First round of Non-profit Relief Grants totals $49,000

ASHLAND – Ashland County Community Foundation and United Way of Ashland County have awarded the first round of COVID-19 Nonprofit Relief Grants.

Totaling $49,051, these seven grants will support local nonprofits as they respond to the community’s changing needs and adapt their services in light of COVID-19.

“The importance of keeping nonprofit organizations viable to continue their work in Ashland County cannot be overstated,” ACCF Executive Director Jim Cutright said. “We’re pleased to be able to help, thanks in large part to the generosity and foresight of donors who have chosen to make unrestricted gifts to the foundation.

“Additionally, this grant-making pool has grown through our local United Way’s significant contribution, as well as through gifts from individuals and businesses.”

COVID-19 Nonprofit Relief Grants awarded in the first round include:

**ACCESS:** $4,761

To provide shelter services for homeless women and families in Ashland County

**Ashland County Cancer Association:** $10,000

To support Ashland County cancer patients by providing uninterrupted monthly reimbursement for cancer-related travel, medications, medical supplies and nutritional support

**Ashland County Council on Aging:** $7,500

To deliver warm, nutritious meals daily to the homes of Ashland County seniors

**Ashland Family YMCA:** $10,000

To provide sanitizing supplies and equipment for a safe reopening, facilitate virtual classes, reduce class sizes and offer financial assistance to families

**Brethren Care Village:** $4,290
To purchase iPads for senior use across campus, promoting digital inclusion and combating social isolation

**Fostering Family Ministries**: $7,500

To support current kinship and foster care families during these challenging times and to recruit new foster families in response to COVID-19

**St. Vincent de Paul Society of Edward Church**: $5,000

To assist Ashland County residents with urgent financial needs (utilities, medication, food, etc.)

In addition to awarding these grants, ACCF has helped several donors make personal grants from Donor-Advised Funds. Since the crisis began, distributions from Donor-Advised Funds held at ACCF have been granted to Associated Charities, Ashland County Cancer Association, Ashland Pregnancy Care Center, Salvation Army Kroc Center, Ashland Symphony Orchestra, Pathfinder Farms and United Way of Ashland County.

COVID-19 Nonprofit Relief Grants of up to $10,000 are still available for local agencies that provide vital services to Ashland County residents.

These grants are designed to help agencies that meet basic human needs, support increased mental health needs due to COVID-19 or provide economic relief for individuals impacted by the pandemic.

An online grant application can be found at [www.accommunityfoundation.org](http://www.accommunityfoundation.org). Applications are reviewed regularly, and grant decisions are being made on a rolling basis to expedite relief for grant recipients.

Any individual or business that wishes to contribute to the cause can donate online at [www.accommunityfoundation.org](http://www.accommunityfoundation.org) or send a check with “COVID-19 Nonprofit Relief Grant Fund” in the memo line to Ashland County Community Foundation, 300 College Ave., Ashland.

Questions may be directed to James Cutright, Ashland County Community Foundation Director, at 419-281-4733 or cutty@accommunityfoundation.org; or Stacy Schiemann, United Way of Ashland County Executive Director, at 419-281-5551 or stacy@uwashlandoh.org.

**About Ashland County Community Foundation**: Ashland County Community Foundation advances philanthropy and improves the quality of life in Ashland County by connecting people who care with causes that matter. ACCF has awarded over $16 million in scholarships, grants and distributions.

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