



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WAYNE COUNTY FOUNDATION TO AWARD \$50,000 IMPACT GRANT

Potential \$150,000 Benefit to the Community

The Wayne County Foundation has announced a matching-grant opportunity to organizations in the county as part of its 2011 Impact Grant. The one-to-two match offers the possibility of generating \$150,000 or more for programs identified as having the most potential impact on the Wayne County community.

The organizations selected to participate this year include: the [Boys and Girls Club/Girls, Inc.](#), [Circle U Help Center](#), [Communities In Schools](#), [Habitat for Humanity](#), and the [Wayne County Historical Museum](#).

“We feel like this is an amazing opportunity for the selected organizations to raise significant dollars in support their programs and it also allows them a leveraging tool to reach out to new donors in the community,” said Steve Borchers, the Foundation’s executive director. “This is the first time we have tried a matching gift program like this,” he said. “We have high hopes that it will generate a lot of interest for these organizations and the work they do.”

The Matching Grant Program will kick off on November 11 at 9 a.m. and will run through Tuesday, November 15, which is in conjunction with National Philanthropy Day. Supporters of these organizations may deliver a contribution anytime during this

period to the organization itself, or make an online donation on the Foundation's website. Checks, made payable to the Wayne County Foundation, with the organization's name in the memo may be delivered to the Foundation office at 33 South 7th Street.

The programs selected to participate in the 2011 Impact Grant Match Program represent youth development, social service, and education-related initiatives. They are:

[Boys and Girls Clubs](#) and [Girls Inc.](#)

Developmental psychologists and parents know that adolescence is a challenging period. Teens find themselves struggling for independence, striving to cultivate a distinct identity in a world where choices and life-changing opportunities abound. Enrichment programs offer a unique avenue to surround teens with positive, caring adults during this transition time. Since our community struggles with high rates for teenage pregnancy, high school dropout, substance use, unemployment and poverty, teens are in risk of falling into harm's way. Quality programs are needed, especially during after school hours. **Boys and Girls Clubs'** and **Girls Inc.** [Help Teens Achieve](#) partnership will positively impact teens.

[Circle U Help Center](#)

Circle U Help Center plans to start a building fund for a new food pantry/storage facility to meet the increasing demand of the hungry in Wayne County. The building will be located on a vacant lot next to our present facility at 19 North 13th Street. The lot was purchased last year at the Wayne County tax sale. At times we have had to turn down food for lack of storage space. With the help from the Impact Grant, Circle U Help Center will be able to continue to help the hungry as we have since 1979.

[Communities In Schools](#)

Through a school-based coordinator, **Communities In Schools** connects students and their families to critical community resources tailored to local needs. By providing

students with a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow, a healthy start and future, a marketable skill upon graduation and a chance to give back to peers and the community, CIS has become the nation's leading dropout prevention organization and the only one proven to both decrease dropout rates *and* increase graduation rates. The Wayne County Foundation Impact Grant will support the work of the site-coordinators placed in local schools.

[Habitat for Humanity](#)

"ReStore" is the next step in **Habitat for Humanity** of Greater Richmond's continuing effort to compliment our ministry. It is time for our local affiliate to join other affiliates operating more than 800 "Restore" programs. "ReStore" will be a local operation to dispose of donated building material that cannot be used in constructing Habitat homes. This program will serve 3 major functions. First, it will create additional income that helps us serve more families. Second, it will keep thousands of tons of materials out of our local landfill. Third, "ReStore" will act as a Habitat billboard in our community

[Wayne County Historical Museum](#)

The **Wayne County Historical Museum** has spent most of its efforts in the last 81 years interpreting the history of Wayne County. Given the chance to refocus by two generous bequests, a new building is under construction. These bequests provide about 50% of the funding needed to complete this important project. The new building will allow the Museum to highlight our extensive Historical Agricultural Equipment Collection (which played a major role in the development of Wayne County). Secondly, it allows the museum to provide a place for temporary exhibits and space for community groups to make connections. Soon we will be able to showcase not only people and projects that made history, but also people and projects that are making history today.

The Wayne County Foundation's Impact Grant was initiated in 2001 as a larger award intended to foster collaboration among the County's not-for-profit organizations and

relate to the most pressing community concerns and interests. The first Impact Grant focused on literacy and youth development. Since then, the Foundation has supported a range of distinctive initiatives in support of basic human needs, the arts, and education.

More information may also be obtained by contacting Andrea Stuckey at Andrea@waynecountyfoundation.org or by calling 765/962-1638.

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