

2023 Bellevue Community Foundation Grants

\$3,000 Bellevue Food Pantry –(Jill Conner & Deanna Wagner) To Help with the purchase of two industrial, stand alone freezers and one industrial strength stand alone refrigerator for the pantry. These coolers and freezers will allow for significant more storage capacity which is important due to significant rise of individuals and families seeking pantry assistance over the past year.

\$2,000- Bellevue East High School – Counselor Sendoff Celebration (Colleen Pribyl)–. This funding will be used to help hold an end of the school year celebration for the soon to be graduates in the football stadium. This Senior Sendoff event has turned into a great tradition to send the Seniors at Bellevue East High School off in celebratory fashion and thank them for all the hard work they put in to get to this point.

\$2,000- VFW Post 2280 – Upgrade Monuments at Washington Park (Steven Wiseman) – Washington Park has several monuments that salute and honor our veterans. The BCF is proud to contribute some funding to help the folks at VFW Post 2280 maintain, upgrade, and refurbish many of these monuments. Some of this funding will also help replace the Vietnam Veterans Monument at the Park. Thank you to all of the members of the VFW for your continued efforts to promote and educate the public on the importance of America’s Military and our Veterans!

\$4,000- Bellevue Together – Groceries for the Hands of Hope (Suzanne Quinn)– Our friends at Bellevue Together have been working for many years to help bring the community together to help meet the needs of vulnerable families in our community. This grant will help fund a portion of their annual Hands of Hope program which provides groceries for up to 165 local families to help during the long school break over the holidays.

\$850 - Bellevue East High School – Community Closet-hygiene, food, clothing (Kala Brown) – In these tough economic times, there are over 34% of the students at Bellevue East High School that receive free and reduced lunches. This community closet, which was started by school nurse Kala Brown, helps provide clothing, food and personal hygiene items to those students that are in need. It really helps fill a gap for some students and their families

3,000 – Bellevue Library Foundation – 6 iPad Air 5th Generation (Michelle Boyce)– Thanks to the leadership of Bellevue Library Director Julie Dinville and her dedicated team, the Bellevue Library has become more of a vibrant center for learning, innovation and community engagement. The Library is so much more than just checking out books to read. This funding will help enhance their growing Makerspace offerings by purchasing some new iPads which will be integrated into their digital Makerspace offerings. If you haven’t seen some of the impressive technology available at our library, please make sure to stop by and check it out.

\$4,150 – Teammates Mentoring – BPSNE Summer Program (Kelsey Oldenburger) – the Bellevue Teammates program has really grown over the past few years as it works to make a positive impact in the community by inspiring students to reach their full potential through mentoring. Last year 94 students benefited from this program and this funding will help Teammates continue to fulfill their mission with their summer program and help with the recruitment efforts of new mentors.

\$4000 – Bellevue Chamber of Commerce – Avenue of Flags (Diane Bruce) – this funding will help enhance Bellevue’s Avenue of Flags Program. For over 20 years the Avenue of Flags have been displayed as a patriotic showcase to the Bellevue Community. Currently over 170 flags are flying proudly to show respect to our friends at Offutt AFB as well as the military members and veterans of our community. The goal is to expand the avenue of flags to other areas of the community and to replace some of the flags that need to be retired.