

Thanks to hundreds of volunteers and shoppers at the 2019 Rummage Sale, we were able to designate \$80,000 in grant funds. We received a record number of applications, 47 from non-profit organizations. We approved 24 requests that we believed would have the greatest impact on the largest number of women and children with sustainable programs—programs that would provide women and children with education and/or skills to become self sufficient and develop a sense of self worth. Of those 24, 7 went to organizations in Africa, 1 in Puerto Rico, and 16 local non-profits. Every year we ask our grant recipients to provide a report and pictures of how the funds were used. The following slides summarize those reports.

### **Bwafwano Care Providers – Zambia**

Is located in Zambia and serves youth and adults with special needs, the most underserved population in Africa. Their goal is to provide quality education and life skills so participants can become self-reliant. Our funds supported classes in writing, math, cooking, baking and sewing skills. There was enough money to plant crops of corn and beans. Proceeds from the sale of the crops will benefit their programs.

### **J.P. Schools – Zambia**

Also located in Zambia, their goal is to provide quality education to vulnerable children. For the past two years, their school has been without consistent clean water. They had to dig a well and manually fetch water in buckets. With our funds they now have a clean fresh water supply which is pumped from underground and stored in a water tank. The rest of our funds were used to purchase a printer on which tests and learning resources are copied, saving an enormous amount of time for teachers. In the picture is Rev John Kalambo, who runs the school, and his wife (Phelile).

### **Uganda Counseling & Support Services**

Working to improve the lives of women and children in Uganda one community at a time. Funds used to renovate the Tailoring Center creating room for more students. The Center was locked down once stay-at-home orders were issued earlier in the year and training students came to a halt. Currently the previously trained tailoring team are offering apprenticeships to young girls. They've been able to make a few school uniforms that they hope to sell next year.

### **Wandikweza – Malawi**

Wandikweza used our grant to purchase books, furniture, digital tablets and paint for walls in the Children's Corner of the Ebenezer Community Library. The library is one of only two public libraries in the Dowa district of Malawi providing services to more than 500 children. It will be the first library to create a conducive environment for children to learn to read and have access to books. They sent so many pictures I just had to use all of them!

### **Samuel Culpeper Methodist Church – Hatillo, Puerto Rico**

Hatillo was an area of PR hardest hit by hurricane Maria in late 2017. The church started a Bless the School project in 2019. Working alongside members from Church of the Resurrection, they helped build the very first musical classroom in a Puerto Rican public school. This school, near the church, received musical instruments and an air conditioning unit from our funds Their hope is that music lessons will provide an outlet for the youth and keep them away from less positive influences.

## **Amethyst Place**

Serves women recovering from substance abuse by providing housing and services for them and their children. Funding from UMW offset the cost of supplies and meals for the Encompass mentoring program comprised of 50 moms and 100 mentors. This program pairs a mom with two mentors who are already friends providing a model of how healthy relationships can be sustained over time and providing more positive social networks to help prevent the moms from relapsing into addiction. Even though in-person programming was suspended, mentors are staying in touch by phone, text, and video calls.

## **Brothers in Blue Reentry Inc/LEAD (Ladies Empowered and Driven)**

Early this year, Brothers in Blue started their first group of 10 women in the Ladies Empowered and Driven program, otherwise known as the LEAD program, at the Topeka Correctional Facility. Unfortunately, once stay-at-home issues were ordered, LEAD classes were postponed. However, they were able to successfully transition from in-person learning to having participants complete and submit homework via mail on a weekly basis. Our grant funded curriculum as part of the Path to Freedom faith-based reentry program. This programming has a proven track record over many years of reducing recidivism among its graduates.

## **Flourish Furnishings**

FF started out as an outreach of Resurrection. Their mission is to improve lives by providing essential home furnishings to those seeking housing stability. Our funds were used to purchase 37 ready-to-assemble dresser kits which were assembled by volunteers. Dressers are rarely donated yet are one of the most frequently requested items by families.

## **Healing House**

Healing House provides recovery support and housing for those in the KC area suffering from substance. Our grant provided bassinets for 6 rooms in Madeline's Swaddle House (this is where moms and babies are housed). They also purchased dressers, diapers and 8 car seats for the mothers to use. Unfortunately, HH has seen double the number of participants in their programs due to COVID-19, and with these funds have been able to offer assistance to all moms requesting support services during the Pandemic.

## **Heartland Therapeutic Riding Inc.**

The mission of HTR is to serve children and adults with disabilities and to improve quality of life through horse-riding activities and therapies. Our grant funded scholarships for children to learn to ride, none of whom would have been able to participate without this financial assistance. For many of the participants, riding is the only physical activity they get other than walking around their house. Riding also provides a sense of freedom and mobility rarely experienced elsewhere in their lives. Children benefit not only physically, but also emotionally because of the bond with her horse, other participants, and team of volunteers.

## **Inclusion Connections**

This organization offers job readiness classes, job coaching and job placement to young adults with developmental disabilities living in Johnson County. Participants learn to bake dog treats, sew dog bandanas, make pet toys, and work in Paws retail and mobile pop-up stores. Our grant ensured that participants got to and from their jobs every day due to the fact they're unable to drive and most are unable to navigate public transportation. In 2019 the organization served 62 individuals, and attained a job sustainability rate of 95%.

## **Jackson County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)**

CASA serves youth ages 14-21 who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. Life Skills Workshops help make sure older youth have skills needed to make a healthy transition to adulthood whether they reunify with a parent, are adopted, or age out to independent living. Our grant helped provide transportation by van to the Life Skills workshops for several youth who could not have attended otherwise. The grant also funded supplies for the workshops, as well as toiletries and health items provided as giveaways at every workshop. Apparently, self-care items can be hard to come by in foster care. So even though they had to move to virtual workshops, they sent out gift cards for self-care items—which also provided incentive to join in on the Zoom workshops.

## **Kansas City Community Gardens**

KCCG used our grant to support gardens at two area partner agencies who provide direct services to women and children. The first, Journey to New Life in KC serves women re-entering the community after release from prison. The second, Mother's Refuge in Independence, offers a safe haven for homeless pregnant teens and teen moms. Our funding provided seeds, plants and garden supplies, along with training and resources for staff who visit the sites regularly. Because of our investment, mothers and children have been able to gain valuable life skills, establish healthy habits and enjoy a more varied diet.

## **Marian Hope**

MH, a faith-based organization, serves children with learning, behavioral and health challenges, as well as peers without special needs. Both groups are integrated into group therapy classes. Our funding purchased two iPads for their Therapy Center for non-verbal children during group classes and individual therapy. This technology gives them the ability to share wants and needs, and feel included in conversations. During the pandemic, MH was able to loan the iPads to families who did not have technology in their homes allowing necessary services to continue.

## **Migrant Farmworkers Assistance Fund**

The MFAF serves and advocates for families of migrant and seasonal farmworkers located in central MO. Our funds provided supplies for the weekly Women's Group sessions, Girls' Group supplies such as college visit notebooks and teen leadership program supplies. Funds also provided healthy snacks and healthy meals for the Women's and Girls' programs. In the pictures you can see teen girls meeting and social distancing at a park shelter back in June. This group is very popular as the girls learn to develop a sense of self-worth, along with life and relationship skills that lead to academic and career success.

## **Ministry to Incarcerated Families**

M2IF serves women in the Topeka Correctional Facility. Between 150-200 incarcerated women and their families benefit from parenting classes and retreats each year. The women learn positive ways to engage with their children and have healthy relationships with them. In 2020 there have been 68 Active Parenting graduates with 15 more anticipated to graduate by the end of the year. Our funds provided the curriculum for the parenting classes as shown in the picture.

## **Young Women on the Move**

Provides after-school programming for girls in middle and high schools in KCK. They had planned to use our funds to purchase and install an exhaust hood and fire suppression system for their Culinary Center. Future plans are to train young women in culinary and customer services skills. However, they recently learned the exhaust hood is no longer required because of a change in how their organization is classified. This is very good news because the exhaust hood was going to be very expensive. Their most pressing need is to have fire alarms installed in the building which they hope to have accomplished by the end of the year. They don't have pictures of that so they sent a picture of participants from Schlagle High School.

## **OTHER GRANT RECIPIENTS**

The following either did not send a report or sent a report without pictures.

### **Grassroots – From the People, For the People – Tanzania**

Funds were intended to provide scholarships for two young adults from Angel House Orphanage. One was to complete pharmacy school and the other medical officer training this year.

### **Pothawira International – Malawi**

UMW funds purchased a portable diagnostic ultrasound probe for use in their medical clinic's birthing center. In Malawi 1 out of 8 women dies due to birth-related complications. The probe will be instrumental in detecting issue early in pregnancies. Unfortunately, travel to Malawi was suspended due to the Coronavirus, so the ultrasound hasn't been delivered. However, plans are to travel there in early 2021.

### **United Methodist Women in Malawi**

Plans were to use the grant for tuition fees, as well as tools, work suits and safety boots for underprivileged women and youth to attend vocational schools to learn trades such as tailoring, hairdressing, plumbing, bricklaying, and electrical skills.

### **Avenue of Life**

Funds were to be used to support wrap-around case management services to families in Wyandotte County—the county with the highest poverty rates in the Greater KC area.

### **Grace United Community Ministries Inc – KCMO**

They planned to purchase a security system for the Grace campus and items for their pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Grace is located in a high-crime neighborhood and constantly working toward greater safety for children, staff and tutors.

### **Pharmacy of Grace**

Last fall and into the winter they had lined up other funders; however, once the Covid-19 pandemic hit, all of those funders turned their entire attention to organizations already functioning in an attempt to keep them open so plans were put on hold. Our grant is still earmarked for prescription drugs for the uninsured once additional funding is secured.

### **This recipient returned their funds:**

#### **New Creation**

Funds were approved to apply toward the cost of a vehicle to transport participants to various programs. However, they ceased operations, no longer have any residents, and thus no longer had a need for a vehicle and returned their funds to us.