**Your Annual Giving Dollars at Work: Village Mission Grants**

During 2018, the Village Church Mission Committee has received 40 grant requests from community organizations seeking funds from the mission budget. During the first half of the year, the committee has carefully considered each of the applications and allocated funds to 20 organizations. Resulting from their efforts, the committee has designated nearly $96,000 to the following programs that work to strengthen the community:

* A Turning Point: $2000 for their food pantry
* After the Harvest: $5000 for gleaning and food rescue program Amethyst Place, $10,000 for furnishings for a complex of privately owned apartments for women with children who are recovering from substance abuse
* Avenue of Life: $10,000 for Impact Wednesdays offering a wide array of social services including ID acquisition, job counseling, health services, clothing and much more
* Big Brothers and Sisters: $5,000 for ACT prep course for 100 youth in low income communities
* Covenant Presbyterian Church: $2500 for their food pantry
* Cultivate KC: $5000 for their SNAP coupons for produce purchases
* First Call-Alcohol/Drug Prevention and Recovery program: $2000 for Caring for Kids educational tools used with children impacted by a loved one’s substance abuse
* Grace United Community Ministries: $2000 for educational programming aimed at improving student reading and math skills in low-income communities
* Gordon Parks Elementary: $3000 for art therapy supplies for the 170 at-risk students attending this school
* Hillcrest Transitional Housing: $4000 for sponsorship of the Village apartment
* Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry: $5000 for their Saturday hot breakfast program
* Reach Out and Read: $5000 for 30,000 books for the reading readiness program
* Reconciliation Services: $15,000 from the operating budget plus $50,000 from an anonymous donor for Thelma’s Kitchen, offering a wide array of social and mental health service and access to economic opportunities within a Donate-What-You-Can café.
* ReStart: $1500 for their family shelter
* Shawnee Community Services: $5000 for meat, milk and foodstuffs for pantry distribution
* Shawnee Mission Meals on Wheels: $2500 for food for the program
* Sheffield Place: $1500 for their Strong Tomorrows after care program that provides ongoing case management for formerly homeless mothers and children
* Sing, Play, Love: $5000 for teaching materials for 877 children in all Head Start sites on KCKPS
* Youth Ambassadors: $5000 to help sponsor some of the 250 underserved urban teenagers in the program

Over the past 30 years, this committee and many before them have supported more than 280 separate organizations. The 2019 Mission Committee will start accepting grant applications in January 2019 with decisions occurring by June. The deadline for grant applications is February 28.