



2015 PCA Grantees

Arts, Culture

Project Title: Free Imagination Fridays

Organization: Grinnell Area Arts Council

Grant Amount: \$1,250

Project Description: Free Imagination Fridays extends the Studio 6 afterschool arts program to all participants regardless of ability to pay. Programming includes arts education for all ages, live theatrical and musical performances, a college scholarship program and an exhibition gallery for their art. In order for the Arts Council to continue this program free of charge every Friday during the school year, a grant was needed to cover the instructional and programmatic costs.

Community Development

Project Title: Signage for the City of Malcom

Organization: City of Malcom

Grant Amount: \$1,160

Project Description: The city of Malcom has experienced a decline in population which has led to a decrease in city revenues and a significant number of vacant, deteriorating houses. The council believes that taking steps to improve Malcom's appearance will make a positive impact which includes landscaping, lighting and new signage. Unfortunately due to the small population, Malcom has a limited budget for these items. The city has asked for volunteers to help with these improvements and for businesses to donate but the price for the improvements still exceeded the budget which is why the city applied for and received this grant. It is the hope of the city that these new signs will be felt immediately in the sense of pride of current residents and the increase in new residents to the city.

Project Title: Kayak and Trailer

Organization: Poweshiek County Conservation

Grant Amount: \$5,000

Project Description: This money was used to purchase kayaks, paddles, lifejacket and a trailer to haul the kayaks. With the purchase of these items we are able to offer introductory classes on kayaking and hold public paddles. We wanted to be able to show that there are other opportunities with outdoor recreation other than hunting and fishing. The goal is to spark interests in outdoor recreation for people in Poweshiek County.

Project Title: City Park Playground

Organization: City of Hartwick

Grant Amount: \$2,000

Project Description: This grant will go toward replacement of playground equipment in the city park. This small town of 85 does not have the funding to replace and repair the playground equipment. We want to be proud to host community gatherings and family events or picnics for families with children to be able to play.

Project Title: Technology Advancements

Organization: Poweshiek County Extension

Grant Amount: \$2,995

Project Description: This grant will purchase the technology equipment necessary to provide programs and training to remote areas and in many different locations to both adults and youth. The iPad, hot spots, overhead projectors and speakers will allow the organization to provide many different kinds of programs and increase the maximum participant level.

Project Title: Office Communication Update

Organization: Poweshiek County Extension

Grant Amount: \$1,000

Project Description: The monies from this grant will be used to purchase new tables and chairs for the meeting/training rooms. Many of the instruction courses held at these offices are Continuing Instruction Courses which are required for many agricultural professionals that can become as large as 35 participants. Part of the purchase will be for lighter portable tables that can also be use off-site along with stackable chairs that can be used for larger training sessions.

Project Title: Summer Street Park Project

Organization: Imagine Grinnell

Grant Amount: \$5,000

Project Description: Summer Street Park is a five-acre neighborhood park in Grinnell that is being transformed from an outdated aged playground to a Playscape that fits into the current natural beauty of the park. This grant will be used to help finish the playscape which has been an ongoing legacy project.

Project Title: Searsboro Manor Inc.

Organization: Financial Service Group

Grant Amount: \$10,000

Project Description: To meet the need for affordable housing in the Searsboro Area the Manor needs to have the roof replaced. The complexes are aging and need to be repaired without impacting the rent of the tenants, especially since they are on a fixed income.

Project Title: Paving Trail

Organization: Town of Guernsey

Grant Amount: \$5,500

Project Description: The Guernsey Improvement Committee's project here is the largest project to date. This is a three year project with three separate phases of paving and in the end will have a complete path five feet wide completely around the park. This is materials only for one of three years.

All labor cost will be covered by the town and any equipment has been offered and volunteered. Life expectancy of the path should exceed 25 years.

Project Title: New Refrigerator for Community Center

Organization: Deep River Helping Hands

Grant Amount: \$800.00

Project Description: The Community center currently has two large refrigerators that are used for a 4H harvest dinner, care packages for the elderly, donations to the food pantry, donations for entertainment at the county fair and donations to the fire department. One of the units will be to be replaced because it has become unreliable and inefficient. 200.00 of the total price came from the Deep River Helping Hands 4H club.

Project Title: Landes Park Project

Organization: Brooklyn Community Foundation

Grant Amount: \$5,000

Project Description: Like many small towns with limited resources, the city park ends up getting little to no updating or improvements over the years. There are many phases to this project which include playground and park equipment, restroom updates, shelter house improvement, walking paths and etc. This grant is being used to implement phase 2 which is the rest rooms and shelter house.

Project Title: Disc Golf Course

Organization: City of Malcom

Grant Amount: \$2,000

Project Description: The City of Malcom along with the Malcom Disc Golf Club will be constructing a 9 hole disc golf course at the Malcom City Park. The main goals of the city and club are to provide the town residents with another avenue for active lifestyle, introduce the local youth to the sport of Disc golf, and attract outside visitors.

Educational

Project Title: Outdoor Adventure Program

Organization: BGM Schools SADD Chapter

Grant Amount: \$1,500

Project Description: The goal of the BGM SADD Chapter (Students Against Destructive Decisions) is to provide students with the best prevention tools possible to deal with destructive decisions. Last year the Outdoor Adventure Program planted and cared for a garden, harvested and learned to can and preserve a variety of vegetables. This grant money will go to continue the garden for 2015 and add raised strawberry beds. They will also continue with field trips with more of an emphasis on hiking, fishing, orienteering, boating, camping and biking.

Project Title: Outdoor Adventure Program

Organization: Grinnell Newburg Schools

Grant Amount: \$3,000

Project Description: The Outdoor Adventure Program is designed to offer outdoor recreational – leadership opportunities for students. The program will plan for one trip/service learning experience a month that will take place on the weekends and one long trip each summer. The grant money will be used to ensure that all students who want to – can participate. Many students expressed sincere interest but either did not have the financial means or equipment to participate.

Project Title: Hall of Pride

Organization: BGM Schools

Grant Amount: \$500

Project Description: We are building a Wall of Fame to display BGM student accomplishments. This will be done to honor and recognize student accomplishments and instill a sense of honor and pride in the memories of those individuals who have excelled.

Health

Project Title: Mobile Food Pantry – Poweshiek County

Organization: Northeast Iowa Food Bank

Grant Amount: \$2,000

Project Description: This is a mobile food pantry which allows us to bring the product to a community, utilize a local agency's volunteers or other volunteers to get the food to people immediately. Mobile food pantries are also successful in eliminating food waste and recycling perfectly good and nutritious food back into the community. In Poweshiek County, we partner with the Malcom Community Center to assist with this process. This fills the void left due to a lack of emergency feeding organizations. The grant allows the Food Bank to continue to host Mobile Food Pantries in Poweshiek County.

Historic Preservation

Project Title: Route 6 Mural

Organization: Brooklyn Ruritan Club

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Project Description: This grant will provide materials and labor for painting a large color mural with the Historic Route 6 Shield as a focus point on a building located in downtown Brooklyn. The Ruritan Club feels this project is a great opportunity to help the Community of Brooklyn to capitalize on tourism which has already increased along the Poweshiek County Corridor of the Historic Route 6.

Project Title: Pioneer Cemetery Restoration

Organization: Poweshiek County Pioneer Cemetery Commission

Grant Amount: \$1,700

Project Description: This commission was founded to restore and preserve pioneer cemeteries within Poweshiek County. Since the formation of this commission there have been no more cemeteries lost; however, there is still much restoration work to do. Current efforts are being concentrated on Forest Home Cemetery in Montezuma and the Beason cemetery. The commission also keeps a “watchdog” approach to all the county cemeteries and sets priorities for the summer based on the condition of the cemetery, feasibility of results, and availability of funds.

Project Title: Post Home Updating

Organization: American Legion Post 296

Grant Amount: \$2,000

Project Description: This post has constructed a park that honors the veterans of the community with a monument and paved with bricks naming the local veterans in Deep River. The post itself is in need of repainting, lighting and ceiling tile replacements. The grant will also be used to replace the 10 service flags in the park have become faded and weather worn.

Project Title: Carnegie Library Window Project

Organization: Poweshiek County Historical and Genealogical Society

Grant Amount: \$4,000

Project Description: This grant money will be use toward the replacement of the eleven windows on the first floor of the Old Carnegie Library. This library is open on Mondays and Thursdays and staffed entirely by volunteers. The poor windows make it extremely expensive to maintain a comfortable environment for our volunteer staff and visitors plus it will be financially more efficient.

Project Title: Brooklyn Museum Porch Project

Organization: Brooklyn Historical Society

Grant Amount: \$1,560

Project Description: As restoration continues at this historic site, originally the William Manatt House, the current situation and/or need is the restoration of the wrap-around exterior porch of the house. This grant will be used to replace the old posts with turned hemlock posts.

Human Services

Project Title: Heath and Wellness Equipment

Organization: Presbyterian Family Center

Grant Amount: \$1,462.34

Project Description: The family center at the First Presbyterian Evangelical Church is available for the community to use. The facility has a full size gymnasium, a racquetball/handball court, a weight room,

locker rooms, meeting rooms and aerobics. The grant money will be used to replace a video projector for the aerobics classes held five days a week and set of dumbbells with one pound increments designed for women and senior citizens. We will also be purchasing 2-31 inch round tables to be used by the community card playing groups, family gatherings and to feed the elementary age after school groups and other events.

Project Title: Replace the Flooring in the Community Room

Organization: Station Clubhouse

Grant Amount: \$6,683

Project Description: Station Clubhouse is a rehabilitation program dedicated to supporting individuals living with mental illness. Currently, the 25 year old building of which Station Clubhouse occupies the lower level of Pear Street Apartments has not had a face lift such as flooring and surface paint. Currently this area is being used as storage space but with cleaning out, new floor covering and paint the room will be turned into a community room which will allow members space to utilize for exercise, recreational and therapeutic group interaction and weekend activities.

Project Title: Montezuma Back Pack Program

Organization: Northeast Iowa Food Bank

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Project Description: The Back Pack Program provides weekly, non-perishable, child-friendly food items to children in the Montezuma School District who are food insecure. This service is provided to children Pre-K through 12th. The grant money will be used for food purchases which will allow the program to continue. Approximately 32% of Montezuma Community School District's students are eligible for free or reduced meals and many of these children do not have access to adequate food outside of school hours. The food is provided on a weekly basis so there will be nutrition available to them on the weekend.

Project Title: "Bears Bags"

Organization: Brooklyn Community Foundation

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Project Description: For the 2015-2015 school year, 38.13% of the students attending the BGM Elementary School are enrolled in the federal free and reduced meal program. "Bears Bags" serves as a complement program to the free and reduced meal program by continuing food access through the weekends. The food which is non-perishable and child-friendly is provided on a weekly basis so there will be nutrition available to them on the weekend. The grant will be used to purchase food for 20 students for one school year.

Project Title: Ice Rescue

Organization: Searsboro Fire Department

Grant Amount: \$4,987.12

Project Description: Last year our county was confronted with the dangers of winter recreation with the fatality on Lake Ponderosa. In response to this incident, Searsboro Fire sent three firefighters to the PRI Ice and Cold Water Rescue class in March for certification. This grant will be used to help with the cost of the ice rescue basic equipment. Winter recreation on Iowa's frozen waters is growing

tremendously every year and Poweshiek County had 273 acres of public and private lakes along with numerous amounts of farm ponds. This grant will enable us to have gear and trained personnel readily available to rescue a stranded victim.

Project Title: Pagers for the Volunteer Fire Department

Organization: City of Malcom

Grant Amount: \$1,500

Project Description: This grant is to obtain or replace a number of pagers that are no longer functioning. As a rural fire department, the volunteers are required to carry pagers whenever possible – they depend on pagers for notification of emergency situations. Poweshiek County dispatch alerts the department via the pagers to emergency situations. In most cases, the firefighters are normally not at the station or in Malcom proper. Time is always of the essence to get to an emergency, so every minute counts. Reports of Malcom firefighters either not receiving a page or hearing just a partial alert prompted the department to acquire funds to obtain new pagers and chargers.

Project Title: Wrapped in Love Quilts

Organization: Crazy Cut Up Quilters

Grant Amount: \$2,000

Project Description: A quilt is a very special thing, it is not just a blanket, and it has been lovingly created by a real person. Each year a group of dedicated women from all over Poweshiek County volunteer their time and supplies and equipment to create and donate their annual goal of 200 quilts to organizations such as The Babies Room, Grinnell Regional Medical Center, Nursing Homes, Recovery and Abuse Centers and Montezuma Christmas Joy. The group also has given quilts to individuals facing cancer treatments or terminal illness. The organization is critically low on supplies and this grant will be used to buy supplies in order to continue this charitable work.

Project Title: Pager Acquisition

Organization: Brooklyn Fire Department

Grant Amount: \$1,500

Project Description: East Poweshiek Ambulance Service and the Brooklyn Fire Department have are working together to secure 6 pagers for use between the two departments. Pagers alert Fire and EMS to 911 emergencies. Due to the need of more pagers to accommodate the larger number of volunteers and also due to replacement needs, we will be using the grant to assist us in purchasing 6 new pagers.

Project Title: Personal Protective Equipment

Organization: Deep River Volunteer Fire Department

Grant Amount: \$5,800

Project Description: This grant will be used to purchase new personal protective equipment. The departments turn out gear or bunker gear has reached the 10 year mark and the department needed to start replacing it. With the help of this grant we can be sure our firefighters are safe when the call goes out and we all go home safe.

Project Title: Employment Services Program Expansion

Organization: Genesis Development

Grant Amount: \$3,632

Project Description: Genesis Development recently received an ACE grant to add Employment Services for those who wish to have a job opportunity in the community. ES staff assists individuals with applications, interviews, job searches, job shadowing, and appropriate workplace behavior and dress. The Genesis building in Grinnell has undeveloped space available at the back of the building. We will be updating this space and adding furniture, computer equipment and locking storage cabinets. Completing of the offices and meeting are will enable individuals with disabilities in Poweshiek County who are seeking community employment to be successful in obtaining and maintaining a job in the community.

Project Title: Food Safety Storage

Organization: Montezuma Food Pantry

Grant Amount: \$2,500

Project Description: The purpose of the Montezuma Food Pantry is to reduce if not eliminate hunger in Poweshiek County. This organization contracts with the Northeast Iowa Food Bank to obtain meat (that has passed the best used by date) from local organizations. The refrigeration truck brings the meat directly to the food pantry where approximately 400lbs of meat is dropped off before the truck returns to the food bank in Waterloo. Storing the meat (which needs to be frozen immediately) is currently done in residential deep freezers that have been donated and are older models. The grant money will be used towards purchasing an industrial refrigeration unit that is design for our volume of usage. This will ensure that produce is also kept at a safe temperature for consumption.

Project Title: Christmas Joy

Organization: Montezuma Ministerial Association

Grant Amount: \$1,800

Project Description: Statistics have shown that there are approximately 45-50 families the Montezuma school districts that are unable to provide ample food for their children or gifts for them at the holidays. This is where Christmas Joy comes in; to make sure that these children's needs are met. This grant will allow us to come alongside these families in their efforts and provide a holiday meal for them and other staple items while the students are out of school (for an average of ten days for winter break).

Project Title: PVC Works

Organization: Galaxy, Inc.

Grant Amount: \$2,945

Project Description: This grant will be used to purchase and implement PVC Works in the afterschool Galaxy Youth Program. PVC Works parallels the Galaxy's programming that emphasizes the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) approach. PVC Works consists of group projects, kits, and (2) field trips. PVC piping is very easy to handle, to assemble and disassemble, light weight, and parts are readily available for ad-on or replacements.