



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 4/5/2022

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## **Provident Health Foundation Announces over \$120,000 in Community Health Grants**

The Provident Health Foundation of Marinette/Menominee granted over \$120,000 to 10 not-for-profit entities in the Fall of 2021. The Foundation funded programs that aide Provident's purpose to improve and sustain the health and well-being of the people who live in Marinette and Menominee Counties.

Provident gave awards to the following agencies serving Marinette and Menominee counties: the Healthy Youth Coalition, DAR Boys and Girls Club, YMCA Heart and Sole Sisters, Stephenson Schools Mental Health Initiative, Imagination Libraries of Marinette and Menominee, CASA Menominee and CASA Brown County/Marinette, Stephenson School's Heart and Sole Sisters, Crivitz Food Pantry, and Rainbow House.

On receiving a grant for Mental Health First Aid support and training, Stephenson High School School Social Worker Alison Granquist shares "I just finished the Teen Mental Health First Aid training for all of the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students at Stephenson High School using grant money from Provident to get the books." She said, "Since the training, I've really seen a reduction in stigma around the school and have had just as many teenage boys coming in to talk with me as teenage girls. It's not just kids that we know are going through emotional stuff that are coming to me, it's those that have been hiding their emotions for years."

Granquist continued, "We in Stephenson would have never been able to do something like that [without Provident]." Granquist and Vice Principal Christian Londo will also become Youth Mental Health First Aid trainers with their grant funds. Granquist will be starting a Heart and SOLE Sisters program for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade girls with a grant from Provident as well.

Provident Health Foundation was founded in 2019 with a \$25 Million endowment through the agreement between Advocate Aurora Health and Bay Area Medical Center resulting in the hospital becoming an owned member of the Advocate Aurora system.

Provident Health Foundation focuses its funds on programs with prevention and educational efforts on three key community health focuses: substance abuse, mental health, and childhood obesity. This grant cycle, the Board of Directors prioritized evidence-based programs. This allows the Board to ensure the Foundation's funds create measurable impact.

In the Spring 2022 grant cycle, the Board will look for evidence-based programs with plans for sustainability and an impact data collection element. The Spring 2022 Grant Cycle will be announced in late March.

“We are proud to have been able to award over \$120,000 in the Fall of 2021, and even more so to have given out \$274,324 in grants during the 2021 calendar year.” Provident Health Foundation Executive Director John Hofer said. “With our emphasis on evidence-based practices, sustainability, and data-proven impacts, we’re confident that these funds are a strong investment in our community building a healthier future, with even more to come.”

The Provident Health Foundation is a private 501(c)3 tax-exempt foundation governed by an eleven-person board of leaders from Marinette and Menominee Counties. For more information about the Spring 2022 Grant Cycle or the Foundation, go to [www.providenthealth.org](http://www.providenthealth.org) or follow us on Facebook @ProvidentHealth.

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