

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
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Waterville's Zion Lutheran Endowment Fund Awards \$108,000 to Nonprofits

The Mission Endowment Fund of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church in Waterville is celebrating its 14th annual series of grants by awarding a total of \$108,000 to 21 nonprofit organizations.

Local grants include \$10,000 to the Maumee-based Alliance for Paired Donations for travel expenses of kidney donors/recipients and \$3,150 to the Awake Community Coalition for intervention services and education about opioids in the Anthony Wayne schools. The East Toledo Family Center will receive \$6,000 toward its purchase of an industrial kitchen stove which will allow it to maintain and expand services to the community. A Renewed Mind, a faith-based behavioral healthcare provider in Perrysburg, will use a grant of \$3,500 to purchase supplies for expressive arts therapy.

Toledo Gospel Rescue Mission (\$5,800) is remodeling and expanding a donated building that will house 21 homeless women and their children. The Aurora Project (\$6,200), also serving homeless women and children, will replace its outdated computer system. Toledo Streets Workforce Development (\$2,950) will buy publishing equipment for production of "Toledo Streets," a newspaper that is sold by unhoused and low income people to help them gain financial independence. Back on My Feet Baltimore (\$1,100) uses the power of running to link those who formerly lived on the streets with people who are currently in need of housing and employment.

Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio will use a grant of \$7,500 in its Citizen Reentry program to counsel and support individuals recently released from incarceration. The Henry County Family Dependency Center helps parents with substance abuse or mental health issues reunite with their children. A grant of \$3,000 will buy incentives used to motivate parents toward successful recovery.

Local and regional churches receiving grants include First Lutheran Church (Bryan) - \$9,500 for its food pantry and meal service, H2O Church (Columbus) - \$2,550 for establishment of a campus ministry in Indiana, and First Presbyterian Church (Waterville) - \$1,000 for community tutoring. In addition, grants totaling \$8,500 will enable the Northwestern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ("ELCA") to purchase Bible study guides and daily devotional books for all of its clergy.

Internationally, grants will provide \$7,100 to Young Adults in Global Ministry, an outreach of the ELCA, and \$6,250 for 25 household stoves in Guatemala to replace unsafe indoor cooking fires. Grants totaling \$5,850 will support scholarships for students from Ecuador and expenses of University of Toledo medical students who will receive hands-on training during a medical mission trip to Nicaragua.

Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus will receive grants of \$8,050 for development of contemporary campus worship materials and \$10,000 to help with expenses of an intern serving a congregation in the midst of a redevelopment process.

Zion's Mission Endowment Fund has been awarding grants annually beginning in 2005 and has awarded \$1,479,600 to date. Applicants are sponsored by Zion's members. Recipients include a broad range of regional, national and global nonprofit organizations that share the Fund's goal of "Bringing Mission to Life."