



Media Release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

United Way Awards Over \$45,000 in Venture Grants to Ten Agencies in Greater High Point

The United Way of Greater High Point's successful fund-raising campaign in Fall 2012 has resulted in the organization awarding ten Venture Grants totaling \$45,285 to agencies in the Greater High Point community. The United Way of Greater High Point received 42 Venture Grant applications from Guilford and Randolph counties equaling over \$340,000 in requests.

This is the fourth time since 2007 that the United Way of Greater High Point has awarded Venture Grants. These grants provide an opportunity for any 501(c)(3) organization serving the Greater High Point area to apply for funding from the United Way of Greater High Point.

Venture Grants are small, one-time grants to qualified, local nonprofit organizations. These grants are designed to meet emerging or unmet needs. They can be used to start a new program or to purchase needed equipment or supplies for an existing program. In more limited cases, Venture Grants can be used for administrative expenses such as staffing, so that a program can increase its sustainability with the support that paid staff can provide.

The ten agencies receiving Venture Grants for 2013-2014 are:

Community Outreach of Archdale-Trinity

Grant Amount: \$10,000

Program Description: C.O.A.T. is a Christian ministry of churches, service organizations, businesses and individuals in the Archdale-Trinity area seeking to provide assistance for individuals and families in need. Venture Grant funds will be used to support COAT's Emergency Financial Assistance program that assists participants in becoming self-supporting and self-sufficient. Specifically, they will be used to help clients in crisis pay for food, housing, utilities, and other emergencies.

Guilford County Department of Public Health

Grant Amount: \$5,835.00

Program Description: The mission of the Guilford County Department of Public Health is to protect, promote and enhance the health of all people and the environment in Guilford County. This Venture Grant has been awarded to support the Centering Pregnancy® group prenatal care & education program in High Point--an innovative, evidence-based model with proven success in reducing the rates of premature births and low birth weight infants. Funds will also be used for training, equipment and supplies.

Jamestown Public Library**Grant Amount:** \$2,000

Program Description: The Jamestown Public Library is a community oriented organization that seeks to support lifelong learning in Jamestown and the surrounding communities by providing free access to literature, culture and information through books and other resources. Venture Grant funds will be used purchase Family Adventure Packs for Pre-K through 5th grade students in order to encourage literacy and parental involvement in a fun and educational way.

Mary's Homes**Grant Amount:** \$3,200

Program Description: Mary's Homes is a housing voucher program for homeless mothers and their children in High Point that offers an environment of addiction recovery with supportive services. Currently, Mary's Homes has six housing vouchers in High Point, all of which are filled. In order to address the waiting list for services, Mary's Homes' Venture Grant award will provide matching funds to bring six more vouchers to High Point and the surrounding communities. This will bring over \$118,000 in NEW federal funds to the Greater High Point community.

Mental Health Associates of the Triad**Grant Amount:** \$4,000

Program Description: Mental Health Associates of the Triad's mission is to provide high quality mental health treatment services to the severely and persistently mentally ill citizens in our community. Though there have been significant financial changes in our state's mental health system--mainly the dismantling of public mental health services—MHA still succeeds in providing quality care to some of our most fragile citizens. As such, we are pleased to award Venture Grant funds to assist them in purchasing an Electronic Records Management System which will allow them to communicate better with other funders and local providers like High Point Regional Health System.

Piedmont Health Services & Sickle Cell Agency**Grant Amount:** \$3,250

Program Description: PHSSCA has been providing outreach and education services to populations at the highest risk of having health problems—primarily HIV/AIDS, Sickle Cell, and other chronic diseases—in our community for over 40 years. In order to continue to be effective, timely communication with clients and the community is critical. As such, they have been awarded a Venture Grant to replace their 15-year-old phone system.

Reach Out & Read**Grant Amount:** \$1,000

Program Description: ROR is an innovative, national partnership of community advocates and medical providers designed to “prescribe” books in pediatric exam rooms to low-income families with young children in order to encourage early literacy and school readiness. Venture Grant funds will be used to purchase books to support ROR's partnership with Archdale-Trinity Pediatrics that provides free books to at-risk families, while medical professionals also model and encourage parental involvement in the development of early literacy skills.

West End Ministries**Grant Amount:** \$3,000

Program Description: Many of the young men in our community have no positive, male role model in their lives. West End Ministries, an organization in our community that already offers food, shelter, clothing, outreach and education, has made a commitment to address this issue. They have been awarded a Venture Grant to support “Notebook 101: Life Skills Every Young Man Should Know”, a monthly program that allows young men to meet adult mentors that teach them basic life skills from changing a tire to pursuing higher education.

YMCA of High Point Association**Grant Amount:** \$8,000

Program Description: The YMCA of High Point Association operates three branches in the Greater High Point area whose goals are to promote youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. To meet these goals and an unfortunate and growing need, they have partnered with Darkness to Light to offer childhood sexual abuse prevention and awareness training to various organizations in our community. With this Venture Grant award, the United Way of Greater High Point is pleased to be the lead first-year sponsor of these trainings.

YWCA of High Point**Grant Amount:** \$5,000

Program Description: Part of the mission of the YWCA of High Point is to promote peace, freedom, justice and dignity for all people regardless of status or ability. In keeping with this mission, we are pleased to award the YWCA a Venture Grant to purchase a pool lift to increase aquatics accessibility for all members of the Greater High Point community--especially those with a disability that may limit where they can swim. This will be a Challenge Grant for half of the total amount needed to purchase the lift.

For more information, please call Bobby Smith, President of the United Way of Greater High Point, at 336-899-0878.

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About United Way of Greater High Point - The United Way of Greater High Point works with the business community, volunteers, and its 29 local partner agencies to develop resources and partnerships that address critical human service needs in our community. United Way-funded programs help children learn and families thrive, build self-sufficiency and financial stability, create stronger and safer neighborhoods, and improve the health of our communities throughout High Point, Archdale, Trinity, and Jamestown. Visit The United Way of Greater High Point at www.unitedwayhp.org.