



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MOSES TAYLOR FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2018-2019 FIRST QUARTER GRANTS *Grant Funds to Promote Health and Wellness Throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania***

**SCRANTON, PA.** – The board of directors of Moses Taylor Foundation has announced its 2018-2019 first quarter grants, awarding a total of \$1,051,642 to 12 organizations that advance the Foundation's mission of promoting health and wellness throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania.

"This quarter we are proud to support the Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank with a multi-year investment. The Food Bank provides healthy food options for low-income families throughout our region and is continually successful in expanding programming to address the needs of the families it serves," said LaTida Smith, Moses Taylor Foundation President and CEO. "With other investments ranging from health care workforce development to screenings in area schools, these 2018-2019 first quarter grants support our partners' efforts to create lasting impact in the communities we serve."

The Foundation administers quarterly grant cycles. The full list of 2018-2019 first quarter grants is noted below. A complete history of grant awards is available on the Moses Taylor Foundation website.

- **Commission on Economic Opportunity:** \$750,000 over 3 years to provide operating

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support for the Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank. Grant funds will be used to support the operation of food distribution programs that focus on healthy foods and fresh fruits and vegetables.

- **PA Treatment & Healing:** \$107,300 to support construction costs for the expansion of the Intensive Adolescent Day Treatment Program and the Alternative Education Program. With the additional space, PATH will be able to accept more young adults into the two programs.
- **Johnson College:** \$49,070 to purchase updated equipment for the Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiological Technology, and Biomedical Equipment Technology programs. New equipment includes parallel bars, wheelchairs, defibrillator analyzers, patient simulators, and centrifuges, among others.
- **Waverly Community House:** \$30,000 to complete and outfit a fully developed childcare center designed to serve those with Sensory Processing Disorder. The center will include various recreational and therapeutic elements, such as adjustable lighting, specialized seating, and interactive elements, and will enable families to participate freely without time or financial restrictions.
- **Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeastern PA:** \$20,000 to hire a consultant group to create a fundraising strategy that will sustain the Lois Kearney Arts, Education and Prevention Program. Consultants will help the Club in developing an endowment campaign plan; implementing a feasibility study; meeting with potential donors; and creating a series of activities to help ensure a successful campaign that will sustain the Program.
- **Diakon Child, Family & Community Ministries:** \$20,000 over two years to increase the capacity of the APPRISE program in Pike County. The APPRISE program provides free health insurance counseling to Medicare beneficiaries to help them navigate the complexities of the Medicare system and other medical benefits. The APPRISE program is available to help seniors understand their options and make decisions related

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to their healthcare coverage.

- **Marywood University:** \$18,287 to complete preventative screenings and speech-language stimulation with children enrolled in Head Start centers throughout Lackawanna County. Marywood University student clinicians will conduct hearing and speech-language screenings and facilitate language stimulation groups for children, as well as conduct professional development activities for Head Start teachers to help them identify speech, language, and hearing challenges in children.
- **American Red Cross NEPA Chapter:** \$17,985 to support the purchase of a new Disaster Response Vehicle. In combination with funding secured from ESSA Bank and Trust, this vehicle will aid in the transportation and use of three enclosed trailers previously funded by Moses Taylor Foundation in December 2015. The new vehicle will be utilized for the Home Fire Campaign and to support disaster relief efforts throughout northeast Pennsylvania.
- **Center for Vision Loss:** \$16,000 to purchase new and upgraded technology for the Center's low vision clinic in Monroe County. Along with low vision optometrist exams, the clinic offers a selection of optical products, adaptive tools, and accessible technologies that allow patients to perform daily tasks, avoid isolation, and access critical information.
- **Lackawanna County District Attorney's Office:** \$9,000 to support an opioid prevention program entitled Operation Prevention, in conjunction with the Lackawanna County Drug and Alcohol Prevention Unit. A Lackawanna County Prevention Specialist will implement this pilot program within the Dunmore School District, with potential to expand to other school districts throughout the county.
- **University of Scranton:** \$9,000 to support three scholarships for The University of Scranton's Nonprofit Leadership Certificate Program. The program will provide high potential leaders with the knowledge and insight required to enable their organizations to achieve and sustain their respective missions and ensure positive community outcomes.

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- **The F.M. Kirby Center for the Performing Arts:** \$5,000 to support the Center's first sensory-friendly performance. Sensory-friendly programming makes theater accessible to audience members who may be sensitive to sensory stimuli, along with their families. The message of this production, entitled Freckleface Strawberry, is one of inclusion: with the help of her schoolmates and teacher, Freckleface Strawberry learns that everyone is different, and that's what makes everyone special.

**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).

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