

9 share SIA Foundation grants

Journal & Courier - Lafayette, Ind.

Author: MAX SHOWALTER

Date: Jul 3, 2009

Start Page: C.7

Section: BUSINESS

Text Word Count: 557

Document Text

mshowalter@jconline.com

Nine organizations from Monon to Indianapolis shared nearly \$22,000 in grants Thursday from the SIA Foundation.

Established in 1997 with a \$1 million gift from Subaru of Indiana Automotive Inc., the foundation provides financial assistance twice a year to not-for-profit groups involved in the areas of education, arts and culture, and health and welfare.

"(These) impact and enhance the lives of literally thousands of people," said Tom Easterday, senior vice president at SIA and president of the foundation, which has awarded more than \$500,000 in grants during the past 10 years.

"Clearly, the SIA Foundation has had a big impact and will continue to have an impact in the future."

The largest grant awarded Thursday was \$5,122, which Food Finders Food Bank Inc. in Lafayette will use to cover the cost of its recent purchase of a two-door, reach-in freezer that will handle and better display increased food donations from Kroger Co., Sam's Club and Wal-Mart.

"We can't say 'thank you' enough for this. We know this year there has been a need like never before," said Kim Motuliak, Food Finders Food Bank resource director. "We expect by the end of the year to reach an all-time record distribution of 3 million pounds."

Two school corporations received funding from the SIA Foundation.

The Tippecanoe School Corp. was awarded \$1,325 to purchase updated classroom technology equipment for its English as a Second Language program.

North White School Corp. received \$1,600 to purchase new fitness equipment that will be available for use by students, faculty, staff and community members.

The Lafayette Symphony Orchestra was granted \$1,704 to purchase a Roland, 88-key digital piano that can be used for concerts presented at the Tippecanoe Amphitheater and for community education projects around the area.

"With this kind of keyboard, we can pack it up. It weighs 85 to 90 pounds," said LSO executive director Ken Bootsma. "To be able to have something portable -- a big keyboard to take along is wonderful."

Other recipients of SIA Foundation grants included:

Delphi Preservation Society -- \$3,700 to purchase tables, chairs and audio-visual equipment for a new community center in a renovated storefront within the 1864 Delphi City Hall building.

Clinton County Fair Association -- \$4,984 to purchase 70 picnic tables for use at the Clinton County Fairgrounds in Frankfort.

NICHES Land Trust Inc. -- \$1,495 to purchase a projector, screen and traveling display board that can be used to expand the organization's community outreach and education programs.

American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 11 -- \$1,500 to purchase Wii consoles and games that residents of the Indiana Veterans' Home near West Lafayette can use for physical, mental and recreational therapy.

Wheeler Mission Ministries Inc. -- \$519 for acquisition of an 18-cubic foot refrigerator for the Indianapolis agency's residential house and Higher Ground program.

"Nine (grants) is a record. Normally we do between five and eight," Easterday said Thursday. "There are some additional needs that had to be addressed. We feel that with all the needs in the community ... the grants given out today will impact many people."

More funding coming

The SIA Foundation awards grants semiannually to Indiana not-for-profit organizations seeking funding for capital projects in the areas of arts and culture, health and welfare or education.

Grant application materials and more information is available online at www.siafoundation.org or by calling (765) 449-6565.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction or distribution is prohibited without permission.

Abstract (Document Summary)

The largest grant awarded Thursday was \$5,122, which Food Finders Food Bank Inc. in Lafayette will use to cover the cost of its recent purchase of a two-door, reach-in freezer that will handle and better display increased food donations from Kroger Co., Sam's Club and Wal-Mart.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction or distribution is prohibited without permission.