



Photo provided

Volunteer cook Joe Kochy wears a new apron signed by children who attend programs at Laughlin Memorial Chapel in Wheeling.

■ WHEELING

Local Organizations Earn More Than \$165,000 In Grants

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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 awarded grants totaling more than \$50,000, and the foundation also recently gave out \$115,340 in Community Impact grants to 15 different organizations.

According to the foundation, the Women's Giving Circle "seeks to empower through philanthropy by making strategic, researched-based grants supporting projects serving women and girls."

Grants totalling \$50,675 were awarded to the following local organizations:

Augusta Levy Learning Center, \$2,625 for pre-employment skills; Crittenton Foundation, \$2,000 for a parenting program; Family Service Upper Ohio Valley, \$5,000 for a food security program for senior women; Oglebay Institute, \$4,000 for art experiences for girls; Smart Center, \$2,050 for a summer camp for girls to enjoy math and science; Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless, \$6,000 for a female empowerment program; Tri-County Help Center, \$500 for prevention education at detention center; Wheeling Country Day School, \$3,500 to provide summer camp discounts to "ignite girls' passion for learning"; Wheeling Health Right, \$4,000 for a nutrition and lifestyles program for women; West Virginia Northern Community College Foundation, \$4,000 for "emergency assistance for female students experiencing challenges that may disrupt course attendance or degree completion"; YWCA Wheeling, \$7,000 for its ReEntry program that provides guidance before being released from prison; and Youth Services System, \$10,000 for its transitional living program for young women.

Jess Puglisi-Sanders,

program officer for the Community Foundation for the Ohio Valley, said the grant does feature an application process.

The Women's Giving Circle, to date, has awarded more than \$450,000 to projects that support the needs of women and girls. To become a member, call 304-242-3144.

The foundation's Community Impact grants focused on projects that plan to address "aspects of health and wellness, youth mentoring and recreation."

Grants were awarded to the following:

City of New Martinsville Parks and Recreation, \$3,340 for a life skills program for teen and young adults; Community Resources Inc., \$5,000 for food security with quality, healthy options;

Family and Community Services Inc., \$10,000 to fund a youth mentoring program in Jefferson County; Grand Vue Park, \$12,000 for a summer leadership camp for middle and high school students; Laughlin Community Center, \$10,000 for its Energy Express program to improve literacy skills; Moundsville Middle School, \$2,000 to provide support for mental health and emotional stress during school hours; NAMI Greater Wheeling Inc., \$5,500 to provide a virtual conference for local mental health providers; Ohio Valley Recovery Inc./Unity Center, \$15,000 to support its operation budget; Ohio Valley Youth Network, \$5,000 for its youth leadership, mentoring and recreation program; St. Clairsville Area Soccer Association, \$10,000 to permanently light all the soccer fields; Weirton Christian Center, \$7,500 for life skills, leadership and work experiences for middle schoolers; Wheeling Health Right, \$5,000 to fund a new director community health education position; Wheeling Symphony Orchestra, \$5,000 to help support additional youth orchestra instruction; Wheeling YMCA, \$5,000 for its summer camp; and Youth Services System, \$15,000 to support its youth mentoring program.