



2015 Skaggs Legacy Endowment Grant Recipients and Project Details

Recipients are listed by amount of award, largest to smallest

Health Guides: A Collaborative Community Health Worker Program

\$147,814 CoxHealth

Through community collaboration, Health Guides improves access to healthcare for uninsured residents of Stone and Taney counties by using Community Health Workers (CHWs) to help people overcome barriers to receiving needed care. CHWs connect people to health and social services to improve health outcomes, access, and quality of care. Health Guides expects to impact 530 uninsured and underinsured residents of Stone and Taney counties who have a history of chronic illness, have used the emergency department multiple times throughout the year, and have complex social issues that affect their health and ability to access care. Health Guides participants will be able to better manage their health and have fewer barriers to actualizing care. This collaboration will work toward creating a sustainable model for lasting change in the Tri-Lakes area.

Healthy Bundles

\$109,193 Stone County Health Department

Healthy Bundles is a program designed to provide free home visits and free newborn case management to cultivate and strengthen nurturing parent-child relationships. The overall goal with Healthy Bundles is to promote positive parenting, to encourage child health and development and to prevent child abuse and neglect. Visits are conducted by the Stone County Health Department Community Health Nurse leading up to and following the birth of a child, through the first year of life. The program also offers a series of parenting classes to address issues such as breastfeeding, safe sleep, hygiene, car seat safety and secondhand smoke. This program follows the Healthy Families America Program, which is an evidence-based best practice home visiting program.

Affordable Access to Care

\$91,054 Faith Community Health

Research indicates that poor health outcomes and chronic disease plague the nation's communities due to lack of resources and education among vulnerable populations, leading to poor health management. A community-based approach to managing the health of vulnerable populations ensures that a proactive model of care delivery is offered to underserved areas. With the support of grant funding from the Skaggs Foundation and partnerships with Cox Medical Center Branson and other community partners, Faith Community Health (FCH) is able to serve our communities through this approach. FCH provides quality and affordable

healthcare services, with a “whole health” model of care delivery. FCH offers wellness promotion and chronic disease management through preventive services, which positively impacts the health of our population, and keeps patients out of the emergency department. Through the support of this program, FCH has expanded its footprint, allowing for increased access to necessary healthcare services for vulnerable populations.

Grow Healthy

\$86,177 OWN it Unhealthy Body Weight Action Team

Grow Healthy is a Skaggs Foundation grant funded initiative that is implemented by the Ozarks Public Health Institute at Missouri State University under the umbrella of OWN it. The main goal of Grow Healthy is to reduce the prevalence of overweight and obese youth in Stone and Taney counties. The project includes evidence based physical education/activity curriculum and training to elementary schools and after school programs, visits to a local farm and a school based “Chef to School” program to help educate children about food and that healthy eating can be fun.

CenteringPregnancy

\$77,096 Cox Medical Center Branson

CenteringPregnancy is a model of group care that integrates the three major components of care: health assessment, education and support, into a unified program within a group setting. Eight to 12 women with similar gestational ages meet together, learning care skills, participating in a facilitated discussion, and developing a support network with other group members. Through this unique model of care, women are empowered to choose health-promoting behaviors. The CenteringPregnancy program is evidence-based with the goal of increasing access to prenatal care, improving birth outcomes (decreasing preterm and low birth weight deliveries) and increasing breastfeeding rates at CMCB by providing group prenatal visits and social support.

SOAR: Mental Health Trauma Intervention Program

\$63,524 Missouri State University

Project SOAR is a collaborative effort between the Ozarks Public Health Institute, Taney and Stone county health departments, Faith Community Health and several churches in the area. The goal of the project is to reduce suffering in the community by directly treating self-identified trauma in community members. For the first two years of the project, the priority population served has been adults with school-aged children in the hopes of proactively reducing the impact of parental trauma on children. It has become clear that there are many children suffering from their own trauma, and many adults without school-aged children, who are suffering from the impact of untreated trauma. This grant will extend previous work.

Senior Nursing Student Scholarships

\$63,000 College of the Ozarks

Scholarship assistance to College of the Ozarks Nursing Program seniors ensures the success of graduates, aids in breaking the cycle of poverty through successful careers in the healthcare industry, decreases the regional RN shortage, and assists in making Stone and Taney counties healthier. Senior Nursing Scholarships will be awarded for the amount of \$6,300 per student to assist in covering the cost of room and board and other fees incurred during the final year of their college career. These scholarships are designated to students who are committed to spending at least a year working in the health industry in Stone or Taney county. The College of the Ozarks Nursing Program graduated its 100th nurse in May of 2015. The mission of College of the Ozarks is to provide the advantages of a Christian education to youth of both sexes, especially to those who are found worthy, but are without sufficient means to procure such

training. According to the college, 90 percent of the student body must demonstrate financial need and all students work at one of the nearly 100 work stations on campus.

Meet the Doc

\$51,825 OWN it Access Action Team

OWN it's Access to Care Team focuses efforts on aligning local health and wellness initiatives, promoting healthy communities and enabling residents to take ownership of their personal health. The Access to Care Team developed the Meet the Doc initiative to introduce health professionals across multiple disciplines and community partners offering ancillary services to those that would otherwise not have access to such resources. Both transportation and access to care are barriers faced by many of the area's underserved population. This type of model breaks through these barriers as services are brought to a central location with transportation provided for follow up care. Services include medical, dental, insurance, food stamps, food pantries, Medicaid enrollment, tobacco cessation, Hepatitis C testing, immunizations, and mammography screening services among others. Each event is specific to the location and population served in terms of services provided.

Doula Services in Stone & Taney Counties

\$47,957 Doula Foundation

The Doula Services in Stone and Taney counties project funded by a Skaggs Legacy Endowment grant will continue to provide support for at-risk mothers and their babies. Prenatally, the doula begins building a relationship and establishing trust, engaging the mother in an exploration of the baby's development and expectations for parenthood. The doula promotes prenatal maternal-child attachment and covers topics such as nutrition, first and second-hand smoking, breastfeeding, labor and delivery, and infant care. Case management is also provided as the mother begins to identify and develop a support network. After medical, social, and environmental needs are identified, assessments are administered to determine levels of anxiety and depression. When needed, Doula Services may also make referrals to community services. Doula Foundation of Mid-America doulas are on call for four weeks surrounding the birth. The doula also accompanies the mother to the hospital and begins continuous physical, emotional, and informational support during labor and delivery. The doula can suggest comfort measures and involve family members or the baby's father in caring for the mother and bonding with the baby. While research has demonstrated the positive impact of doulas for women across a variety of socioeconomic categories, women living in poverty, or women who lack healthy and positive systems of support often face enormous challenges that can contribute to a variety of prenatal, birth and postpartum health concerns. The support and mentorship of a doula can be particularly beneficial in such cases and can also reduce the medical costs associated with potential birth interventions and postpartum hospital re-admission.

School Based Dental Services

\$44,000 Fordland Clinic

Tri-Lakes Community Health Center, an affiliate of Fordland Clinic, is a nonprofit community health center. Fordland Clinic seeks to serve everyone, regardless of income or insurance status. Fordland Clinic currently offers family practice and dental services, with mental health, telehealth, and urgent care services coming soon. Fordland Clinic accepts most insurance, Medicaid and Medicare, and offers a sliding fee scale, based on income, for the uninsured. Funding from Skaggs Foundation has allowed the clinic to implement a school-based dental program in the Reeds Spring and Blue Eye school districts. A team of dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants visit schools once or twice per year to perform dental screenings, exams, x-rays, cleanings, fluoride varnish and sealants, as appropriate.

**Healthy Kids, Productive Graduates
\$38,204 Taneyville R-II School District**

A few years ago, the Taneyville School District chose to eliminate the school nurse position in an effort to save money. The school nurse responsibilities were added to the building secretary's position. While this did result in a savings, with no formal training or background in healthcare, the secretary did the best she could. This grant will provide a full-time nurse who will help establish collaborative relationships with Taney County community healthcare resources, educate staff on nursing best practice protocols and procedures, and assist with the development of a nurse-sharing program to be implemented at the conclusion of this grant cycle. At that time, the district will continue with a half-time nurse, shared with a neighboring school district. The program will enable both districts to enjoy the benefits of a school nurse, at half the cost to each district.

**Emergency Dental Services
\$24,909 Christian Associates of Table Rock Lake**

Christian Associates will use the grant funding to continue assisting residents of Stone County with access to dental care through Tri Lakes Community Health. Many people turn to Christian Associates of Table Rock Lake in need of assistance, such as homelessness prevention and a domestic violence center. Oftentimes, these people are also in desperate need of oral health care. It is the goal of Christian Associates to be the conduit to provide access to better health for the community.

**Public Access Defibrillation Program
\$18,168 Taney County Ambulance District**

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in America today, and can cause heart failure or, as it's commonly called, a heart attack. The percentage of lives saved from a sudden cardiac arrest increases dramatically when three things happen in a timely manner: immediate CPR followed by immediate defibrillation (AED), rapid advanced life support intervention and transport to the closest hospital. This is referred to as the "chain of survival." When one link is missing, the chain breaks. Currently, the weakest link is having AEDs in locations where there is a high probability of an incident but functional equipment is not available. By putting the right tools in the hands of the right people, Taney County Ambulance District can increase the chance of survival from a sudden cardiac arrest. It is the goal of Taney County Ambulance District to assist first responders, schools and businesses by placing AEDs at as many of these locations and agencies as possible. Chances of surviving a sudden cardiac arrest increases when trained personnel with the right tools and emergency service agencies collaborate during a cardiac emergency. Skaggs Legacy Endowment funds will provide for the purchase of 21 additional AEDs in Taney County.

**Mental Health Clinic
\$16,200 Christian Associates of Table Rock Lake**

Christian Associates will use the grant funding to assist residents of Stone County with access to professional mental health counseling, through a partnership between Christian Associates and Burrell Behavioral Health. The goal of the grant is to serve unmet mental and emotional needs of Stone County by providing access to licensed counseling from Burrell Behavioral Health at the Christian Associates main campus located in Kimberling City. This grant not only assists residents of the county who are in need, but will also provide victims of domestic violence, who are guests at Christian Associate's regional center, with access to professional mental health care.

Dental X-ray Equipment

\$5,000 Children's Smile Center

Children's Smile Center provides preventive and primary dental care for children and expectant mothers with active Medicaid from a six county area. The funds from Skaggs Foundation will be used to purchase a Nomad intra-oral x-ray system for the Children's Smile Center's Branson West clinic. This is a handheld machine that makes taking x-rays more effective and efficient when working with children.

Cents of Pride

\$5,000 Gift of Hope

The Skaggs Legacy Endowment Grant will provide students at Forsyth School District, grades 5-12, health and hygiene supplies through the Cents of Pride program. Gift of Hope started this program after it was recognized that their Backpack Club was not reaching hungry, older students who were too embarrassed to accept a handout or "charity." Through the Cents of Pride program, students take ownership of their purchases and are proud to reap the benefits of making good choices. Every student has the opportunity to receive "pride bucks" to shop in the Cents of Pride store, ensuring that no student is singled out as having a need. Not only does this program provide health and hygiene supplies, it also teaches life skills like budgeting and saving.

Mobile Medical Unit

\$5,000 Stone County Health Department

The Stone County Health Department's Mobile Medical Unit is a medical clinic on wheels. After acquiring Stone County Library's Bookmobile for \$1, the Stone County Health Department converted the Bookmobile into "Wellness on Wheels." The purpose of this vehicle is to provide preventative and basic health services to area residents, including immunizations to children and adults, blood draws for cholesterol, blood sugar and PSA testing. They will also provide screenings such as Hepatitis C, STD testing, pregnancy testing, blood pressure checks as well as height and weight measurements.

Galena on the Move

\$4,900 Galena Vision of Hope

Galena Vision of Hope is filling the need for a community health and fitness program by continuing the successful Galena on the Move program. This program provides classes in physical fitness, including over-50 workouts, Pilates, cardio workouts and balance improvement; a better, safer walking/running trail; continued supervision of weight loss goals by the Stone County Health Center; healthy eating education; competitive sports such as volleyball and canoeing; and a dog walking group. The mission of Galena Vision of Hope is to promote civic pride, encourage economic development, foster a positive community identity, promote healthy living and encourage excellence in the Galena school system for the city of Galena and the surrounding trade area. Galena Vision of Hope believes a healthy community is basic to achieving all other goals.

Youth Sports Scholarships

\$4,500 City of Branson Parks and Recreation Department

The Skaggs Legacy Endowment Grant will be utilized by the Branson Parks & Recreation Department to support and enhance the youth sports scholarship program. The program is designed to offer opportunities for area youth, specifically in Taney and Stone counties, to participate in youth sports at a minimal cost. So far in 2015, more than 125 youth have been awarded scholarships through the parks department. Through the scholarship program, the

Branson Parks & Recreation Department hopes to address a need for families who may not have the means for their children to participate in youth sports. It is our goal to increase participation through the scholarship program so that more area children are able to receive the long-term health benefits exercise and an active lifestyle provide. In addition, the funding provided through this Legacy grant will allow the parks department to expand scholarship opportunities into swim lessons which they believe is a necessary skill for all children.

Equip Our First Responders

\$3,250 Cedar creek Volunteer Fire Protection District

Cedar creek Fire Protection District is a 100 percent volunteer department. The Cedar creek Volunteer Fire Protection District serves a community of approximately 460 full time residents, more than 50 square miles, and where the median age is 51. Medical calls have increased over the years as the Cedar creek community ages. Of the 25 medical calls the fire district received in 2014, 13 were heart attack and stroke related. It is critical that the fire district volunteers arrive quickly with the proper equipment on hand, as ambulance response time can be more than 30 minutes and the closest hospital is an hour away. Grant funding will provide for the purchase of two new AED units.