

SCHMEECKLE FOUNDATION

*"Providing Grants for the
Betterment of Martin County,
Minnesota"*

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 07/13/17

Schmeeckle Foundation

204 Lake Avenue

Suite 201

Fairmont, MN 56031

www.schmeecklefoundation.org

For more information contact:

Shirley Maschoff

Trustee

507-399-0216 ext. 2

smaschoff@krahmerfarms.com

Schmeeckle Foundation Awards \$81,148 in Grants

Martin County, Minn., July 13, 2017 – The Schmeeckle Foundation recently approved eight grants totaling \$81,148 for 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 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.

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Grants are reviewed by the four trustees with assistance from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation and the Schmeeckle Foundation grant committee. Grants are awarded based on their likelihood to create measurable change in early childhood care and education, serving the disabled and elderly, and the arts. This round's grantees include:

- \$17,000 to Fairmont Youth Hockey Association's Skate on Us project to provide funding for free open skating and skate rentals to those 18 years old and younger and replace 120 pairs of youth rental skates and music equipment.
- \$2,500 in partnership with the city of Truman and the Truman Baseball Association to benefit disabled children in the community.
- \$20,000 to the Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center for the Lakeview Cuisine project which provides meals for the Lakeview campus, as well as Meals-on-Wheels, Senior Dining, Head Start, and beginning this year, Building Blocks daycare. The funding will help upgrade kitchen equipment to increase efficiency.
- \$2,500 to the Martin County 4-H Performing Arts Project Club, an 8-month club for youth in grades 6 – 12, focusing on performing arts lessons and skill development. Participants have the opportunity to attend live performances and participate in professionally-led workshops.
- \$3,700 to Martin County Pheasants Forever for the Pollinator Project, Gruven Wildlife Management Area. In cooperation with Fairmont Public Schools, students will aid in the planting of a 4-acre specialty pollinator plot on public grounds.
- \$5, 448 to MRCI WorkSource, Fairmont, for the Arts Enrichment Inclusion Opportunity project. This program provides a creative outlet for individuals with disabilities.
- \$10,000 to the South Central Minnesota Interpretive Center and Heritage Trails, Inc. for the Protecting the Historical Integrity project. This will go towards re-roofing the barn and re-siding the chapel, preserving the buildings for future use and historical preservation.
- \$20,000 to STEP, Inc., to support a project to increase Martin County's capacity to employ people with disabilities in individual, integrated, community employment. STEP, Inc., will train employees in new job development strategies and will work with local employers and families with the goal of increasing community work opportunities for people with significant disabilities.

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Applications will be accepted for the next round of grants beginning August 1, 2017, and are due September 30, 2017. For details on applying for a Schmeckle Foundation Grant please visit our website at schmecklefoundation.org.

For more information you may contact the Trustees:

James Teubner, Trustee

Phone: 507-236-6411

Email: caroljim71@gmail.com

Profinium, Inc., Trustee

Phone: Stephen Roesner 507-235-7567

Email: StephenR@Profinium.com

Shirley Maschoff, Trustee

Phone: 507-399-0216 Ext. 2

Email: smaschoff@krahmerfarms.com

Fred C. Krahmer, Trustee

Phone: 507-236-5601

Email: fredck@krahmerfarms.com

Providing administrative support to the Schmeckle Foundation:

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation

525 Florence Avenue

Owatonna MN 55060

507-455-3215

JenniferH@smifoundation.org

Schmeckle Foundation Advisory Committee:

Shelia Hohensee

Phone: 507-236-1152

Email: hockeymom305@gmail.com

Char Kahler

Phone: 507-236-4606

Email: chark@kaco.net

Loren Dunham

Phone: 507-238-1172

Email: dunfritz@midco.net