

Women's Fund grants help victims of domestic abuse

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APPLETON -- Single moms, girls talented in math or science and older victims of domestic abuse will benefit from nearly \$16,000 in grants awarded to nonprofit organizations from the **Women's Fund** of the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region. Six agencies received grants ranging from \$800 to \$4,389.

The **Women's Fund** was able to extend its resources with donations totaling \$6,500 from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Kimberly-Clark Corp., King's Daughters of Neenah-Menasha, Great Northern Corp., Associated Wealth Management and Gill-Tech Academy and its students.

The 2003 grant recipients are:

Best Friends of Neenah-Menasha -- Single Mom "Take a Break" Fund (\$3,000): Offers a scheduled respite from the demands of parenthood twice a month for 50 low-income, single mothers with children involved in the Best Friends program.

Boys and Girls Club Fox Valley -- 17th Annual Future Focus Conference (\$1,000): Seeks to inspire fifth- to eighth-grade girls to explore their impact on the community as individuals and future professionals through activities and career workshops hosted by diverse and talented women. This year's conference, held Feb. 22, attracted 260 girls.

CAP Services, Inc. -- "Women as Homeowners" (\$3,000): Works to address the disproportionately low rate of homeownership among female-headed households through targeted marketing and education efforts in Outagamie County. The program will offer a 2:1 match to help families save for homeownership, and offer low-interest, deferred loans to help with down payment and closing costs.

Fox Valley Symphony -- Youth Music Camp Scholarships (\$800): Offers Youth Summer Music Camp scholarships to young women in the FVS youth orchestra program.

Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs -- Older Battered Women's Project (\$4,389): Aims to improve safety, services and support to older victims of abuse, including a 35 percent increase in the number of older battered women served.

Lawrence University -- Partners Reaching Youth in Science and Math (\$3,695): Seeks to encourage girls in their pursuit of science and math by forming one-on-one partnerships between women undergraduates studying science or math at Lawrence and eighth-grade girls at Appleton's Roosevelt Middle School.

The **Women's Fund** was established in 1995 to provide opportunities for donors to create, promote and support programs that help area women and girls manage and enhance their lives. The **Women's Fund** has distributed grants totaling \$94,600 since 1997.

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