



Media Contact:

Lex Green
President
828-435-3773

For Immediate Release (12/20/19):

The Pisgah Health Foundation (previously known as the Transylvania Regional Hospital Foundation) announces its inaugural grant award allocations. The new awards focus on Social Determinant of Health programs in Transylvania and Henderson Counties, a geographic priority for the first grant cycle.

Funding for this grant window was graciously provided through proceeds from the sale of Mission Health System in order to build vital health-related social service capacity in western North Carolina. Pisgah Health Foundation is one of six legacy foundations working to honor the legacy of the formerly not for profit health system.

To engage nonprofits, the Foundation held over 30 listening sessions with over 100 organizations to learn more about programmatic needs in western North Carolina. The Foundation's evolving region includes Transylvania, Henderson, Haywood, Madison, and Buncombe Counties. The Foundation provisionally approved 46 programs totaling over 2.5 million dollars. Grants announced by category were awarded the following areas:

Food and Food Insecurity:	\$210,313
Health Determinants:	\$984,525
Social Cohesion:	\$399,950
Education:	\$631,450
Housing:	\$342,500

Foundation Chair Cathleen Blanchard appreciated all organizations that participated in the inaugural grant process. "Nonprofits were very engaged. Our grant committee exceeded 250 volunteer hours reviewing funding requests. Given our funding parameters, programs that demonstrated the greatest need and promised the greatest impact in specific social service areas were selected. We value their hard work." stated Blanchard.

Grants Committee Chair Dr. Jim Wright felt every application was valuable. "To date we have \$30,072,000 in requests. Our group had very difficult decisions to make. We were grateful to fund a portion of applicants and look forward to building their capacity for the individuals they serve. We also seek to share the merits of every applicant with other funding sources. Since we can't fund every request, we plan to advocate for all non-profits that participated."

Organizations approved to receive funding include:

- Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)
- Children and Family Resources Center

- Davidson River School
- The Family Place
- Muddy Sneakers
- Smart Start of Transylvania County
- St. Gerard House
- Meals on Wheels of Brevard
- Sharing House
- Transylvania Farmer's Market
- Center for Women
- The Free Clinics
- Inheritance of Hope
- Mountain Roots
- SAFE of Transylvania County
- Vocational Solutions of Henderson County
- All Souls Counseling Center
- Blue Ridge Health System
- Blue Ridge Community College Educational Foundation
- Community Action Opportunities
- The Haven
- The Housing Assistance Corporation
- Only Hope WNC
- Safelight, Inc.
- STEP WNC
- Boys & Girls Club of Transylvania County
- Brevard Music Center
- Creating A Family
- Crossnore School & Children's Home
- Henderson County Education Foundation
- Land of Sky Senior Companion Project
- Mills River Life Enrichment Center
- Rise and Shine
- Southern Highlands Reserve
- Green River Preserve

The Foundation's second grant cycle has closed for applicants and all applications must be completed and submitted by December 31st. The committee will then go to work again reviewing the new set of applications in January. "Our grant staff is diligent to ensure a seamless process for all applicants. The grant committee and board of directors take great care to steward funds on behalf of the community in an honorable and contract worthy manner" stated Lex Green, President.

Detailed information about Pisgah Health Foundation can be found on its website: www.pisgahhealthfoundation.org For more information on the Pisgah Health Foundation and the many ways it will promote community health, contact PHF at Info@pisgahhealthfoundation.org.

Pisgah Health Foundation, 153 West Jordan Street, Brevard, NC 28712