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Horseshoe Foundation hands out \$300,000

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NEW ALBANY — The numbers tell the story, but the residents of Floyd County are the ones who reap the rewards from another \$300,000 in grants handed out by the Horseshoe Foundation of Floyd County on Wednesday afternoon.

Since 1999, the Horseshoe Foundation has awarded \$27 million to benefit the residents of the county. And Wednesday, the grants produced more smiles.

Representatives from 30 organizations, schools and churches gathered at the Cardinal Ritter Birthplace site along Oak Street in New Albany to accept their gifts.

“We have so many great organizations in Floyd County who do so many great things for citizens,” said Jerry Finn, executive director of the Horseshoe Foundation of Floyd County. “It energizes us to see all the good work they do.”

Awards were handed out in all amounts, from \$1,960 to the Georgetown Optimist Club, to \$20,000 each to the Floyd Memorial Hospital Foundation and the New Albany-Floyd County Education Foundation. The funds will be used for everything from adding SMART Boards to classrooms to providing a birth simulator for Indiana University Southeast nursing students.

“You are all making a difference,” said Floyd County Commissioner Mark Seabrook, who is president of the Horseshoe Foundation Board, to those gathered in the Ritter House. “We are helping fund it, but you all are the foot soldiers.”

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School received an \$18,168 grant to help renovate its basement for art and music classes as well as the after-care program. Work is under way on the project and the money received Wednesday will help put the finishing touches on the work, according to Shirley Dant, the after-school coordinator at Our Lady.

She said the after-school program takes care of 78 children each day and the basement needed to be remodeled not only for the music class, but also to handle the amount of children involved in the program. She said an extra bathroom is being added, along with windows.

Youth Count received \$10,000 for its efforts to educate individuals in the community to promote positive behavior for children and to help build developmental assets.

“It’s just continuing education,” said Youth Count Director Barbara Bridgwater. “Education comes in a lot of forms. It’s engaging kids and how we as a community can make a difference.”

This year the 26-member Horseshoe grants committee received 42 requests for \$680,000.

The deadline to submit a grant application for the fall cycle is Aug. 31. For more information go to horseshoefoundation.org or call 812-945-4332.

Spring grant recipients

- \$1,960 — Georgetown Optimist Club, to help purchase a room divider to store club equipment.
- \$2,000 — Community Foundation of Southern Indiana, to provide a free dictionary to third-grade students in Floyd County to encourage literacy
- \$2,400 — Parkinson Support Center of Kentuckiana, to expand group exercise class designed for Parkinson’s patients.
- \$3,000 — Riverside Aquatic Club, to provide funds for the purchase of a new scoreboard for Highland Hills Middle School.
- \$4,500 — Clark County Youth Shelter and Family Services, Inc., to supplement programs that address the safety and success of Floyd County families in crisis
- \$4,935 — Sunnyside Master Gardener Association of Southern Indiana, to install a sensory demonstration garden at the Purdue Technology Center to educate and inspire gardeners.
- \$5,000 — Camp Quality Kentuckiana, to fund a week-long camping experience and year round support vehicle for Floyd County children with cancer
- \$5,000 — Louisville Visual Art Association, to help fund the children’s fine art classes program which provides free art classes to children.
- \$5,000 — YPII-Indiana Grantmakers Alliance, to provide 200 family philanthropy gift boxes yo youth serving organizations in Floyd County.
- \$5,297 — IU Southeast School of Natural Sciences, to purchase a computer for computational chemistry and molecular modeling lab.
- \$8,862 — New Albany High School, to purchase iPad 2s for teachers to create learning and teaching opportunities that develop the skills required in order to participate in today’s world.
- \$9,250 — House of Ruth, Inc., to expand outreach efforts so more individuals affected by HIV/AIDS can utilize services for treatment, housing and programming
- \$10,000 — Greenville Elementary School, to install audio enhancement systems in classrooms

- \$10,000 — Clarksville Little Theatre, to purchase a light control board, monitor lighting, fixtures and wiring for the theatre
- \$10,000 — Georgetown Elementary School, to help purchase and install SMART Boards
- \$10,000 — Highland Hills Middle School, to purchase SMART Boards in special education classrooms
- \$10,000 — City of New Albany, to fund the YES! program putting local high school students to work during the summer.
- \$10,000 — Youth Count, to promote positive behavior for our children and youth by building the 40 developmental assets for and with youth
- \$10,000 — Arts Council of Southern Indiana, to support arts education, exhibits and programs in Floyd County
- \$10,000 — Actors Theatre of Louisville, to bring playwriting in the school in-classroom residency to sophomore English classes at Floyd Central High School.
- \$11,200 — S. Ellen Jones Elementary School, to improve safety, attendance and parent relationships with a school public safety officer.
- \$12,500 — IU Southeast School of Nursing, to provide funding for a NOELLE birth simulator and Newborn HAL to be used in the school of nursing.
- \$13,709 — Volunteers of America of Kentucky, Inc., to help fund the upward mobility program which provides handicapped accessible transportation to residents in Floyd County.
- \$15,000 — Holy Family School, to provide wireless Internet access to middle school classrooms to access online textbooks and resources.
- \$16,519 — Down Syndrome of Louisville, Inc., to provide academic tutoring and group classes for adolescents and adults with Down syndrome
- \$17,500 — Regional Youth Services, to purchase new servers to upgrade the technology infrastructure.
- \$18,168 — Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, to renovate the basement area of the school to accommodate a new music area.
- \$18,200 — The Boys & Girls Clubs of Kentuckiana, to provide an out-of-school safe haven for youth which promotes academic success, good character and healthy lifestyles.
- \$20,000 — Floyd Memorial Hospital Foundation, to provide therapeutic massage to patients suffering from cancer, pain or terminal illness.

- \$20,000 — New Albany-Floyd County Education Foundation, to match funds for great classroom projects which will enhance educational experience in the NA-FC classrooms.