

Neighborhood Services' Newsletter

620 Mulberry, Waterloo, IA 50703

Phone: 319-291-9145

Fax: 319-291-4431



Volume 10, Issue 8

Feb 2010

Community Foundation Grants \$272,026 to Community Organizations

At the December board meeting of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, the board of directors approved a total of \$272,026 in grants to 23 Black Hawk County non-profit organizations. The awards were announced Thursday during a ceremony at the Community Foundation's Philanthropy Center in the US Bank building in Waterloo. The following is a list of Black Hawk County discretionary grantees and the program or fund that received a Fall 2009 grant award from the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.

Arts & Culture: Hawkeye Community College (2009-2010 Hawkeye Celebrates the Arts Series).

Community Affairs & Development: Covenant Medical Center (RSVP support of Prime Time); Waterloo Leisure Services (Pat Bowsby off leash Dog Park)

Education: Consumer Credit Counseling Service of NE Iowa (Money Map High School Literacy Program); Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (Waterloo East High I-Jag for 2010-2011 School year).

Health: American Heart Association, Inc (Go Red for Women Luncheon event in BHC); National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Sponsor Town Hall Event for MS); Allen Women's Health (To establish a Child Protection Center).

Historic Preservation: Grout Museum District (Museum School student registration fees).

Human Services: Big Brothers/Big Sisters (AMACHI: Mentoring Children of Prisoners in Black Hawk County); Communities in Schools (Success Street); Family and Children's Council of Black Hawk County (Parent Education Programming); Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois (Youth Leadership Development Outreach); Grin and Grow Ltd. (Quality Early Childhood education services); Northeast Iowa Food Bank (Cedar Valley Food Pantry); Variety-The Children's Charity (Bikes for Kids); YWCA of Black Hawk County (Childcare programs financial assistance).

The Community Foundation is a permanent public charity built by donations from individuals, families, organizations and businesses. For over 53 years, residents of the Cedar Valley have been turning to the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa to help their community. For more information, contact the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa at (319) 287-9106 or visit www.cfneia.org. Now accepting online donations.



Haiti Quake Relief

Undoubtedly, you have seen news reports of the devastating earthquake which recently struck Haiti's most densely populated area. The devastation is immense. Our beloved and talented Haitian artists, their friends, families, and neighbors are in great peril. They are in desperate need of food, water, shelter and medical care.

The Waterloo Center for the Arts, Friends of the Art Center, and the national chapter of the Haitian Art Society have partnered to establish a Haiti Quake Relief Fund.

We urge you to show your appreciation for the cultural gifts that Haiti has bestowed upon us by helping the Haitian people in their time of need. Please consider a generous contribution to this fund, or any other charitable organization providing emergency relief in Haiti.

For more information or to make a contribution to the *Friends of the Art Center Haiti Quake Relief Fund* by credit card, please contact the Waterloo Center for the Arts by phone at 319-291-4490. For more information about the Waterloo Center for the Arts and Friends of the Art Center, please visit our website at www.waterloocenterforthearts.org.

For information about the Haitian Art Society, visit www.haitianartsociety.org.

\$1,000 Art Scholarships Available

Friends of the Art Center to award scholarships, deadline is April 16

Waterloo, IA – The Waterloo Center for the Arts and Friends of the Art Center is now accepting submissions for the Raymond T. Forsberg and the Marilyn S. Hurley \$1,000 college scholarships.

These two art scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors wanting to pursue a post-secondary education in the arts (art education, graphic design/graphic communications, fine arts, photography, etc.). A panel of art professionals will select the scholarship winners based on students' application, essay, portfolio, transcript, SAT/ACT scores, and letters of recommendation. **All application materials are due by 5:00pm on Friday, April 16, 2010.** The two scholarship winners will be notified by mail the first week in May, with an honors reception following later that month.

Students can download an application at www.waterloocenterforthearts.org, pick up an application in person, or request one by contacting the Waterloo Center for the Arts at (319) 291-4490 or museum@waterloo-ia.org.

The Waterloo Center for the Arts works in partnership with the community to build a stronger appreciation for the arts and to provide cultural experiences for people of all ages. For more information, call (319) 291-4490 or visit www.waterloocenterforthearts.org.

WELLNESS FAIR PLANNED AT YWCA

(WATERLOO, IA, January 20, 2010) – The YWCA of Black Hawk County will offer a wellness fair from 7 to 9 a.m. on Thursday, February 3 (doors will open at 6:50 a.m.). The event is free and open to the public and both men and women are encouraged to attend.

The YWCA will be offering wellness information, free body fat analysis and blood pressure screening. Exhibits from area agencies include; Allen Hospital Gambling Program, Alzheimer's Association, Black Hawk County Health Department featuring hawk-i insurance and dental and lead poisoning awareness, Black Hawk Grundy Mental Health, Body Basics Physical Therapy, Family Health Chiropractic, Hawkeye Valley Area Agency on Aging, Operation Threshold, Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Seniors Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) and Waterloo Community Schools, among others. For more information contact the YWCA at 234-7589 or visit www.ywcabhc.org.

Living With Less Saturday, February 20

Presented by:

Iowa State University Extension - Black Hawk County,
the Catholic parish's in Waterloo and the YWCA

Workshop at:

YWCA, 425 Lafayette Street, Waterloo

Registration:

\$5.00 per person (scholarships available-ask when pre-registering at 234-6811)

Childcare:

Free to families attending-pre-registration required

If you would like a free subscription to this newsletter contact Neighborhood Services via email at perry.goodman@waterloo-ia.org or call 319-291-9145

Now Open and Available:
**THE CEDAR VALLEY
 HOSPITALITY HOUSE**

*Providing Day-time Shelter, Support and
 Encouragement to Those in Need*

What: The Cedar Valley Hospitality House is an inter-faith volunteer organization which provides day-time shelter, support and encouragement to the homeless and those in need.

* Services offered: coffee/tea and snacks, showers, clean clothes, computer/internet access, local telephone access, referral to community services, and light meals on weekends

Where: 1003 Mulberry Street (corner of 8th & Mulberry) in downtown Waterloo

When: Open 7 days a week, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Why: Our mission is to uphold the dignity and value of every human person by providing shelter, basic amenities, and a listening ear to individuals who are homeless or in need.

* Contact us at (319) 234-1311 *

Black Hawk County Extension is sponsoring a **Connecting Adults and Youth to Enhance Environmental Literacy Workshop** on Monday, **February 15, 5-8:30 p.m.**, at George Washington **Carver Academy** (1505 Logan Ave., Waterloo). If you have another neighborhood groups newsletter going out in the next two weeks, would you please include the article below? Also, please share the information and/or attached flyer with anyone else who might be interested.

REGISTRATION: By Tuesday, February 9, 2010, please complete the following form and return it to Kendra Crooks, Black Hawk County Extension, 3420 University Ave, Ste B, Waterloo, IA 50701; e-mail kcrooks@iastate.edu; phone 319-234-6811. **The \$15 fee is payable at the workshop.** (In case of severe weather re-schedule date is Feb. 22)

ArtiGras: An Evening for the Arts...Fiesta-style!

Waterloo, IA – It's a Fiesta! The Waterloo Center for the Arts' annual ArtiGras celebration will be held on **February 20, 2010**. This annual fundraiser, hosted by the Friends of the Art Center, will celebrate the Center's vibrant collection of Mexican folk art and the opening of *Fiesta! A Mexican Celebration*, a new temporary exhibit in the Phelps Youth Pavilion.

Enjoy a creative dining experience with delectable hors d'oeuvres, **gourmet Mexican** dinner, unique silent/live auctions, and live entertainment by *Orquesta Alto Maiz*. Individual tickets are \$40 person; sponsored tables are \$500, which includes reserved seating for 8 guests, exclusive pre-event salsa dance lessons, 16 complimentary drink tickets, and 4 bottles of wine during dinner. **Each guest will also receive a hand-painted napkin with a Mexican inspired motif as a keepsake.**

ArtiGras will showcase traditional Mexican culture, from the gourmet cuisine to the *papel picados*, paper flowers, and Lotteria decorations, where each reflects Mexican experiences. **The event begins at 5:00 pm with exclusive salsa dance lessons for Friends of the Art Center members and guests purchasing a sponsored ArtiGras table. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served at 5:30pm, followed by a Mexican dinner at 7:00 pm and the live auction and dancing to follow.**

Seating is limited for this event and reservations are required. RSVP by February 5 by contacting the Waterloo Center for the Arts at (319) 291-4490 or museum@waterloo-ia.org.

Get Free Income Tax Help

Wage earners with annual income of \$49,000 or less

Call United Way 2-1-1. From a cell phone 739-4211. Toll free 866-469-2211.

If you worked at any time in 2009 and earned less than \$49,000, you may qualify for an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Residents of Black Hawk, Iowa, Jones and Linn counties can call starting January 20, 2010, to schedule tax appointments. Persons living in other counties can call to find tax preparation sites in their area.

ISED Ventures Offers Asset-Building Initiatives That Can Help Make 2010 Promising

Would you like to begin a career in health care, or start or expand a small business? Or how would you like to open a special savings account where your savings get matched—dollar for dollar? ISED Ventures offers these asset-building initiatives that will help you make a promising start in 2010.

Become Trained As a CNA

The Help4Health (H4H) workforce initiative grants eligible individuals a scholarship that pays for tuition, textbook and the state exam for Certified Nursing Assistants. This initiative is a joint partnership with Barnabas Uplift, a social ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Churches of America. **The next H4H CNA class will begin April 13-May 14, and will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Help To Start or Expand a Business

A six-hour Business Readiness workshop and an eight-week business planning class will put you in charge of your own business success. The Business Readiness Workshop covers four components: interest, energy and enthusiasm for self-employment; personal financial management skills and credit potential; level of self-esteem and self-confidence; and readiness to start a business. First workshop starts Jan. 28.

The 8-week business planning class covers the components of operating a business, including business plan preparation, business feasibility, marketing, bookkeeping, taxes and financial statement preparation. Participants explore issues such as access to markets and use of the Internet in business. Participants will also learn how to secure financing and survive the first year of business. Class starts April 1.

Save a Dollar, Get a Dollar

The Individual Development Account (IDA) program delivers an outstanding "return on investment" for people with limited incomes and limited ability to save. ISED Ventures, in partnership with Veridian Credit Union and the Iowa Credit Union Foundation, makes IDAs available that can be used to acquire the down payment or closing costs on a first home, start or expand a small business, or pursue post-secondary education or vocational training, and in some cases purchase a vehicle.

ISED Ventures is an Iowa-based non-profit organization that creates opportunities for low and moderate income Iowans to increase income and achieve financial stability. For more information call Denita Gadson at (319) 235-0313.

Lowe's Women Build Training Clinics

Join Habitat for Humanity as all women crews build and fund the Fourth Women Build home at 659 Lunar Lane in Waterloo. Be confident and knowledgeable on the construction site by taking free training clinics at Lowe's Store in Waterloo. To attend a Lowe's Women Build Training Clinic, RSVP to Amanda at volunteer@heartlandhfh.org or 319-235-9946 by the Thursday before each class.

YMCA of Black Hawk County to Host Strong Kids Auction & Open House

Waterloo, IA, January 22, 2009 – The YMCA of Black Hawk County will be kicking off its Annual Strong Kids Campaign with an open house on Thursday, February 4th from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Activities planned for the open house include refreshments, tours, and membership specials. For information call 319-233-3531.