

COMMUNITY NEWS

Project W awards \$60G in grants to Delco non-profits

By Peg DeGrassa

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MEDIA » Project W, a women's giving circle, awarded \$60,000 in grants to three local non-profits at their virtual Annual Meeting on June 16. Project W members are committed to improving the lives of women and families in Delaware County. In the three years since its inception, Project W's 145 plus members, distributed over \$175,000 in grants and donations.

Twenty organizations applied for the 2021 grant cycle. Grants are awarded in three focus areas: health, education and family. After evaluating and discussing the applications, Project W members completed site visits with select applicants to further understand their work and chose an applicant in each focus area to nominate for one of three grants.

Project W members use their collective, yet diverse, perspectives and experiences to decide how to allocate their collective dollars.

"Everyone plays a role in the decision," explained Kim D'Ambrosio, chairperson of Project W.

To help with the selection process, each of the three nominated organizations made a video describing the purpose of their grant request. The videos along with the original applications were distributed to Project W members for them to rank their choices before the Annual Meeting. The 2021 Project W grant recipients are:

Wesley House Community Corporation Inc. (Family Focus Area) was awarded the \$30,000 grant which will be utilized to

support operation of the Wesley House Shelter. The Wesley House Shelter provides safe and healthy emergency housing for Delaware County residents including families with children and single women.

John J. Tyler Arboretum (Education Focus Area) was awarded the \$15,000 grant to create a year-round, paid internship opportunity within Lucille's Garden at Tyler Arboretum. The internship is specifically designed for adult women with disabilities with an interest in horticulture who would like to gain hands-on work experience operating a 1.25-acre organic fruit, herb and vegetable farm, in which 100% of the fresh produce will be donated to the Media Food Bank.

Mitzvah Circle Foundation (Health Focus Area) was awarded the \$15,000 grant for the Critical Needs for Healthy Families program, the Diaper Bank, and Period Supply programs which provide necessities that enable recipients to attend work and school, normalize health care utilization, and create stable, supportive households.

Project W is a Giving Circle that operates under The Community's Foundation's charitable umbrella. TCF offers administrative and fiduciary services to a variety of community-minded groups across Delaware County, as a means to empower every-day citizens to take philanthropy into their own hands. To learn more about joining Project W and making a difference in the local community, visit ProjW.org or e-mail ProjectW@TCFhelps.org. Anyone interested in The Community's Foundation to provide support to launch a chari-

table endeavor should call TCF at 610-461-6571. Those who would like to donate to TCF to make a difference in the community can visit <https://tcfhelps.org/donation-page>.

Scott Arboretum welcomes Delco Thrive into town

The Delco Thrive Caravan rolls into Swarthmore at the Scott Arboretum, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 26 at the Wister Center. Everyone is welcome to the free day of fun activities.

From Dawn to Dusk, visitors are invited to participate in a garden scavenger hunt, from dawn to dusk. Families or friends can pick up their scavenger hunt list at the Cunningham House brochure box, 500 College Ave. From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., there will be a family story and yoga hour. Families can join Mandie Curtis Banks, Youth, Family, and Diversity Programs Coordinator, for nature and yoga-inspired stories, songs, poses, and mindful meditations in the beautiful Cherry Border at the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College. This event is suitable for families with children ages 3 and up. Children and caregivers are encouraged to participate together and to bring yoga mats or large beach towels. This is a free event and no registration is necessary.

From 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., children's nature based crafts will be held in the Arboretum's Cherry Border to make a nature based craft. This is a free, drop in event and no registration is required.

For a full list of the Delco Thrive's activities in Swarthmore on June 26, e-mail [media.org.](mailto:info@transitiontown-</p>
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Delco Thrive believes "Together, Delco Prospers." They identify Delco-based small businesses in need of help and coordinate one-day shopping blitzes, putting money where it matters most-home. These efforts have evolved into celebrations of the small towns in Delco. On Saturday, it's Swarthmore's turn.

The Scott Arboretum is a unique garden of ideas and suggestions encouraging horticulture in its broadest sense through displays on the 350-plus acre campus of Swarthmore College. For more information, visit www.scottarboretum.org.

Community invited to celebrate Make Music Day on Monday

Make Music Philly will join over 95 cities across the U.S. and 120 countries worldwide to celebrate Make Music Day on Monday, June 21. The day-long, musical free-for-all celebrates music in all its forms, encouraging people to band together and play in free public concerts.

Make Music Philly is part of Make Music Day, the global music celebration held each year on June 21, which is typically the Summer Solstice and the longest day of the year. With the pandemic starting to recede, there will be a number of in-person musical performances and participatory events available this year.

Highlights of Make Music Philly 2021 include live, in-person musical performances at many Philadelphia area venues including MilkBoy South Street, The Bourse, Harriett's Bookshop, Sweetney's Station Saloon, Bouvier Community Gar-

den, Clark Park, Concert Garden, Parks on Tap: Water Works, Bartram's Garden, Kelly Music & Art Center, Peppers by Amadeos and Crooked Eye Brewery, with more locations still being added each day.

Locally on Monday, Keep Music Alive will host a Ukulele Circle at the Kelly Music & Arts Center in Haverstown from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Rockdale Music will host a Bucket Drum Circle at Sundown in Aston, starting at 7:30 p.m.

Musicians and venues are encouraged to visit www.MakeMusicPhilly.org to register their in-person or virtual Make Music Philly events. A full schedule of Make Music Philly events will be at www.MakeMusicPhilly.org/. Make Music Philly is being coordinated by the national non-profit Keep Music Alive, based in Delaware County.

Registration underway for Holy Spirit Day School

Holy Spirit Day School at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 2545 Franklin Ave., Secane, has been providing a loving and safe environment where children can thrive and learn for over 50 years. The school is now enrolling for its September sessions. Mother's Morning Out, 9:45 to 11:45 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, is for children who are age 2 by Sept. 30; Preschool is 9:30 a.m. to noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday for children who are age 3 by Sept. 30; and Pre-Kinderergarten, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday, is for children who are age 4 by Sept. 30.

For more information, call 610-544-2707 during office hours, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.,

Mon. to Thurs.

SONIC Drive-In donates to Southeast Delco teachers

To honor the creative efforts teachers have made to maneuver their ever-shifting learning environments and keep students engaged this past year, SONIC® Drive-In donated \$1.5 million to teacher requests on national education nonprofit site DonorsChoose. As part of SONIC's ongoing Limeades for Learning initiative, the \$1.5 million donation helped fund more than 7,000 teacher requests across the country in need of critical resources.

On Teacher Appreciation Day, May 4, the brand matched 50 percent of each donation made to all teacher requests on DonorsChoose.

In the Southeast Delco School District, the following teachers received donations for their projects: Mr. Starcken at Academy Park High School in Sharon Hill; Mrs. McCallum, Mrs. McDonough, Ms. Reagan, Ms. Madjeski, and Ms. O at Delcroft School in Folcroft; Mrs. Donnelly and Mrs. Manton at Harris School in Collingdale.

Through Limeades for Learning, SONIC has donated more than \$19 million to public school teachers, helping more than 36,000 teachers and impacting nearly 7.4 million students in public schools nationwide since 2009. For more information, visit LimeadesforLearning.com/.

Readers can email community news and photos to Peg DeGrassa at pdegrassa@21st-centurymedia.com.