WHEELING - Grants with totals eclipsing $165,000 have been awarded through the Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley to more than a dozen organizations around the region.

The foundation's Women's Giving Circle, a group of women who pool their resources to empower through philanthropy by making strategic initiatives, has pledged grants supporting programs serving women and girls.

Grants totaling $5,675 were awarded to the following local organizations:

- Augusta Levy Learning Center, $2,625 for pre-k employee-wage programs
- East Wheeling Coalition for the Houseless, $2,400 for a female empowerment program
- Tri-County Help Center, $1,500 for a summer camp for girls
- YMCA of Greater Wheeling for its Energy Express program to provide lunch for children from low-income families
- West Virginia Northern Panhandle Community Foundation, $1,000 for a transportation program for women
- YWCA Wheeling, $700 for its ReEntry Success Program to provide guidance before being released from prison
- Zeta Eta Alpha Chapter of Kappa Delta Rho, $1,000 for its transitional living program for youth

Program officer for the Community Foundation is Jessie Puglisi-Sanders, who oversees the foundation.