, nonprofit organizations are relying more than ever on outside support for their programs. The 2011 grant requests received by the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund reflected that need, with 17 nonprofit organizations asking for funding totaling more than $41,000.

After careful consideration, grants totaling $6,800 were awarded to five qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations serving women and children in Medina County.

More than 70 percent of the funding went to programs that meet the basic needs of women and children, including food, clothing and medical supplements. Fund President Linda Loveless said committee members decided to concentrate on such programs in order to “help improve the day-to-day lives of women and children who are hurting.”

“In these difficult economic times, women and children are in need of the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and baby supplies. The Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund is pleased to support agencies that are supplying these necessities, as well as bringing light to the devastation of child sexual abuse and neglect,” she said.

The following organizations and programs received funding from the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund in 2011:

- **The Children’s Center of Medina County, $1,000**
  To support a public relations campaign that brings awareness and education to county residents regarding child sexual abuse and neglect.

- **The HANDS Foundation, $1,300**
  To support the Staples for Seniors program, which delivers long-lasting, nonrefrigerated grocery items to senior women living in poverty.

- **Marian’s Closet, $2,500**
  To support supplies for infants and small children in need.

- **Mobile Meals $1,000**
  To provide meals and medically prescribed supplements to Medina County women and children in need.

- **Ohio Regional Music Arts Cultural Outreach, $1,000**
  To fund a workshop with the Cavani String Quartet for elementary school children in the Union Square Program.

If you would like to contribute to the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund, or for more information, please visit us at [medinawomensendowment.com](http://medinawomensendowment.com). MCWEF is an affiliate of Akron Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity.

Mother’s Day Cards

For the second year, friends of MCWEF were invited to honor the mothers and important women in their lives by making donations to the Mother’s Day campaign.

In exchange for their donation, we sent a beautiful card to their recipients stating that a donation had been made in their honor.

We wish to thank all of you for your generosity. With your support, we raised more than $1,200 for the endowment fund through this great expression of love for all the strong women in our lives.

If you would like to be on the mailing list for next year’s campaign, please email leloveless@zoominternet.net.
Grant Spotlight:

Child Assault Prevention Program

Your donations to the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund in 2009-2010 allowed MCWEF to make a grant for the Child Assault Prevention (CAP) program, which is sponsored by Catholic Charities Community Services Corporation. For 20 years in Medina County, CAP has helped children learn to be “safe, strong and free.”

Using time-tested and relevant role play scenarios, coordinator Michelle Kipfstuhl and certified CAP facilitators Sue Simmons and Nancy Crews present a classroom workshop that trains children to recognize potentially dangerous situations and get help. CAP emphasizes self-assertion, peer support and communication with a trusted adult as prevention strategies.

The facilitators engage the children in an initial discussion of “rights” and then present three scenarios depicting the most common assault experiences a child might encounter: playground bullying, encounters with adult strangers, and inappropriate touching.

The children brainstorm with the facilitator, and each scenario is redone as a “success story,” incorporating positive prevention techniques that children can use. Finally, the classroom teacher is invited to play the role of a supportive adult responding to a child’s request for help.

Role playing gives children an opportunity to visualize what would happen if they needed to talk to someone about a problem. It gives a clear message to children that teachers and other trusted adults are there to offer support.

MCWEF board members Cathy Posner and Kris Turner recently had the honor of observing one of these CAP workshops. They were extremely impressed with the professionalism and compassion of the CAP facilitators as well as the attention and response of the child participants.

MCWEF is proud to have been able to support the CAP program with a grant from our endowment fund. It is only through your ongoing support that MCWEF can continue to fund such important programs as this.

2011 MCWEF Officers & Advisory Board

President
Linda Loveless
Vice President
Cathy Posner
Secretary/Treasurer
Ann Cole
Tammy Daubner
Penny Evans
Karen Glass
Jen Graham
Jill Heck
Hannah Jones
Jane Langol
Madeline Laribee
Tina Sabol
Nancy Sprowls
Kris Turner

Women Helping Women Event Aims to Grow the Endowment

LADIES: Mark your calendars for the second annual
Women Helping Women Event
Thursday, Sept. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m.
at the gorgeous Potomac Bead Company on the square in Medina

It’s a casual, fun, free evening where you can enjoy chatting, wine and hors d’oeuvres while learning more about the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund.

Grab your girlfriends and come out to Potomac Bead Company for an enjoyable evening.
If you would like an invitation with more information, send an email to: leloveless@zoominternet.net
For more than 10 years, the advisory board of the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund has worked to improve the lives of women and children in Medina County by providing grant funding to local nonprofit organizations. In January, we met to plan and set goals for greater growth over the next five years.

Our primary goal for 2011 is to increase community awareness of the fund and our mission. Each year, the amount of money we can award in grants is determined by taking a percentage of our endowment balance. The larger the balance, the more we can grant. We had requests for more than $40,000 in grant money this year. Due to changes in application deadlines, we could only fulfill $6,800 in grant requests. We know the need is there; we want to make sure the grant money is, too.

This year, we have begun a grassroots effort to spread the word about MCWEF. Once a month, our members invite ladies in our county to a casual meal. We get together to learn about each other and share our passion for lifting up women and children. Board members share information about MCWEF and what it means to them. The work of MCWEF starts in the formation of bonds with other women seeking to help plant seeds of hope for today and the future.

Last September, we enjoyed a lovely evening at Potomac Bead Company in Medina, networking with other women and talking about our mission. The generosity of our guests allowed us to raise more than $11,000 in donations and pledges. It was such a lovely evening that we decided to do it again this year.

To receive an invitation, or for more information, please email me at laloveless@zoominternet.net.

Linda Loveless
President, MCWEF
The Festival of Trees is the premier fundraising event of the season for the Medina County Women's Endowment Fund. This year, you will enjoy a new and improved, exciting format.

On Nov. 10, 2011, we will be celebrating the Festival of Trees with a special reception at the Blue Heron Country Club.

We are currently seeking sponsors on several levels. We’re also looking for donations of decorated trees (tabletop or full-size) and wreaths, along with a variety of silent auction items. Your sponsorship of this year’s event will provide a great deal of visibility for your business.

The silent auction items, trees and wreaths you donate will benefit the Medina County Women's Endowment Fund. Your gifts will help us provide grants to amazing organizations that improve the lives of women and children in our community.

While it is only June, everything to make this a stellar event is ready. We only need you! For more information about sponsoring this exciting event, or to donate a decorated tree, wreath or silent auction item, please contact Tammy Daubner at 330-241-4956. You can also send an email to FOTMedina@yahoo.com.

★ Watch for the New 2011 Festival of Trees! ★