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Horizon Foundation for New Jersey awards grants to state non-profits

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By The Messenger-Gazette The Somerset Reporter

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The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey recently announced the awarding of \$512,250 in grants to 25 non-profit organizations throughout the state. The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey supports charitable organizations that promote health and arts in New Jersey.

"The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey is proud to support non-profit organizations that are making a positive difference in the lives of New Jersey residents every day," said Robert A. Marino, Chairman of the Board of Directors of The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey and Chairman and CEO of Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey. "These grants fund a broad range of initiatives that improve personal health and enhance the cultural and arts experience in New Jersey's communities."

The \$512,250 in grants represents the second round of awards made by the Foundation this year.

The second round of awards includes the following 25 grants:

American Diabetes Association (ADA) in Bridgewater, received a grant of \$40,000 to support its Latino Initiatives health campaign, Por Tu Familia, which aims to increase awareness about the impact of diabetes in the Latino community. The grant will fund the training of 20 Certified Diabetes Educators, nursing students and community health educators to serve as ADA ambassadors and conduct diabetes management workshops for Latinos in Essex, Hudson and Union counties.

Arts Guild New Jersey in Rahway, received a general operating support grant of \$10,000 to fund its fine arts exhibitions and studio art classes for adults and children.

Arts Horizon in Englewood, received a grant of \$10,000 to support its Creative Spirits Program. The program provides no cost, customized workshops in the visual, performing and literary arts to people ages 55 and older residing in Bergen, Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset and Union counties.

Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey in Clifton, received a grant of \$50,000 to support its Triple Play Program at Boys and Girls Clubs in Atlantic City, Camden, Newark and Trenton-Mercer County. Designed in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Triple Play Program addresses childhood obesity in children ages 6 through 18. Triple Play teaches children about nutrition and making healthy eating choices, boosts physical activity levels through sports and fitness activities and builds positive relationships among youths.

Catholic Charities Diocese of Trenton in Trenton, received a grant of \$20,000 to support Project Hope, Health and Wellness Education Prevention Services. The program helps economically disadvantaged Ocean County residents develop a comprehensive healthcare plan with a case manager, identify potential health risks and obtain treatment. The program also offers free screenings and ESL health literacy workshops.

Easter Seals New Jersey in East Brunswick, received a grant of \$20,000 to support Be Well! Obesity Prevention for People with Disabilities. The grant provides for health and wellness workshops taught by trained staff to help individuals with disabilities make modifiable lifestyle changes in the areas of nutrition and exercise.

Friends of Passaic County Parks in Paterson, received a grant of \$14,750 to support its Passaic County Parks Fitness Course Project. The grant funds the installation of a fitness course on the new pedestrian walkway in Goffle Brook Park, located in Hawthorne. The course will feature a mobility platform, balance steps, jump training benches, pushup and pull up bars, tai-chi wheels and a leg-lift station.

George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, received a grant of \$100,000 to support the Touring Theatre for "Austin the Unstoppable." The grant funds a statewide school tour of the musical comedy about childhood obesity and Type 2 diabetes prevention through healthy lifestyles, reaching approximately 70 schools and 26,600 students, primarily in grades 4 through 8.

Integrity House in Newark, received a grant of \$20,000 to support its Depression Screenings and Treatment Program at its Newark and Secaucus campuses for clients who experience co-occurring disorders of substance abuse and depression.

Jewish Community Center of Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren Counties (JCCHW) in Bridgewater, received a grant of \$15,000 to support the implementation of "Discover: CATCH," a child wellness program aimed at encouraging healthy habits. The grant serves nearly 400 children in JCCHW's Childhood Center, "J" Crew Afterschool Program and Camp Ruach.

Kids Corporation II in Newark, received a grant of \$10,000 to support the Kids Health Clinic. The grant provides for a pediatric nurse and health assistant to conduct asthma, obesity and medical screenings for 160 Newark schoolchildren. Case management services will be provided for the children and connect parents and caregivers to free and comprehensive follow-up treatment and services for the children.

Literacy Volunteers Association Cape-Atlantic in Pleasantville, received a grant of \$25,000 to support its Health Literacy Outreach Program. The program provides health literacy information to

volunteer tutors who integrate the information into their tutoring lesson plans. The program also offers health literacy workshops to health care professionals and residents of health care facilities.

Monmouth Museum and Cultural Center in Lincroft, received a general operating support grant of \$10,000 to fund its exhibitions and programs.

New Jersey Conservation Foundation in Far Hills, received a grant of \$20,000 to fund the Creation of Gateway Park as a Camden Resource Program. Gateway Park will be located on 25-acres of vacant land in Camden and will have multi-purpose walking and biking trails, boating activities and host community educational events that will focus on physical activity and encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, received a grant of \$15,000 to support the participation of Union County's Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy in The Adopt-A-School Project. The program provides the high school students underserved by the arts with a four-year, school curriculum-related arts education program. The students will also work with an artist-in residence and create an original piece that will be performed on the Paper Mill stage at the Spring 2014 ArtsFest.

PEI Kids in Lawrenceville, received a grant of \$15,000 to support the depression component of the Crisis Intervention Program. The program provides depression screening and treatment for children ages 3 through 18 who are victims of sexual abuse, and provides education and support for family members and caregivers.

Princeton Senior Resource Center in Princeton, received a grant of \$15,000 to support the Living Healthy for Older Adults Program. The program offers seniors, both at the Center and in local senior housing, services that include workshops on diabetes, obesity, heart disease and stroke; referrals and linkages to services; discussions with health care providers; health screenings; flu and pneumonia immunization clinics and fitness classes.

Saint Peter's College in Jersey City, received a grant of \$15,000 to fund the HealthingAlong Program. The program provides local students in grades K through 12 with health education seminars taught by students majoring in health and physical education from Saint Peter's College.

South Jersey Cultural Alliance in Pleasantville, received a general operating support grant of \$10,000 to fund the Arts for Students Program. The program provides opportunities for students underserved by the arts to attend theatre and dance performances, symphony concerts and cultural exhibits.

Strand Ventures in Lakewood, received a general operating support grant of \$10,000 to fund programs that directly benefit senior citizens and those with special needs. The programs include luncheon and dinner theater productions, Strand School of the Arts theatrical fine arts classes, and the "Senior's Got Talent" production and the performance of Little Shop of Horrors.

Sussex County Community College in Newton, received a grant of \$7,500 to support Thursdays on the Green Program, a free six-week outdoor summer concert series.

Tri-State Actors Theater in Newton, received a general operating support grant of \$10,000 to fund its 2013-2014 season and education programming for children, teens and adults.

Urban Healthcare Initiative Program in East Orange, received a grant of \$25,000 to support the Community Wellness Program. The grant funds a comprehensive, nurse practitioner-led interdisciplinary team approach to health education and health care based on increasing self-management of health. The Program serves African American and Hispanic residents, ages 18 and older, living in East Orange, Irvington, Orange and Newark through health lectures, health

assessments, on-site mobile primary care, medication assistance, case management and other services.

Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit, received a general operating support grant of \$10,000 to fund its arts education program and exhibits that serve individuals of all ages.

Young Audiences New Jersey in Princeton, received a grant of \$15,000 to support the Trenton Adopt-A-School Initiative: Family Arts & Creativity Program. The program will serve up to five Trenton schools, bringing together students, parents and professional teaching artists in hands-on art workshops that engage families to explore and learn together.

The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey promotes health, well-being, and quality of life across the state by supporting charitable organizations. For more information about the Foundation, visit horizonblue.com/foundation.

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Highlights: Young Audiences New Jersey