

## **2024 BCF Grant Recipients**

- **Bellevue Together Inc. receives \$3,500** for their “Hands of Hope Program” Since over 41% of all Bellevue Public School families qualify for free and reduced lunch services, this program supports BPS families whose families do not have access to breakfast and lunch at the school during the Holiday break. Bellevue Together is requesting funding to partially fund food costs for the two boxes of food that 165 families will receive to help get them through the Holiday break. The total cost of the program is approximately \$19,000.
- **Students Athletes Value Education Inc. (SAVE) receives \$4,000** for it’s Academic Mentoring Program and Follow through Program for specifically Bellevue Students which includes OPS students in North Bellevue. SAVE connects over 500 underserved youth with opportunities and resources to be successful students and citizens. About 30% of the participants of this program reside in Bellevue with a total budget of the program of \$525,000.
- **Bellevue Food Pantry receives \$5,000** to assist with the purchase of dairy items including milk and eggs for the up to 13,000 people that were served by the food pantry last year. Due to strong partnerships that have been developed, frozen meats/proteins and fresh produce are accessible to Bellevue families but access to dairy products remain scarce. This funding would cover the whole budget of this portion of the Food Pantry’s goal to provide access to dairy products as part of maintaining a nutritious diet.
- **Green Bellevue receives \$3,000** install a water sprinkler system in the Purple Heart Garden at the Eastern Nebraska Veteran’s Home. Green Bellevue has been operating programs and projects to beautify and improve our community since 2009. Green Bellevue has planted and is maintaining several gardens at the ENVH that provide beautiful and peaceful areas for the retired Veterans to enjoy. The Purple Heart Garden symbolizes a wounded Veteran’s sacrifice and is a welcome addition right by the front door. Watering this area has become especially labor intensive over the years and this sprinkler system installed by Millard Sprinkler would help maintain this area through the hot Nebraska summers

- **City of Bellevue Parks and Recreation receives \$4,000** to stock the lake at American Heroes Park with trout for Bellevue residents to fish and hopefully catch. This lake is utilized for fishing by hundreds of people throughout the year and becoming more popular each year. It is the goal of the Bellevue Recreation Department to provide outside fun for the whole family and they are excited that this lake is becoming a place where families gather to fish. A private contractor would be hired to stock the lake this fall.
- **Bellevue Woman's Club receives \$1,175** from the BCF to purchase, plant and maintain 20 flower planters on the sidewalks of Olde Town Bellevue from May – September. About 25 members of the Bellevue Woman's Club take on this beautification project annually and the planters are strategically placed on the main streets of Olde town to enhance the Streetscape of all who visit or live in the area. Planters are planted in May and maintained throughout the year by volunteers and businesses in the area. Total cost of this annual project is budgeted at \$2,573
- **Offutt Enlisted Spouses Club receives \$2,500** to provide gifts to give out to Children at their annual Winter Wonderland event. Winter Wonderland benefits the enlisted servicemembers and their families who are stationed at Offutt AFB. For many of these service members stationed at Offutt AFB, the holidays are a reminder of financial hardships and separation from loved ones. Winter wonderland was created to uplift the spirits and improve the moral of these service members by providing a night with Santa, games and crafts. Each child will receive at least one gift, valued at no less than \$15 and often is one of the few that these children receive. The total cost for the gift portion of this program is listed as \$9,750.
- **Omaha Symphony Association receives \$2,500** to bring the Omaha Symphony's popular Mission Imagination: "Amazing Music Machine" concert to all Bellevue Public School 2<sup>nd</sup> graders on January 23, 2025. Mission Imagination aims to develop a foundational interest in music through interactive performances, play-alongs, sing-alongs, and conduct-alongs. Teachers at these schools are then provided with classroom curriculum aligned with national and state standards to enhance the value of the program. The symphony is trying to raise a total of \$10,682 to cover the cost of the performance and program so the Bellevue School District does not have to pay a fee.