



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MOSES TAYLOR FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2017-2018 SECOND 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 2017-2018 second quarter grants, awarding a total of \$835,811 to 13 organizations that advance the Foundation’s strategic priority of promoting health and wellness throughout Northeast Pennsylvania.

“Through our grantmaking we have opportunities to launch new programs, expand community resources, and improve the capacity of local nonprofit organizations,” said LaTida Smith, Moses Taylor Foundation President and CEO. “This quarter we are particularly proud of our investment to sustain and expand the services of licensed social workers in the Scranton School District’s elementary schools. The District appreciates the unique role it can play in promoting the health and well-being of its students. Through this partnership we are working to reduce the barriers that impact students’ ability to learn.”

The Foundation administers quarterly grant cycles. The full list of 2017-2018 second quarter grants is noted below.

- **Scranton School District:** \$349,360 to continue the services of LSWs in the Scranton School District’s elementary schools for the 2018 calendar year. This project aims to

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increase the number of LSWs in the Scranton School District to assess, address and reduce barriers to academic success through individual and group social and emotional learning curriculum, referral to local agencies, home-school collaboration, truancy reduction, and participation in Child Study meetings and Student Assistant Program (SAP) teams.

- **Misericordia University:** \$100,000 for the purchase of simulation equipment for the Medical Imaging (MI), Physician Assistant (PA) and Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) programs. Simulation-based education will provide MI, PA and DMS program students with new training opportunities to test clinical procedures and improve individual and team skills.
  
- **Scranton Area Community Foundation:** \$100,000 to facilitate a series of eight workshops intended to address capacity building needs of nonprofit organizations in Lackawanna County. Workshop topics include researching federal and public grant opportunities, understanding business planning, and creating a fundraising culture. A portion of the funding will also be used to support this year's NEPA Match Day program.
  
- **Family Service Association of Northeastern Pennsylvania:** \$67,230 to further develop the 211 resource database for 17 counties throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania (NEPA). The goal of this project is to increase the database by an additional 2,000 resources in NEPA, bringing the total database listing of local resources to over 4,500. Funding is for one full-time worker and three temporary workers, resulting in a rapid building of the resource database.
  
- **The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development:** \$50,000 to support a three-year pilot in an effort to inform and educate grantmakers, grantees, nonprofits, elected officials and stakeholders. The Institute proposes strategic solutions to inform decision making in the following sectors: demographic reports; federal/state bulletins; quarterly research studies; and legislative issues briefing booklets.

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- **Telespond Senior Services:** \$46,877 to expand Adult Day Services into Wayne County. This expansion will help residents of Wayne and Pike counties remain in their homes rather than having to reside in a nursing home. The Day Program also helps caregivers by providing respite while knowing their loved ones are in a safe environment. The program is geared toward people with Alzheimer's and Dementia. Participants engage in cognitive activities to help stimulate their minds as well as physical activities within their capabilities. A hot lunch is provided, and transportation will be provided by Wayne and Pike Counties' transportation systems.
- **Friends of the Poor:** \$20,000 for a strategic plan and Thanksgiving Program support. Funding will be used to support strategic planning and organizational development, and to support the Family to Family Thanksgiving food basket program. Founded in 1984, Friends of the Poor is dedicated to easing the burden of living in poverty and enhancing the quality of life for all who live in low- to moderate income communities.
- **Friendship House:** \$19,860 to conduct a feasibility study for replicating and implementing the Princeton Child Development Institute (PCDI) model in Pennsylvania's Northeastern/Northcentral region. The study will include researching PCDI as a model program and best practices for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) at national and international levels; a needs analysis; analysis of the professional work force available to serve individuals with ASD; and cost projections for start-up and sustainability.
- **Northern Tier Industry & Education Consortium:** \$19,680 to support this year's Health Care Careers for At Risk Youth program. Specific program plans for 2017-18 include healthcare career events for over 350 high school students from 10 area school districts, a week-long summer health care career camp for up to 15 students to gain an in-depth understanding of the health care field, and a hospital internship experience for over 50 area students.
- **Servants to All:** \$19,500 for the development and construction of a showering room that will be available for the homeless population of Schuylkill County. This project will enable

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all clients the opportunity to receive showering in addition to inclusive services such as meal, clothing and personal care already provided at the Servants to All day program. Servants to All is Schuylkill County's only homeless program that serves both men and women.

- **Wilkes-Barre Family YMCA:** \$17,756 to provide full scholarships to 48 Diabetes Prevention Program participants. A portion of the funding will support community education, including a locally produced and aired television commercial promoting chronic disease programming.
  
- **Greater Carbondale YMCA:** \$15,548 to enhance the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Membership Initiative at the Greater Carbondale YMCA. Funds will assist in expanding the program in the number of participants and types of programming offered. In addition to a traditional membership, the YMCA will offer specialized wellness classes for 7<sup>th</sup> graders, community service opportunities, Red Cross babysitting/CPR/first aid certification, and junior lifeguarding.
  
- **3<sup>rd</sup> District Dental Society:** \$10,000 to support continuing education for the Society's members. This year's program focuses on opioid abuse due to the timeliness and pervasiveness of the issue and a new requirement for education on the practices of prescribing opioids for license renewal by the State Board of Dentistry. The Society works to promote public awareness of oral health and the availability of dental care and provide professional development for its members.

### **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](http://www.mosestaylorfoundation.org).