

Schmeeckle Foundation Awards \$362,087.98 in Grants

Martin County, Minn., April 2, 2019 – The Schmeeckle Foundation recently approved grants totaling \$362,087.98 for community enhancement projects in Martin County.

These grants support the Schmeeckle Foundation's three core focus areas: early childhood care and education, serving the disabled and elderly, and promoting the arts. The Schmeeckle Foundation is a private family foundation serving Martin County, Minnesota, whose mission is to carry on the legacy of long-time Martin County resident, Juanita Ellen (Teubner) Schmeeckle, to provide grants for the betterment of Martin County.

"The Schmeeckle Foundation Grants are designed to support projects that are innovative, involve collaboration and achieve sustainable, measurable results," says the Schmeeckle Foundation Trustees. Grants are reviewed by the four trustees with assistance from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation. Grants are awarded based on their likelihood to create measurable change in early childhood care and education, serving the disabled and elderly, and promoting the arts. This round of grantees include:

- \$74,500 to Apple Tree Dental for their project "Planning for Expansion of Dental Access for Martin County Residents (Planning Project)" to develop plans to expand access and create dental homes for disadvantaged children, disabled adults, and elders in Martin County and the surrounding areas.
- \$200,000 to "Fairmont Lakes Foundation, Inc. for Wildlife Restoration and Nutrient Filtering Wetlands" (project) in order to increase water quality in the Fairmont Lakes, the quality of Fairmont's drinking water, and to enhance recreational opportunities for all Martin County residents who utilize the lakes for swimming, boating and fishing. Additionally, the project will create a fish spawning area and establish a wetlands habitat for wildlife beneficial for pheasants, ducks, etc. In addition to the aesthetic value of birds and fish, hunters and fishers will reap a greater bounty. This grant is pending based on legislative approval and funding.
- \$50,000 to Fairmont Area Schools for "Student Musicians in Need" to increase band and orchestra equipment for students.
- \$20,000 to Martin County West Schools for MCW Band Instruments.

Applications for the next granting period are due April 30, 2019.

In addition to the above grants, the following small grants were also awarded. These grants were reviewed by the Foundation's advisory committee, and approved by the Foundation:

- \$1,500 to Martin County 4-H to expand and reach more youth through their 4-H Performing Arts Project Club.
- \$1,500 to Martin County West School for their Robotics Program.
- \$1,500 to Human Services/Children's Dental Services to provide for a Dental Mobile Unit.
- \$1,500 to Human Services/Children's Dental Services to support dental hygiene.
- \$1,500 to St. John Vianney Hope Shop for food, clothing, and household items.
- \$1,500 to Martin County West School for band and choir programs.
- \$1,500 to Fairmont Opera House for Holiday Hoopla.
- \$1,500 to Granada Huntley East Chain School for sensory items.
- \$1,373 to Fairmont Youth Hockey Association for a water bottle filling station and new helmets.
- \$1,500 to Granada Huntley East Chain School for the performance and educational music trip to Branson, MO.
- \$1,492.98 to Fairmont Opera House for booster seats and new cushions.
- \$350 to Martin County West Schools for Pint Size Polka Performance Program.
- \$1,200 to Martin County Pheasants Forever for flower pollinating project to educate high school seniors and benefit senior citizens residing in assisted living.

Watch our website for further information. For details on applying for a Schmeckle Foundation Grant, or to learn about our trustees and advisory committee please visit our website at schmecklefoundation.org.