

April 25, 2012

Lenawee United Way Awards Community Impact Grants to Local Agencies

At the Lenawee United Way Board meeting held on April 24, 2012 the Board of Directors approved funding for 12 programs in Lenawee County through the community impact grant process. This funding cycle will begin in August and continue through July 2014.

Lenawee United Way continues to work toward three very bold goals for Lenawee County focusing on the focus areas of Education, Income and Health. These goals align with those of United Way Worldwide and hundreds of other local United Ways across the country. The goals are:

1. Education: To cut the number of high school dropouts in half.
2. Income: To cut in half the number of lower-income families who are financially unstable.
3. Health: Increase by one third the number of youth and adults who are healthy and avoid risky behaviors.

Investment Circles, comprised of local volunteers, reviewed the proposals for the Education and Income focus areas. The Investment Circles reviewed a total of 21 proposals from 17 agencies in Lenawee County and then made funding recommendations to the Lenawee United Way Board of Directors.

The following **programs** will receive funding to work towards the goal to cut the number of high school dropouts in half:

- Kindergarten Prep - Adrian Community Preschool: \$36,000
- Lenawee's CHILD - Lenawee Intermediate School District: \$25,000
- Integrated Student Support - Communities in Schools of Lenawee: \$25,000
- Academic Based Mentoring - Boys and Girls Club of Lenawee: \$20,000
- Youth Start - Goodwill Industries of Southeast Michigan: \$15,000
- Total Quality Systems - Communities in Schools of Tecumseh: \$9,000

The following **programs** will receive funding to work towards the goal to cut in half the number of lower-income families who are financially unstable:

- Housing First - Lenawee Emergency and Affordable Housing Corporation (LEAHC): \$31,500
- Complete Approach to Self-Sufficiency (CASS) - Community Action Agency: \$31,500
- Family Support Program - Child Care Network: \$24,500
- Workers on Wheels - Goodwill Industries of Southeast Michigan: \$21,000
- Financial Stability through Home-ownership - Habitat for Humanity of Lenawee: \$15,000
- CASS Mini Individual Development Accounts (IDA) - Community Action Agency: \$6,500

An additional \$130,000 will soon be available for non-profit programs working toward the health goal. This work was put on hold pending the release of the data from the community health assessment.

Lenawee United Way realizes that to achieve the goals in education, income and health, individuals need to have their basic needs met. In an effort to achieve this, Lenawee United Way will award \$85,000 in mini-grants, beginning in August, to nonprofit agencies who can address these needs.

Other funds invested back to Lenawee County from Lenawee United Way in 2012 include:

- \$43,000 in grants will be available this summer for programs outside of the Adrian area through Community Fund Distribution.
- An estimated \$130,000 in donor choice designations will be distributed to 28 agencies.
- \$40,000 will be allocated to Lenawee 2-1-1, to provide information and referral service to County residents.