



Women's Fund grants help women and girls

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(Photo: The Women's Fund Advisory Committee, front row L-R: Edie Humphrey, Billie Brandon, Carol Chambers, Thelda Dillon, Co-Chair Judie Collins, Jeanne Meisse and Suzanne Davis. Back Row L-R: Carolyn Carto, Sally Gesouras, Jill Haring, Paula Cohen and Chair Judy Gibson.)

MANSFIELD - The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation conducted its annual luncheon November 12 to celebrate National Philanthropy Day and to announce its 2014-15 grants.

The Women's Fund grant focus this year is women and girls with a preference for parenting programs. Just over \$15,200 in grants were awarded to the following agencies and programs:

Community Action for Capable Youth for the Not One Puff program Tracee Anderson Executive Director

Pregnant and parenting teens will be offered one-one-one prevention services over the course of their pregnancy and the first three months of newborn care. Participants will receive a self-help manual and a "quit kit" containing tobacco cessation items to help the pregnant teen avoid or quit smoking and/or nicotine use. Resource materials will also be available to household members to avoid second-hand smoke in the home.

Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council for the Power of the Circle program Tammy Wharton Executive Director

A series of sessions will be held during the girls' gym classes at Madison Junior High School. The program will sensitize girls to relational aggression issues, highlight characteristics of healthy relationships and empower them to resist bullying and defend against it. One female care-provider per girl will be invited to attend an after-school Power of the Circle session.

City of Mansfield Ocie Hill for the Girl – It's in the Basket program Program Coordinators Sherri Jones and Lisa Hall

The program will provide five home visits to 25 mothers in need. On the first visit, mothers will receive a laundry basket which then will be filled at each visit with non-food household goods and educational information related to parenting using the Help Me Grow Building Piece of Mind model.

**Parent Aide for the Enriching Foundations for Moms program
Executive Director Lorie Daugherty and Program Coordinator Lisa Burgett**

This program will help ensure that mothers who seek child abuse prevention supportive help will receive it. The grant will help address the gap while a more permanent plan is established to fund mentoring services to mothers who are facing challenges. Mothers who complete this program will demonstrate an increased ability to manage stress, set and accomplish meaningful goals and learn problem solving skills.

Women's Fund Advisory Committee chair Judy Gibson thanked donors for their generosity. In August, the Women's Fund Endowment surpassed the \$1 million mark which was built with small and large contributions from hundreds of donors. The fund has granted over \$265,000 in Richland County since 1998.

The mission of The Women's Fund of the Richland County Foundation is to promote philanthropy among women, and to establish a permanent fund to empower women to achieve their full potential.

For more information on the Women's Fund go to rcfoundation.org.