

## CHWC Employee Philanthropy Program Grants Over \$100K

The Employee Philanthropy Program at Community Hospitals and Wellness Centers (CHWC) recently reached a milestone of over \$100,000 in grants to area organizations and individuals/families.

Made up of and led by CHWC staff, the Employee Philanthropy Program (EPP) supports 501(c)(3) organizations from the CHWC service area who help with health, food, housing and safety needs. The EPP also assists employees and their families who are facing a sudden financial need. On average, over 100 employees donate to the fund, and the CHWC Board of Directors provides a dollar-for-dollar match for all funding that staff brings in during pledge drives.

The EPP has supported numerous area organizations, including: Bed Brigade of Williams County, NAMI Four County, Sufficient Grace Ministries, Sarah's Friends, BAHEC Older Adult Support (Project Lifesaver), Henry County Health Department (Cribs for Kids), Toledo NW Ohio Food Bank, Community Education Development, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), Williams County Community Gardening Association, Mentors for Williams County, Never Let Go Ministries and Sufficient Grace Ministries. EPP has granted over \$50,000 to local nonprofit organizations. Additionally, \$53,500 has been granted to employees and volunteers of CHWC as well as their spouses, children and other dependents since the founding of the EPP in the fall of 2016.

“At CHWC, one of our core values is compassion, and providing grants to local organizations and financial support to CHWC families is an act of compassion. I think it's great that so many employees want to give back to the community and help others. We are so proud of the way CHWC is making a positive impact in our community,” said Barb Rash, EPP chairperson and Director of Nursing for CHWC's Emergency Department.

EPP funding is granted to tax-exempt organizations operating or proposing to operate programs that benefit residents within CHWC's service area, which is composed of Williams, Fulton, Defiance and Henry counties in Ohio. Some examples of financial support priorities include programming for youth, older adults, community social services, community health and wellness, community mental health and community disease prevention.

CHWC employees and volunteers, as well as their family members, may also be eligible for EPP grant dollars; grant determinations are made by contributing employees who serve on the EPP governing council. Every effort is made to ensure that funds are granted in a manner that is open, transparent, objective, nondiscriminatory and by methods that are uniformly applied to potential recipients to ensure recipients are undergoing a hardship and are legitimately in need of assistance.

To learn more about the CHWC EPP, visit [www.chwchospital.org/EPP](http://www.chwchospital.org/EPP).