



## **Women's Giving Circle of Harford County 2020 Grant Awards Total Awarded = \$44,220**

### ***CASA of Harford County - \$5,000***

CASA provides volunteers to support and advocate for 142 children and youth in foster care and their families. This funding is used for “extras” (such as Breakfast with Santa for children and their families, summer camp, and tutoring, parent support educational activities, partnership with the Department of Social Services’ Nurturing Parenting Program).

### ***EPICENTER at Edgewood - \$4,000***

Funding partially supports the salary of the case manager at the Edgewood campus who works with female clients who are parents and/or guardians of students at Edgewood High School (EHS) and experiencing poverty, the lack of stable housing, homelessness, addiction, unemployment, unreliable transportation, unmet mental health and basic needs (such as a secure food supply and necessary clothing). The case manager will work with 75 women from Edgewood, Abingdon, and Joppa to assist these individuals and their families by providing referrals/direct services for clothing, food, transportation and housing assistance, hotel vouchers, domestic violence and pregnancy and infant care support, parenting classes, mental health support.

### ***Found in Faith Ministries - \$2,370***

Funding supports the purchase of 105 pillows, 35 twin mattress covers, 20 full mattress covers, and 5 queen mattress covers that are much needed for hygienic reasons and are prohibitively expensive. Priority is given to families and female heads of households. Found in Faith distributes quality, donated home goods and furniture to persons in Harford County with low income and domestic violence survivors, transitioning foster youth, people with disabilities and in recovery, single parents, and veterans.

### ***Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna - \$5,000***

Funding supports the new home build for a single mother with low income (as defined by HUD) and her family who currently reside in Harford County in substandard conditions. The family contributes to the home by providing 250 sweat equity hours per adult, attending financial literacy classes, a home maintenance course, supplying a down payment (\$2,000), and demonstrating the ability to pay the mortgage.

### ***Harford Community Action Agency - \$5,000***

Funding will assist 10 -15 single women or families with children who are currently living in Harford County in shelter or a place not meant for human habitation by providing household items (equivalent to \$300 - \$500 per family) such as pots and pans, kitchen items, towels, blankets, bedding, and toiletries.

***Harford Family House - \$5,000***

Funding supports the purchase of playground equipment for the playground for children residing at Harford Family House. When the application was submitted, there were 48 children in residence, 36 age 12 or under; however, as many as 130 children a year, most under the age of 13, will benefit. The equipment will meet the developmental needs for outdoor play in a positive, safe environment, social skills, and behavior and will be installed by skilled volunteers.

***The Highlands School - \$1,000***

Funding supports the purchase of materials and supplies for two large scale, interactive playground maps (US and world). The maps will be installed by faculty members and parent volunteers and will be used by all students (85), ages 7 to 18, in grades 2 through 12. The maps will be used in the multi-sensory diagnostic instruction provided to the students who demonstrate language-based learning differences.

***LASOS - \$3,500***

Funding supports the Embrace Program, a wraparound service that focuses on strengthening the family, school, and personal life of the student with both diversion and prevention services. The program focus is on youth with low academic achievement, an absentee rate of 8 days or more, low student engagement, disruption in class, issues at home or in the community, and addresses Adverse Child Experiences and will serve 24 youth and their families. Embrace coordinators work collaboratively with HCPS Student Support Services and each student has a plan of care, the outcomes of which are monitored, measured, and reported.

***Mason-Dixon Community Services - \$4,000***

Funding supports the distribution of healthy food, free of charge, to 103 low-income households with 131 school-aged children who receive free and reduced meals during the school year. The backpacks include non-perishable food items as well as fresh fruits and vegetables and milk. Backpacks are distributed every two weeks and include two weeks' worth of food. Recipients return every two weeks, bring the empty backpack, and pick up a full backpack. This program provides roughly \$600 worth of food and approximately 140 nutritious meals and snacks to each backpack participant.

***Pathfinders for Autism - \$5,000***

Funding supports resources for families in Harford County impacted by autism. It will increase the number of Harford County providers in the online provider directory, staff an information table at least one resource fair in the County and collaborate with the Infants and Toddlers Program to support families with a child newly-diagnosed with autism.

***SARC (Sexual Abuse/Spousal Abuse Resource Center) - \$3,350***

Funding supports the purchase of 28 new mattresses for the 28-bed emergency safe house that provides shelter to approximately 200 women each year and their children.

***Young Life - \$1,000***

Funding provides camp scholarships for youth with disabilities ages 14 – 21 to a Young Life camp in Virginia for one week and will also support the family's transportation costs.