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United Way of Hastings Awards Funding to Area Organizations Through its Annual Grants Process

The United Way of Hastings (UWH) Board of Directors recently approved \$65,000 of funding to local organizations through its annual grants process.

To receive funding, organizations must meet allocations guidelines and have an impact on individuals living in the geographic area that includes the Hastings Independent School District #200. Organizations then go through a vetting process that may involve interviewing the organization. The vetting process through UWH helps to ensure that funds are being allocated to the greatest needs in the community. Prior to funding, organizations sign an agreement to uphold the allocations requirements and partner with UWH throughout the year to collectively impact the community. Organizations and their initiatives approved to receive funding in 2019 are:

360 Communities

- Lewis House - Domestic abuse shelter
- Partners for Success® - Bridges school and home

Boy Scouts, Northern Star Council

- Scouting activities and mentoring

DARTS

- Older adult home services

Friends of the Mississippi River

- Stewardship of Mississippi River banks with youth and adults

Hastings Community Education

- Disability Program - Special needs social, educational, and enrichment program

Hastings Schools

- Elementary Schools – Summer school snacks
- High School Field Biology - Environmental stewardship with youth and adults
- Middle School Positive Behavior - Reinforcement of positive behavior

Legal Assistance of Dakota County

- Family legal assistance

ProAct

- Job training, employment, life skills and enrichment for youth and adults with disabilities

On March 27, UWH Funded Partner Agencies will interact with top donors on the impact of their donations. UWH will host the event that will recognize top business leaders from the 2019 annual campaign. “Although UWH has limited resources as a small nonprofit with an annual budget of approximately \$300,000, one of our strongest assets is collaboration,” said Mari E. Mellick, CAE, Executive Director. “UWH continues to be at the table identifying the needs in the community and likewise, can bring groups together to make the most impact in the community. It’s not easy to quantify that for people, but the recognition event will help continue that relationship building that UWH has been known for.”

The UWH also funds the following initiatives outside of its traditional grants process:

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| Food 4 Kids | Weekend food packs for students |
| Hastings Beyond the Yellow Ribbon | Military support for families |

Helping Kids Succeed	Youth and adults building webs of support
Imagination Library	Age-specific books for children
LIVE UNITED Scholarship	Youth scholarship
Student Hastings Impact Program, AmeriCorps Promise Fellows	Fellows provide student support
United Way 2-1-1 24/7 Help Line	Resource and referral

The UWH is an independent United Way that has worked for over 50 years serving Hastings and the surrounding rural communities within Independent School District #200. Its mission is to build partnerships to improve the lives of people in our community. Donations are accepted year-round. For more information about the UWH and the agencies it funds, visit www.unitedwayofhastings.org.

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