

The Blue Foundation for a Healthy Florida

WINTER 2010 GRANTS

Organization: Alachua County Health Department
Amount: \$100,000
Term: Two (2) years
Area: Alachua County, North Florida Region

Project Description:

Alachua County Health Department (ACHD) is requesting support for its mobile outreach clinic to increase access for uninsured and underserved residents to primary care, well woman care, health screenings and monitoring, as well as referrals for specialty care. In addition to medical services, vital wraparound services, such as legal counseling and enrollment assistance into public programs (i.e., Kidcare, Medicaid, etc.), are also offered. The project is a unique collaborative between ACHD, University of Florida College of Medicine, Palms Health Center and the CHOICES program. Specifically, funds from TBF will support one-half the salary of the ACHD ARNP position on the mobile unit.

Organization: Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs (ACORN)
Amount: \$81,000
Term: Three (3) years
Area: Alachua County, North Florida Region

Project Description:

Alachua County Organization for Rural Needs (ACORN), a former TBF grantee, is requesting funds to provide services to two separate uninsured and underserved populations throughout Alachua County: seasonal farm workers and the homeless. In partnership with two area churches, ACORN will provide one additional evening clinic each month to provide primary care to area seasonal workers who have no other access to care. In partnership with the Helping Hands Clinic – a former grantee of TBF – and the churches, ACORN will provide free urgent dental care to homeless individuals (i.e., pain management), as well as dentures and other restorative work. Specifically, funds from TBF will be used to cover staff salaries, equipment and supplies.

Organization: Easter Seal Society of Volusia & Flagler Counties
Amount: \$73,500
Term: Two (2) years
Area: Flagler & Volusia Counties, Central Florida Region

Project Description:

Easter Seal Society of Volusia & Flagler Counties, a former TBF grantee, is requesting funding to increase access to vital services to children diagnosed on the Autism Disorder Spectrum (ASD) and/or with developmental delays. Specifically, funds from TBF will enable Easter Seal to: 1.) add Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services to its therapeutic "tool-kit;" 2.) increase access to its P.L.A.Y. Project™ by adding one additional home consultant position; 3.) increase capacity to serve more families by adding a part-time, dedicated staff position to coordinate individual intervention strategies and resource needs; and 4.) enhance its comprehensive ASD physician/therapist/teacher education program by expanding the number and frequency of clinical workshops it offers.

Organization: Epilepsy Foundation of Florida
Amount: \$45,000
Term: One (1) year
Area: Statewide Initiative

Project Description:

The Epilepsy Foundation of Florida (EFOF), a two-time Sapphire Award honoree, is requesting support to partially fund its Virtual Intake and Medical Case Management Program (VIMCM) pilot program. This pilot program is designed to increase access to neurological diagnosis and treatment services for low-income, uninsured and underinsured clients in rural or geographically underserved communities. Via a toll-free number and the Internet, multi-lingual (English, Spanish and Creole) in-take specialists and case workers will assist these isolated Floridians with epilepsy and other seizure disorders in locating and accessing primary and wraparound care in their neighborhoods. Funds from TBF will be applied primarily to salaries and benefits.

Organization: Orange County Government, Health Services Division
Amount: \$100,000
Term: Two (2) years
Area: Orange County, Central Florida Region

Project Description:

The Health Services Division within Orange County Government is requesting funding on behalf of the local Primary Care Access Network (PCAN) to develop a centralized referral system for specialty care diagnostic services. PCAN is an alliance of 22 “safety net” providers representing the public, private, faith-based and government sectors, many of which are past IMPACT grantees and Sapphire Award honorees, that operate a full range of primary and secondary care services. Specifically, funds from TBF would be used to hire the coordinator whose job it will be to design, establish and run the specialty care diagnostic services program, as well negotiate lower diagnostic testing fees and/or secure donate diagnostic services with/from local vendors and providers. The goal of the program is to increase access to specialty care and related diagnostic services via reduced costs and increased compliance/follow-up.

Organization: Orlando Health (for The Howard Phillips Center for Children and Families)
Amount: \$50,000
Term: One (1) year
Area: Orange County, Central Florida Region

Project Description:

The Howard Phillips Center (HPCCF) for Children and Families, a former TBF grantee, is the advocacy and outreach division of Arnold Palmer Hospital, itself a division of Orlando Health. HPCCF is requesting support to employ a case manager to connect uninsured clients of Teen Xpress (TX) with needed medical and psycho-social community services. Teen Xpress is a school-based mobile healthcare unit that provides complete medical and mental healthcare services to at-risk students at four targeted Orange County middle and high schools and a community YMCA. Since its inception in 1997, Teen Xpress has provided services to all teens and youth free-of-charge regardless of need, ability to pay or insurance status. However, to ensure continued operations (i.e., sustainability), part of the case manager’s responsibilities will also be to help enroll eligible youth and teens in programs such as Medicaid and Kidcare.

Organization: Parkview Outreach Community Center
Amount: \$100,000
Term: Three (3) years
Area: Polk County, Central Florida Region

Project Description:

Parkview Outreach Community Center (POCC) is a free clinic dedicated to serving the needs of uninsured and underserved, minority residents, of Haines City. The organization is requesting support to help expand clinic operations and increase access to primary care, health education and referrals to specialty care for an additional 500 clients, annually. Specifically, funds from TBF will be applied to salaries (namely that of the office / case manager), supplies and equipment.

Organization: Samaritan's Touch Care Center
Amount: \$98,000
Term: Three (3) years
Area: Highlands County, West Coast Region

Project Description:

Samaritan's Touch Care Center (STCC) is requesting a grant from TBF to strengthen and expand its award-winning Diabetes Master Clinician Program (DMCP). This innovative program provides tools that effectively engage low-income (often minority) patients in managing their diabetes, tailoring treatment that reflects culturally-sensitive solutions and empowering them to positively address issues that otherwise hamper success in controlling their diabetic condition. Services provided by the DMCP include three components: (1) The Diabetes Data Registry and Patient Report Card: a web-based reporting tools that tracks clinical performance and individual effectiveness in meeting patients' prescribed goals; (2) The Community Health Navigators (CHNs) (the community-based component): buddies/outreach workers/coaches/dietary counselors visit patients in their homes to address individual issues that impact healthy outcomes; and (3) The Diabetes Patient Advocate: under the supervision of the Medical Director, sees patients at STCC's facility, views test results, reviews and explains the Patient Report Cards, enters data into the Diabetes Data Registry, and helps coordinate care.

Organization: St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation
Amount: \$97,000
Term: Two (2) years
Area: Nassau County, North Florida Region

Project Description:

St. Vincent's HealthCare Foundation, a former TBF grantee, is requesting support for its mobile health outreach (MHO) unit to provide medical care to the underserved and uninsured throughout Northeast Florida, specifically Nassau County. While the mobile health unit provides a myriad of health-related services when deployed, St. Vincent's would use funds from TBF specifically to: 1.) expand its Diabetes Master Clinician Program (DMCP) to Nassau County MHO patients and further improve patient success; and 2.) implement a Tdap vaccination program to 600 MHO patients to eliminate the spread of Pertussis in Nassau County and across the First Coast. By screening patients early, diagnosis, intervention and enrollment in DCMP will improve outcomes in new patients, while those already enrolled in will benefit by learning how to manage their disease. Pertussis is a highly contagious disease spread by respiratory droplets. Because immunity wanes over time, a high level of immunity is needed to reduce incidence. The Department of Health is recommending everyone without documentation of full immunization against Pertussis be fully immunized at the earliest opportunity.

Organization: The Way Free Medical Clinic
Amount: \$100,000
Term: Two (2) years
Area: Clay County, North Florida Region

Project Description:

The Way Free Medical Clinic, a former TBF grantee, is requesting support for two general initiatives: \$60,000 to paying for direct client services such as: hospitalizations, surgeries, imaging and radiology services; and \$40,000 to hire two part-time case managers / public health coordinators. The public health coordinators will help The Way's clients to understand their health concerns and conditions and help identify other issues that impact the client such as lack of reliable transportation, lack of nutritional/adequate food, clothing, etc. The incorporation of case management will produce a healthier, more informed client who will be able to access appropriate public programs including those catalogued with The Mercy Network.

Organization: WestJax Outreach
Amount: \$100,000
Term: One (1) year
Area: Duval County, North Florida Region

Project Description:

WestJax Outreach is the only free medical clinic in western Duval County and the only free dental clinic serving the entire population of Duval County. Dental services include pain and infection control through x-rays, exams, extractions, fillings and limited root canals. At present, WestJax Dental Clinic provides services to approximately 40 clients per month, and maintains a wait list for another 800 people. The organization is requesting funding from TBF to update and replace dental equipment, increase the hours of operation and hire a part-time dental coordinator. While WestJax's long-term goal is to offer more comprehensive and preventative care, its short-term goal is to increase access to these vital dental services by doubling the number of clients seen each month from 40 to 80.