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March 22, 2016

MOSES TAYLOR FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2015-2016 THIRD QUARTER GRANTS *Grant Funds to Promote Health and Wellness Throughout Northeast Pennsylvania*

SCRANTON, PA. – The board of directors of Moses Taylor Foundation has approved its 2015-2016 third quarter grants, awarding a total of \$2,047,608 to nine organizations that advance the Foundation’s strategic priority of promoting health and wellness throughout Northeast Pennsylvania.

“Moses Taylor Hospital was founded by Moses Taylor in 1892 to provide quality healthcare to the residents of our community,” said LaTida Smith, Moses Taylor Foundation President and CEO. “These 2015-2016 third quarter grants speak directly to fulfilling our mission; they honor the philanthropic legacy of Moses Taylor by providing meaningful opportunities for Northeast Pennsylvania residents – especially the most vulnerable – to lead healthier lives.”

The Foundation administers quarterly grant cycles. The full list of 2015-2016 third quarter grants is noted below.

- **The Arc of Northeastern Pennsylvania:** \$15,000 to assist in renovating the agency’s 30,000 square-foot flagship building on Meadow Avenue in Scranton. The building houses the agency’s second-floor administrative offices, and is also home to the agency’s largest day service, serving approximately 90 men and women with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities.

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- **Family Service Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania:** \$20,000 in operating support for Northeast Pennsylvania 211, a 24-hour helpline providing information and referral services, advocacy and after-hours crisis services for a 17-county region. Trained caseworkers and an online information service connect community members to area providers of energy assistance, shelter, food, sexual assault, mental health, child abuse/neglect, disaster assistance, elder abuse and substance abuse services.
- **Maternal & Family Health Services (MFHS):** \$209,482 to support the organization's Health Information Technology Initiative, and specifically, the implementation of an electronic health record. MFHS provides healthcare and services to low-income, uninsured, and underinsured women, children and families across 16 Northeastern Pennsylvania counties. Adoption of an electronic health record will result in improved patient care, improved care coordination, practice efficiencies, cost savings, increased patient participation and improved diagnostics and patient outcomes.
- **NAMI Pennsylvania:** \$19,000 to increase the availability of youth mental health first aid training for adults who regularly interact with young people, as well as crisis intervention training for first responders who frequently encounter people in crisis. Both programs work to increase awareness of mental illness and local resources available to assist people in crisis.
- **Pocono Alliance:** \$75,000 to develop a comprehensive behavioral health improvement plan in Monroe County. Pocono Alliance will serve as the convener to support area business, university, government and community stakeholders in evaluating the continuum of behavioral health services in the region, identifying gaps and opportunities to increase access and awareness.
- **Scranton School District:** \$99,825 to expand implementation of the school-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Program across the school district. The program works to build a school culture that promotes wellness and academic success, teaches appropriate social skills to students, prevents problem behavior, directs targeted students to specialized and individualized support, and uses data for decision-making.

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- **The Commonwealth Medical College:** \$1,225,000 over three years to provide infrastructure and support for the Behavioral Health Initiative, aimed at addressing critical needs in mental health and substance abuse in our 17-county region of Northeastern and North Central Pennsylvania. A collaboration of more than 41 area stakeholders, the Initiative aims to increase the capacity of the healthcare workforce to serve people with mental health and substance abuse disorders and promote community awareness of behavioral health issues and resources.
- **The Wright Center Medical Group:** \$234,301 to expand an oral health clinic on The Wright Center's Jermyn campus. Expansion will increase the Center's capacity to provide comprehensive, convenient, cost-effective and efficient dental care to underserved populations, as well as expand learning opportunities for dental hygiene students, medical assistant students and dental residents.
- **United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern Pennsylvania (UNC):** \$150,000 to expand the Community Health Department's efforts to connect community members to a medical home, reduce barriers to accessing care, and coordinate community-wide health education and awareness programming. A trusted community resource, UNC serves as a bridge between area healthcare providers and community members who have been unable to access care.

About Moses Taylor Foundation

Moses Taylor Foundation is a private foundation dedicated to building healthy communities and providing opportunities for people in Northeast Pennsylvania, especially the most vulnerable, to lead healthier lives. The Foundation was endowed in 2012 with the net proceeds from the sale of the Moses Taylor Health Care System to Community Health Systems of Franklin, Tennessee. Information on the work of Moses Taylor Foundation is available on the Foundation's website: www.mosestaylorfoundation.org.

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