

**2021 IMPACT POLK AWARDS**

Program Area	Organization Name	Project Name	Brief Project Description	Amount Awarded
<b>Animal Welfare</b>				
	TLC PetSnip, Inc.	TLC PetSnip Cares and believes you should #KeepYourPet	#KeepYourPets is a program that will open access to care to pet owners that are receiving some form of government funded financial assistance. The practice management system that is used will be used to ensure that the correct demographic receives the benefits of this funding.	\$2,500.00
	SPCA Florida	Lend a helping paw	Many families in Polk County cannot afford veterinary care. Many seniors, homeless persons, and impoverished families do not have funds for even the most basic of care and when something happens, they are faced with two choices: to relinquish their beloved pet, or euthanize. Low-income families and their pets will benefit from the program, and it will be managed through our Medical Center. We have the infrastructure, reach, and knowledge, but are short on funds to truly make an impact.	\$15,000.00
<b>Arts and Culture</b>				
	Platform Art, Inc.	Platform Kids 2021/2022	Platform Kids (PK) 2021/2022 presents visual and performing art created by students, grades 1-12, nurturing a love for art and giving young artists a forum to exhibit their talents and encourage further study. The 2021/2022 program includes a high school student art design exhibit for our next signature public art project—a permanent sculpture, commemorating the Spanish American War & Buffalo Soldiers for Lakeland's Veteran's Memorial Park. The public art sculpture design entries complement our core program, working with Polk County schools and students to create and exhibit art at an annual juried art show and performance event for grades 1-12.	\$10,000.00
	Lakeland Choral Society Inc	Resound Polk	Resound Polk is a community engagement initiative that includes two virtual choir productions, a Sing-Along, two outdoor concerts, a partner performance and outreach programs. Requested funding supports a reinvigorated choral arts community and performance opportunities that will resonate throughout the Lakeland /Polk County area.	\$2,500.00

Family Literacy Academy at Lake Wales	To Continue The Arts and At- Risk Children	Family Literacy Academy's (FLA) project will provide arts-related sessions weekly to the children of our enrolled ESOL and GED parents. The sessions will include such activities as music, dance, theater and visual arts. Through the arts children learn life skills such as working with people, resolving conflict, expressing themselves appropriately. Parents will participate in some of the sessions to have the opportunity to share the "arts " as a family and carry it into their home. The project will demonstrate to our program adults the importance of expanding their family's arts and cultural experiences.	\$5,000.00
Truth Factory Inc.	Building Solid Family Foundations	Benefits of family time include Improved Mental Health, improved student academic performance, Lower risk of behavioral problems, Boost in self-confidence, Reduced stress, and Enhances physical health. Truth Factory Community Theater encourages quality family time by providing FREE weekly, family friendly, uplifting, wholesome entertainment, which not only inspires, but challenges our community to see beyond our differences.	\$5,000.00
Lakeland Community Theatre, Inc.	Out of the Box Theatre Troupe for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities	"Out of the Box" is Lakeland Community Theatre's "troupe with unique abilities." This theatre troupe has grown to over 120 special needs members ages 8 to 60 plus. We meet weekly to work on improvisation, scene work, dance, poetry, musical theatre, and more. Our goal is to continue weekly classes and perform a free show for the community every spring and fall. This program offers a very unique population a creative outlet, an educational experience, and a sense of belonging in our community at no cost to them.	\$10,000.00

Lake Wales Arts Council	2021 Summer Arts Camp	2021 Summer Arts Camp provides Lake Wales students with opportunities to participate in high-quality, affordable arts education. Many students don't have the ability to partake in extra-curricular programming or travel outside Lake Wales for summer camps. Our current collaboration with Lake Wales Charter Schools and Boys and Girls Club has brought to our attention the severity of economic hardship within our community. The Lake Wales Arts Council aims to create economically-appropriate classes for students without sacrificing quality educators or supplies.	\$5,000.00
Florida Dance Theatre	Arts on the Lawn	The Arts on the Lawn project is an initiative developed to address the lack of safe space for students of FDT's outreach programs at Crystal Lake Elementary and Parker Street Ministries. Due to growing concerns surrounding Covid 19, many limitations have been placed on indoor activities. As a result, children from these under-served areas are restricted from receiving the opportunity of quality arts education in healthy conditions. FDT will use funds awarded from this grant to purchase a portable sprung dance floor to be used for classes and performances. Sprung floors reduce the risk of injury during impact.	\$19,025.00
<b>City/Community Development</b>			
West Central Florida Fellowship of Christian Athletes	West Central Florida FCA Community Ministry-Project HERE (Hope, Encouragement, Reconciliation, Empowerment)	We will bring a message of HOPE, ENCOURAGEMENT, RECONCILIATION, and EMPOWERMENT. We will do this through regular engagement with the community. FCA Community Ministry-Project HERE will minister to those in our community who are experiencing a poverty of spirit, vision and opportunity.	\$2,500.00
<b>Education</b>			

Polk County Public Schools	STEAMing it up at HCE - Promoting Girls and Underserved Populations in STEAM	Females and minorities are underrepresented in STEAM fields. We want to show girls, and all students, at Highland City Elementary that being a scientist or an engineer, a graphic artist, a programmer, or a mathematician is within their reach. We will provide them the critical thinking skills to prepare them for the global economy in a tech-heavy 21st century world. Our KUHL Makerspace provides spontaneous informal learning that boosts imagination and critical thinking skills, fosters persistence and empowerment, and bridges the digital divide.	\$15,000.00
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay, Inc.	Comprehensive One-to-One Mentoring Programs	This funding will assist in sustaining our successful, evidence-based mentoring programs in Polk County for over 250 children/youth and their mentors. Our program creates and supports 1-to-1 mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. We do this by partnering with families, volunteers, and others in the community and holding ourselves accountable for each child in our program achieving higher aspirations, greater confidence and better relationships, avoidance of risky behaviors and educational success.	\$10,000.00
Bok Tower Gardens, Inc.	Bok Tower Gardens for All	Bok Tower Gardens for All, a program to invite anyone with a Polk County zip code who is receiving food assistance (SNAP benefits) to enjoy free admission to the Gardens for the duration of your grant period (May 2021 – March 2022). In addition, each child who qualifies for this program will receive a welcome pack designed to pique their curiosity, help them explore the Gardens, and facilitate fun, enriching experiences with nature.	\$10,000.00
Center for Independent Living in Central Florida	Project SEARCH: Work Force Training and Opportunities for Youth with Disabilities	Project SEARCH is a business-led internship program that provides youth with intellectual/developmental disabilities with "real world" on-the-job training and job search/enrichment activities. CIL provides a job coach onsite to help youth gain marketable job skills and the community-based supports they need for long term retention while building a more inclusive work environment at project sites. At program's end, all participants are expected to be meaningfully employed in their communities.	\$5,000.00

Museum of Science & Industry (MOSI)	MOSI in Motion Programming for Polk County Title I Schools	The MOSI in Motion mobile education program provides STEAM curriculum to underserved elementary and middle school students for whom a visit to MOSI may be an impossibility due to location, transportation, and cost. Opportunities like these are critical for students, especially those who have not yet entered high school, as they promote engagement in STEAM educational tracks and careers. Funding will support Motion program in 35 Polk County Title I schools during the 2021-2022 academic year. MOSI-In-A-Box experiences developed by MOSI's staff align with Polk County school district curriculum.	\$7,500.00
Junior Achievement of Tampa Bay	Preparing Students for the Workforce through Career Exploration	JA Inspire Virtual Career Expo will expose over 2,500 Polk County 8th-12th grade students in an interactive showcase of high demand careers for our local communities and beyond. They will explore virtually through business community videos or real time virtual interaction, specific jobs and education required and use Career Profiler, where they will take a personality assessment, match their personalities to specific careers, determine education requirements and costs.	\$5,000.00
Lighthouse for the Blind and Low Vision, Inc.	I Can Do it Myself! With Early Intervention	Blind and visually impaired young children cannot see to mimic those around them and need extra supports in order to achieve independence to his or her fullest potential. Young children learn by watching and mimicking those around them. Children also learn through play. Specialists use adaptive toys to stimulate blind or visually impaired children's interest in their surroundings and teach age-developmentally appropriate play, self-help, and learning activities.	\$10,000.00
Narrow Path Outreach Incorporated	IP 2021 - After School and Summer Program; After School and Summer Program; After School and Summer Program; After School and Summer Program	Our After School Program provides academic tutoring, college/career awareness, and positive character formation. We partner with local schools, community organizations, businesses, churches, & universities.	\$5,000.00

Polk Education Foundation	Polk Reads - Helping Young Students Become Better Readers	If a child starts out as a poor reader, without intervention they will most likely stay a poor reader and usually fall further and further behind not only in reading, but in other subjects as well. Polk Reads targets students in their formative years of learning to read, specifically kindergarten – third grade, to help them build a solid foundation of reading skills. Reading tutoring is provided to select students and tutors work in collaboration with the students' teachers to design and provide one-on-one prescriptive tutoring sessions, to help bring the students up to grade level in reading.	\$10,000.00
Aerospace Center for Excellence	STEMFusion	The program offers project-based learning experiences in a laboratory learning environment that connects STEM and aerospace concepts to national and state curriculum standards in math and science. At STEMfusion, participants will reinforce and connect classroom theories to hands on activities while also learning about STEM career opportunities in the exploding aerospace business sector. Grant funding will specifically create mini-maker spaces in ACE laboratory and purchase program equipment such as 3D printers, ipads and a portable SMART board/TV needed to launch the STEMfusion program.	\$5,000.00
Lake Wales Charter Schools	Hillcrest Elementary Parent Engagement Project	The purpose of this grant is to increase subgroup performance through parent engagement and two way communication to improve tests scores by a full letter grade. We will focus on our population which includes African American students, repeaters, English language learners, students with exceptionalities, and the bottom quartile group that often struggles to connect.	\$5,000.00
Frostproof Dawgs	Literacy for Athletes 2021	We strive to continue teaching high risk youth the skills to becomes successful in their future. We reach the youth through the opportunity of athletics and participation in our community. We gain their trust and establish a bond with them, so they trust us when we show them how important literacy is in everyday life and throughout their learning careers. We demonstrate life skills and give opportunity for the youth to put forth their skills taught by giving back to the community.	\$3,000.00

1st Veterans' Kids Care, Inc.	Youth Eyecare Services (Y.E.S.) Vision and Literacy Initiative	Our initiative is a mobile, comprehensive screening program that provides life changing and life enhancing services to children and adults in underserved communities who would not have access to exams or affordable eyewear. Our Initiative starts by providing vision screenings aimed at identifying children with eye impairments and then referring them to a community, network optometrist for a comprehensive exam and, if needed, furnish them with eyewear free of charge. Additionally, students who may need educational interventions and services because of visual impairments are identified and provided with follow up services that will help remediate and enhance academic improvements such as mentoring and tutoring.	\$5,000.00
Magnolia Montessori Academy	Pre-School Scholarships for Magnolia Montessori	Our Primary classroom is designed to assist the child's innate desire to absorb knowledge & facilitate paths of self-discovery. Practical Life, Sensory, Math, & Language are essential aspects of primary education. Montessori classrooms are specially prepared environments. They are clean, orderly, & designed to make materials accessible for students. Because of the environment, materials, and specially trained teachers, Montessori is out of reach for many lower socio-economic families. Scholarships would make a difference.	\$9,500.00
Explorations V Children's Museum, Inc.	Camp Explorations	Summer Camp Explorations program provides targeted literacy intervention by working with the child's ecosystem. Children work on language development and knowledge building in a camp setting; Parents and caregivers work on stability with a coach; and early childhood educators receive training on productive literacy growth mechanisms like open ended questions and emotional supports. This grant will provide scholarships for students from low-income homes for 8 weeks of camp and financial counseling for parents.	\$10,000.00

A Woman's Choice	Teen Impact Summer Abstinence Education Program 2021	Teen Impact Summer Abstinence Program is presented to teens, by teens who are committed to saying YES to healthy relationships and a positive future, by saying NO to pre-marital sex, drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. The message about the importance of healthy lifestyles is presented in an engaging and interactive skit format by teens who are serving as role models of this lifestyle themselves. The program will be presented to approximately 300 teens during the summer.	\$5,000.00
READ Lakeland, Inc.	Technology in the 21st Century: Transportable Literacy Connection	READ Lakeland, Inc. addresses the needs of adults with low literacy skills and those who wish to improve their English language skills. Many adult learners do not have access to virtual resources or have the technology skills that are necessary in this century. READ Lakeland supports adult learners by providing the necessary tools to improve knowledge, including access to pre and post assessments, virtual learning, tablets and study habits. We include web access to literacy applications in reading, writing, math, and English language skills in becoming a productive member of the community.	\$1,000.00
Better Tomorrows	Better Tomorrows' 2021-2020 After School Program	Abbey Lane Apartments in Winter Haven house low-income families where youth lack access to the resources their more affluent peers enjoy. Better Tomorrows' After School program engages Abbey Lane youth & provides resources, support & tools to enable them to succeed in school and life through an after school program to provide homework assistance. Better Tomorrows provides safe, financially accessible, structured activities for the children after school and during the summer. These supervised activities are designed to be engaging, educational and promote civic involvement and independence.	\$1,500.00
Warner University	Warner University Scholarships for Low-Income Students from Polk County	Students patch together a variety of funding sources to pay for college. Most, however, still need assistance, especially this year with job loss due to the pandemic. This grant can serve approximately 20 hardworking Polk County students at Warner by providing them each \$500 per school year.	\$5,000.00



Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Committee, Inc.	Help with Books & Tuition for the college students	College tuition rates continuously surge higher and students are still struggling to cover all expenses associated with college education, no matter which semester they are in, surveys show the cost of textbooks & tuition can determine how many classes they take each semester. We will assist 8 minority students who are seeking a higher education. We would like to remove some of the barriers on students. Funds will be used to purchase books & assist some college or trade school students with their tuition with continuing education, which will help them achieve their educational goals.	\$2,000.00
Polk County School Readiness Coalition Inc AKA Early Learning Coalition of Polk County	School Readiness Match	The School Readiness Match Program partners with local child care providers and area businesses and donors to raise funds matched by the state to provide early education and child care services to children who would otherwise be placed on a wait list for these services in Polk County. The program provides safe, affordable, high quality, early education opportunities for the children of low income families whose parents are working or going to school.	\$10,000.00
Florida Southern College	Helping Polk County Children with Dyslexia Become Successful Students	The Roberts Academy, Florida's only transitional school for children with dyslexia, uses effective teaching strategies and assistive technology to help students become successful readers and students. iPads have been integrated into the classrooms increased reading proficiency, students are more engaged during lessons, and they are more invested in their learning. We propose to expand iPad instruction to 2nd grade students and ensure that all students and teachers have ready access to the devices.	\$5,000.00
Camp Gilead Ministries of Florida, Inc.	Summer Camp Scholarship Fund 2021	Our programs are specifically designed to help children and teens develop spiritually, physically, mentally and socially. We create a fun and peaceful atmosphere free of outside pressures and distractions where young people can be encouraged and challenged resulting in changed lives. Funding will help provide financial assistance for children in Polk County who otherwise would not be able to attend a week of camp.	\$7,500.00

Cypress Junction Montessori, Inc.	Early Education Scholarship Fund	Public funds to provide free education as a charter school are only available for students in grades K-8. Scholarship funds will sponsor students (ages 3 and 4) in our preschool program for the 2021-22 school year. The scholarship fund will go toward tuition costs, making full day preschool attendance possible for more families. Needs-based scholarships are an effective way to introduce Montessori education to our community.	\$5,000.00
YMCA of West Central Florida	Safety Around Water: Kindergarten Learn to Swim Program (KLTS)	Kindergarten Learn to Swim program is a 2-week interactive water safety and education program. Students prepare in their classroom by learning about water safety, the importance of adult supervision, and identifying dangerous areas then transported to one of our aquatic facilities for a full week of lessons by certified instructors. Due to COVID and school closures, we will use the same curriculum for over 1,200 children to receive free swim lessons for 25+ weeks through Safety Around Water program during our Relief Childcare program.	\$20,000.00
The Public Education Partnership of Winter Haven, Inc.	PEP Education Center Online Tutoring and Homework Support Program	PEP Education Center Online Tutoring and Homework Support Program has been implemented in direct response to the coronavirus pandemic in support of our students. PEP's teachers, counselors, and volunteers have in the past worked in person with small groups of students to tutor, fill in gaps, offer homework support, and a host of enrichment activities. Our online program gives students 1:1 access to a tutor for an hour, twice a week, and more time if needed.	\$4,000.00

Parker Street Ministries, Inc.	Summer Workforce Lab for Youth in Under-served Neighborhood	This past summer, the height of unemployment hit when the high school students of Parker Street's Workforce Lab were already earning stipends in an 8-week, half-day experience that broadened their workplace, career, and post-secondary opportunities. As the jobless rate rose, the effects disproportionately impacted this community's low-income people of color, people that had already experienced multiple challenges in health, finances, digital literacy, housing, and education. Funding will continue Workforce Lab hat foresees critical joblessness on the horizon for our youth and seeks to address both internal and external causes by minding gaps and providing opportunities for youth to engage in real workplace scenarios.	\$5,000.00
Faith Without Works Inc.	Camp Compassion 2K21	Camp Compassion is a summer day camp designed to address the Youth Risk Factors, Character and Education needs. This camp includes age appropriate activities, in a variety of vital character areas that address the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional needs of youth. This Summer, we are entering into the STEM World by adding computer class to enhance their skills on the keys, structured e-learning, and abundant stem opportunities this summer. Funds are requested to cover scholarships for low income families & at risk youth to attend camp.	\$10,000.00
Randy Roberts Foundation	Congressional Classroom	Randy Roberts Foundation provides a non-partisan program to educate and engage our youth in democracy and to foster an interest in public service. A five-day experiential learning trip to Washington, D.C. affords selected students from Polk County the opportunity to gain an inside look at our government process to reinforce state of FL education standards and promote social/emotional growth. Our 2021 Congressional Classroom requests additional financial support to provide selected students with enriched interpersonal skills, enhanced communication skills, expanded knowledge of our government in action, exposure to public service careers, and renewed vigor to civically engage.	\$5,000.00

HERO REVOLUTION INC	You Too Can Be A H.E.R.O. and be a champion in LIFE!	Omegaman is a superhero that kids relate to and look up too. The Omegaman school assemblies offer interactive presentations that promote good behavior to challenge students to be a H.E.R.O. - Helping Everyone Respect Others. Funding request is to present 40 schools with a FREE PBIS/Character Development/Bullying Prevention assembly and classroom strategies to create safe, positive school climate, improve peer relations, build character and reduce bullying behavior.	\$10,000.00
Learning Resource Center of Polk County	Camp READY! Lakeland Summer 2021	For 50 students, Camp READY! Lakeland 2021 will be that bridge, spanning the reading gaps between acquired and required skills. Camp READY! reaches children exposed to a limited vocabulary or experiencing developmental deficiencies. Campers in Camp READY! Summer 2020 demonstrated positive growth in all of the requisite skills, as well as an expanding love for learning, with an average vocabulary gain of five months. Schools confirm that these kindergartners are performing well in the first months and are emerging as classroom leaders.	\$18,066.45
Abounding in Faith, Inc.	Camp Career & Empowerment For Girls	Camp Career & Empowerment For Girls goal is to get more girls involved in Science, Technology, Engineering Arts and Mathematics STEAM learning and careers through a summer camp. There is a new focus that is aimed on allowing girls to explore their options in these areas. This is creating a need for girls to be provided with extra-curricular activities that will increase awareness in these careers and provide additional resources for those who may currently have an interest. This program is geared for girls ages 8-15. Transportation will be provided eliminating the burden of the parents to assist with this camp.	\$5,000.00

FAM Church	Migrant Children After School Program	This funding request is to provide an after-school program for the local migrant worker's elementary children. The program will pick the children up from school at the end of the day and bring them to FAM children's center. Children will work on their homework and projects and tutoring will be provided for those students who require additional assistance. Educational enrichment activities, fun exercises in STEM will help the children understand and learn the connection between their school studies and their everyday life, now as well as in the future. While the children are at the center, they will receive nutritious snacks and one meal.	\$10,000.00
Polk State College Foundation	NESTS Fund (Nipping Emergency Situations and Technology Shortfalls)	NESTS addresses student shortfalls caused by the pandemic by awarding up to \$600 in emergency funding to help students succeed in online learning. Students attending Polk State College will benefit from the project. Polk State College Foundations will administer the NESTS project.	\$6,000.00
Lakeland Kiwanis Charitable Foundation	Stuff the Bus 2021	Stuff the Bus is a back to school campaign that provides relief for struggling families who cannot afford to purchase school supplies and will improve the classroom environment by allowing teachers to focus on teaching at the start of the school year instead of trying to find the supplies for students in need. Supplies are distributed to 28 local elementary schools before the school year begins, so teachers can assist their students.	\$2,500.00
Jaylens Challenge Foundation, Inc.	The Bullying No Way! ~ Nonviolence Alliance	The Jaylens Challenge Nonviolence Alliance is a technology-infused flexible zone of respect. Virtual bullying is at an all-time high due to technology based learning. These students are in need of transformation and the Bullying No Way! interdisciplinary projects. Jaylen Arnold, born with Tourette's and Autism, created an amazing program to educate others about bullying. Jaylen embraces his differences and empowers others by educating those who practice intolerance. Bullied students have trust issues. Having a reliable resource they trust is a HUGE step in saving their lives! Our goal is to reduce/prevent technology cyberbullying.	\$10,000.00

Environmental Stewardship				
Camp Fire U.S.A. Sunshine Council	Camping & Outdoor Exploration		Youth spend over seven hours a day indoors, in front of a screen, interacting with technology, and only four to seven minutes participating in unstructured play outdoors. This is known as Nature Deficit Disorder. Through our Camping & Outdoor Exploration program, we will not only recommit to this portion of our history, but strive to expose youth in K-12th grades to the joys of the outdoors and many of the experiences one can participate in, such as camping, hiking, outdoor cooking, and kayaking.	\$20,000.00
Health				
Central Florida Speech and Hearing Center	Kid Blitz - Pediatric Audiology Clinic		Speech, language and hearing are at the heart of our ability to learn, succeed and connect with others, which is vital for good mental health. One of the greatest impediments is middle ear problems. "Kid Blitz" is an innovative program designed to provide children with timely hearing health screenings and provide referring physicians with the information they need for medical treatment and monitoring; delayed evaluations lead to delayed treatment. These delays or non-detection of an ear/hearing problem can cause poor reading skills, poor school readiness and reduced success.	\$15,625.00
Peace River Center	Improving Crisis Response for the Community		To ensure someone in crisis is able to access care, PRC has identified the need to incorporate a text/chat feature to PRC's Crisis Response contact options. The current capacity of connecting with PRC for Crisis Response is through phone calls. PRC documents annual call volume at almost 7,000 each year, and over 60% of Mobile Crisis Response Team interventions are for children or adolescents. PRC will coordinate with text/chat software providers that also provide subscription based helpline software that provides call tracking, confidentiality and compliance, electronic resources, and a reporting system.	\$13,176.00

Good Shepherd Hospice	Camp Brave Heart: Grief Camp for Children and Teens	Camp Brave Heart is a 3-day grief camp that helps children learn to cope with their grief now and in the future, avoiding increased risk of depression, anxiety, and frustration that could find expression through unhealthy means such as isolation, withdrawal, unhealthy dependencies, truancy, academic and relationship failures, violence, and self-harm. Through grief therapies provided each year through Camp Brave Heart's licensed, trained bereavement staff, children instead learn how to cope with loss and still live a successful life.	\$20,000.00
Arthritis Foundation, Inc. - Florida	Live Yes! Connect Group (Adult Patients) & Live Yes! JA Connect Group (Juvenile Arthritis Parents)	The Live Yes! Arthritis Network makes connections to empower people to live their best life in spite of living with the challenges of chronic illness. Connect Groups are designed to meet the unique needs of arthritis patients by offering the chance for meaningful connections while learning about arthritis and issues surrounding the disease. In Connect Groups, people with arthritis find strength in each other, manage stress, & take control of their health care.	\$5,000.00
A Community Pregnancy Center DBA LifeChoice Pregnancy Resource Center	Earn While You Learn Parenting Program	Earn While You Learn (EWYL) Parenting program provides parenting & pregnancy education along with much needed baby supplies such as diapers, ribs, & car seats. When a parent feels confident in their ability to provide and care for their child, it is much easier for them to be an engaged parent, playing an active role in their child's life, & seeing hope in their future. EWYL uses a one-on-one coaching model to provide parenting education and an opportunity to earn credits for much needed baby supplies from our in-house baby boutique. Parents earn credits at each appointment to purchase needed baby supplies.	\$5,000.00
Watson Clinic Foundation	Project Thrive - Improving Cancer Patient Health through Arts In Medicine (AIM)	AIM Program and Project Thrive provides patients with coping tools to refocus their thoughts from cancer induced anxiety to a healing state through the creative arts. These tools allow the body to turn on its relaxation response which lowers cortisol levels, releases endorphins and increases the production of the "feel good" neurotransmitter dopamine, and turns back on the immune system so the body can function in a way that promotes healing.	\$4,120.00

Central Florida Health Care, Inc.	Improving Diabetes through Informed Decisions	The project's purpose is to work with uninsured/underinsured diabetic patients who are 200% or <FPL to reduce their HgbA1c to below 9%."Making Changes Together" program will provide education, support and tools for a healthier lifestyle. In 2019, CFHC served approximately 9% of Polk County's diabetic population with a recorded 33% having an HgbA1c greater than 9%. CFHC will implement the project at our adult health centers to participate with incentives for milestones reached throughout the program.	\$5,000.00
Options for Women Pregnancy Help Clinic	Community STD testing including HIV and syphilis	Options for Women provides hundreds of low-income, uninsured or under-insured women, who think they are pregnant, with free health evaluations and information. Funding request is for our clinical testing program. Sobering statistics highlighted by the CDC state that untreated medical conditions can have a negative impact on reproductive health, pregnancy outcomes and general health. We want to provide information, referrals and counseling on health risks associated with these conditions to ensure that women and men have comprehensive information about their possible exposure.	\$2,000.00
Webber International University	Increased Medical & Counseling Services for Students	We have increased our capacity to serve our students with counseling and medical services, however there is still more demand than we can currently meet during the pandemic. Our greatest need is to increase the number of hours we have our doctor and counselor on campus and available to see students. Additionally, there is a small need to replenish consumable medical supplies like over the counter medications throughout the year.	\$5,000.00
Drug Prevention Resource Center dba InnerAct Alliance	UthMpact (youth impact) Leadership's "Focus on Youth Mental Health" Project	UthMpact is a youth leadership group. UthMpact is comprised of teen leaders representing each high school in the County. This proposal addresses UthMpact's goal to develop a program to help reduce the stigma surrounding mental health, help peers recognize issues, and provide resources for teens to pursue mental health assistance.	\$10,000.00



ElderPoint Ministries of Greater Lakeland Inc. aka Elderpoint Services	Senior and Caregiver Resource Center	The reoccurring issue and concerns for elderly population is lack of knowledge of resources available to them as they make quality of life decisions, navigating the complicated and confusing health care systems especially in a time of technology when many of the target population are not familiar or have access to technology, and the support needed to make informed quality of life decisions. ElderPoint's comprehensive assessment identifies areas of need where we help them connect the dots to aid the decision making process.	\$5,000.00
Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine	Steps to Good Health	Through Steps to Good Health, LVIM will change lives by giving patients the tools they need to make the lifestyle and behavior changes needed to combat the most challenging illnesses. A LVIM/YMCA partnership will include medical healthcare, access to a health and wellness center and advisors, and group fitness classes that support goal achievement and healthy living. LVIM's dietician will consult with each patient monthly and facilitate group sessions at LVIM where patients will discuss challenges, provide encouragement and explore healthy eating habits.	\$19,941.25
Faith in Action North Lakeland Inc.	Great Opportunity To Serve our ailing Seniors	Most seniors want to continue living in their own homes rather than go to assisted living facilities. Our clients have NO other choice as we serve an economically distressed area of Lakeland providing 500 senior citizens with food, transportation, personal care, and social activities. We provide weekly deliveries of perishable food items and monthly staple non-perishable items; and since COVID-19 we've partnered with local agencies to add twice a week deliveries of pre-cooked meals. Care attendant services include house cleaning, meal preparation and personal care. We provide transportation services for client's medical appointments, shopping and social activities.	\$15,000.00

Heart for Winter Haven	Center For Well-Being	The Center For Well-Being is a therapeutic service meeting the mind, body, and soul emotional support for residents of the greater Winter Haven area. Therapeutic sessions run for four to six weeks and are designed to give individuals or couples tools to cope with emotional stressors that are affecting their day to day activities.	\$20,000.00
<b>Human Services</b>			
Gospel Inc.	Advanced Sewing - Job Training Internship	RePurpose Art Studio offers homeless and at-risk women an opportunity to be trained in a marketable skill, learning the workings of hand and machine sewing. Women in our programs move into permanent supportive housing as they near graduation. RePurpose Art Studio provides two 16 week Sewing Internships to 12 women/year. A third internship called The Advanced Sewing - Job Training Internship increases the women's creativity by challenging their ability by working with more difficult and intricate processes. The pieces that the ladies make are distributed and sold locally or online, increasing their financial situation. The women earn an income and maintain housing in the process.	\$10,000.00
Bruised but not Destroyed, Inc.	BBND Housing Program	According to the Center For family Justice, 1 in 4 women have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner and 1 in 4 women are sexually abused in their lifetime. According to <a href="http://www.endhomelessness.org">www.endhomelessness.org</a> , on a single night in 2019, homeless services providers had more than 48,000 beds set aside for survivors of domestic violence. Our program will service displaced abused women by providing them with emergency and transitional housing while focusing on preparing them to become independent, productive members of society.	\$2,500.00

Feeding Tampa Bay	SNAP Enrollment and Mobile Pantries	Our hunger relief programs focus on direct distribution programs like Mobile Pantries, designed to bring nourishing meals directly to food insecure households in the most underserved neighborhoods. By taking the pantry concept "on the road," we've broken down the transportation barrier to accessing fresh food and we've increased food security as a result. Our refrigerated trucks deliver healthy foods directly into neighborhoods of need, serving up to 150 families or more at a time with the help of volunteers. Staff and volunteers assist individuals to apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and other public benefits like Medicaid and Woman, Infant, Child (WIC).	\$10,000.00
Junior League of Greater Lakeland	Clothe Our Community	Our Clothe Our Community initiative establishes a clothing closet at schools, which allows students in need to get clothes and hygiene items without shame. In 2020, we focused on elementary students, creating clothing backpacks that included a new uniform, socks, and underwear, along with fresh school supplies. Based on current requests, we expect the needs to grow even more in the 2020-2021 school year and are prepared to work with schools and food distribution organizations to make sure students have the items they need to feel confident and prepared going to school to learn.	\$5,000.00
Healthy Start Coalition of Hardee, Highlands & Polk Counties, Inc.	Beds 4 Babies Project	Accidental infant death from co-sleeping or bed sharing is preventable. Through the Beds 4 Babies Project, Healthy Start will help reduce infant mortality by assisting 200 eligible families in Polk County with a separate safe place to sleep for their infants. These families will be provided safe sleep education, a portable crib, two portable crib sheets, a HALO Sleep Sack Swaddle, and an educational children's board book titled "Sleep Baby, Safe and Snug", by Dr. John Hutton. The children's board book will also be included with postnatal bags that are delivered to hospitals in Polk County. Through these efforts, we will be assured that moms and families are aware of the importance of placing their infant in a safe sleep environment.	\$15,000.00

Heart of Florida Legal Aid Society, Inc.	Heart of Florida Legal Aid Society, "Lawyer Lifeline"	Lawyer Lifeline will target the economically disadvantaged in Polk County. Polk County citizens will have free designated access to HOFLA lawyers by phone or video conferencing to inquire about legal issues and receive on the spot consultations. Through outreach, community partnerships, and digital/print promotion, citizens will learn of our Lawyer Lifeline program and reach out to HOFLA to obtain immediate legal advice and assessment of their case during specified hours. The overall community will benefit from individuals having guidance through the legal process; yielding favorable outcomes and stability.	\$5,000.00
Children's Home Society of Florida	Parents as Partners and Circle of Security Training	The Parent Support Group is voluntary, and prepares parents to be reunified with their children that have been in foster care. Babysitting for children in their care is provided as well as nutritious meals for parents and children. The purpose of the program is to support parents so that their children that have been in the child welfare system are not re-victimized, and do not return to the system. Circle of Security training will be provided to Foster Parents, as well as relative and non-relative caregivers four times per year in groups of five parents, and four sessions over eight weeks will be offered. This training is expected to help these parents and caregivers provide care which helps children feel safe and secure.	\$10,656.00
Circle of Friends Ministry, Inc.	Providing Low-Income Disabled Individuals Access to Necessary Skills to become Meaningful Contributors to the Polk County Community	The stability and future of intellectually and developmentally disabled students who have graduated from the public school system depend on the ability to be placed in a tertiary learning program. These programs can be expensive and the majority of these families can't afford to place their child/ward in one. We want to be able to accept all special need's individuals, regardless of ability to pay. We will use this grant to allow access to these low-income families and put it towards the means necessary to assist them in reaching their life goal and/or reaching a place of independence.	\$5,000.00

Solar and Energy Loan Fund	Rebuilding and Empowering Underserved Communities In Polk County	This project will scale SELF's non-profit lending programs and services to more low-wealth and working-class homeowners in Polk County, with the primary mission to enhance access to innovative and affordable financing for much-needed home renovations and repairs, such as roofs, ACs, windows, hurricane shutters, solar, disability products, and more.	\$5,000.00
Heartland for Children, Inc.	Respite Care Services for Families with Special Needs Children	Respite Care services are needed for caregivers such as foster parents, adoptive parents, relatives, non-relatives and biological families who are caring for children with special needs. The purpose of providing respite care services is to maintain placement stability in the home, reduce risks of children being arrested or Baker Acted, reduce trauma and provide an opportunity for children with special needs to participate in community activities. Respite Care services will benefit both caregivers and the children in their care with special needs. .	\$20,000.00
Idols Aside Ministries, Inc.	Sons without Fathers	Sons Without Fathers program (SWOF) is a faith-based program for at-risk, fatherless youth to attend multiple sporting and outdoor programs like, fishing, camping, and hunting retreats multiple times a year at the IAM Ranch in Lake Wales. SWOF goes beyond a one-time camp and involves post retreat follow up. IAM Youth are treated as a young person who works alongside mentors to learn how to cope with struggles in their lives and celebrate victories. The target population is any young person, regardless of religious background, that does not have an "active father figure" in their life. IAM offers a safe alternative to them turning to the streets, gangs, or jail.	\$10,000.00

Anchor House Ministries	Transition to Success	According to the National Foster Care Institute, 20% of individuals who age out of the foster care system will become instantly homeless, 50% will be unemployed by age 24, 25% will not graduate from high school and 70% of females who age out of the foster care system will be pregnant by age 21. Statistically by age 24, 60% of males who leave foster care will be convicted of a crime and 75% of women and 33% of men receive government benefits to meet basic needs. Anchor House is striving to change these numbers one young adult at a time. We provide housing, and a life skills specialist to assist them with gaining essential skills for success.	\$12,000.00
Lakeland Habitat for Humanity	Keeping Our Veterans/Elderlies from becoming Homeless	With every emergency home repair Lakeland Habitat for Humanity completes, it helps to keep a veteran or an elderly from becoming homeless! These are elderly, mostly disabled veterans or elderlies who are not use to asking for help, they are use to giving help. If they could do the work themselves they would not be in this position. They cannot afford to hire someone.	\$15,000.00
Youth for Christ of Polk County	Youth for Christ Summer Camps with "At-Risk Youth" in Polk County	Youth for Christ Summer Camps is a program for Polk County at-risk youth, who might be justice involved, attend a Polk County Alternative School, or are living in neighborhoods that dictate delinquency or poverty. By taking these young people out of their everyday environments and placing them in a distraction free, outdoor adventures, young people are given the opportunity to connect with camp staff and discuss a myriad of issues they face in life. These issues often include anger problems, abuse issues, abandonment, drugs, family dysfunction, and related problems that hurting youth are experiencing. Funds would provide scholarships for youth that would not otherwise have the means to attend a summer camp.	\$15,000.00

Best Buddies	Best Buddies Polk County School Friendship	Early development of social skills is critical to long-term success for people with intellectual or developmental disability (IDD). A significant issue in schools and communities is the segregation of students with disabilities. Providing opportunities for interactions between students with and without IDD through one-to-one friendships can diminish barriers and improve community inclusion. Best Buddies School Friendship builds mutually enriching friendships between students with and without IDD, offering social mentoring while improving the quality of life and level of inclusion for a population that is often isolated and excluded.	\$5,000.00
Catholic Charities of Central Florida	Pilot Study Utilizing Technology to Prevent Isolation in Senior Population	Older adults face the threat of isolation during a pandemic. Adhering to the "safer at home" protocols to avoid infection increases the risks of depression/anxiety; lack of socialization, and access to networking that they normally find in a congregate senior center program. We would like to utilize technology for seniors in their homes to provide organized virtual activities/educational sessions; a means to reach family/friends and telehealth with video capability; access library services; encourage healthy 'brain stretching' through games; join support groups; experience instructor lead exercise at home; provide access to spouse/family caregiver support; utilize delivery and/or safe pick-up of groceries and supplies; reach help quickly in an emergency, and more.	\$5,000.00
Women's Resource Center of Florida, Inc.	Independence Program - Access Success!;	The 2021 Independence Program's theme, Access Success!, brings Independence to the electronic age, teaching technical skills that are necessary to seek and secure good jobs, handle one's finances and prepare for a secure, self-sufficient future. Training will include using web searches for jobs, creating video profiles for job applications. The focus will emphasize computer skills, interviews using web based platforms, such as ZOOM and bounding back from the impact of Corona virus.	\$5,000.00

HELP of Fort Meade, Inc.	Providing Family security through Basic Needs	This project will provide short term assistance for rent/mortgage, utility, food, and personal items for low income families and seniors in Fort Meade, experiencing a temporary financial crisis. Many of Fort Meade residents live from paycheck to paycheck. When unforeseen financial misfortune occur, it often causes a snowball effect and can result in families becoming homeless. HELP serves as an assisting agent and also as a resource center to meet other needs.	\$20,000.00
Destiknee Place Inc.	Helping pre and post incarcerated women regain their lives for a brighter future.	80% of incarcerated women have experienced molestation, rape by household members, abusive relationships, and abandonment. Some are runaways or have had drug addicted parents. Due to harsh environmental conditions 60% turn to drugs and prostitution to try and escape devastating circumstances. To survive they live in the woods, in shelters or walk the streets. Our program gives each participant hope and opportunities for more more productive lives. Our life coaches/teachers assess their needs and make an action plan. Destiknee Place purpose and goal is to reduce recidivism, reduce homelessness and help these women become productive individuals.	\$5,000.00
Polk County Toys for Tots	Toys for Tots Campaign for Polk County	The Marine Corps Reserve Polk County Toys for Tots program provides new, unwrapped toys at Christmas to our county's needy children. Applications are accepted online from families and Polk County non-profits. Toys are received from community donations and fundraisers. The toys are then processed at our donated warehouse. The toys are distributed to families and non-profits in early December.	\$2,500.00



Florida Baptist Children's Homes	Lakeland Family Support Program	Family Support program assists struggling families with children with a variety of resources to gain economic mobility. Funding will expand the program through career curriculum needs coupled with additional program features, to increase the success of families towards healthy family sustainability. The program currently operates as a voluntary participation program for struggling families who are provided with a variety of workshops- from budgeting, nutrition, parenting, life skills, etc. in tandem with receiving tangible items such as food, diapers, household items. Implementation of career curriculum within the program will further enhance the probability of positive outcomes for families and is a compliment to current program features.	\$10,000.00
Harvest Assembly of God	Backpack Giveaway and Harvest Community Festival	Backpack Giveaway is a free outreach program providing low income and homeless families with children with a backpack and school supplies to start the school year. We not only provide families with backpacks/supplies but also connect them with local resources such as after school and alternative school programs, healthcare providers and centers for homeless pregnant women.	\$5,000.00
Tri-County Human Services	Enhancing Good Mental Health Thru Self Care	Often we provide services to many individuals thru our outpatient services who do not have enough funds to purchase basic hygiene products for them and their families. This is often seen in the indigent population in Polk County, who are dealing with poor mental health and substance abuse issues. During their stay in our outpatient programs our counselors identify a barrier to their progress which is the lack of self care and basic good hygiene tools and skills. . TCHS wants to provide our clients with male and female full size basic hygiene baskets/kits as needed by our clients who we have identified as having this barrier documented in their individualized treatment plan	\$10,000.00

The Mission of Winter Haven	Feed the Need Initiative	Our goal is to feed the need while giving love, integrity, and respect. No one should feel shame because they are hungry. Reducing the prevalence of hunger in the clients we serve can cause a ripple of positive changes that has the potential to impact the entire community. Today we are frequented not just by homeless individuals, but by whole families, students from Polk State College, elderly from the nearby towers, and people who thought they would never have to seek assistance to have enough to eat. For many of our clients, we are an essential service, like a grocery store. For others, we are their only meal of the day.	\$10,000.00
Habitat for Humanity of East Polk County, Inc.	Sponsorship Build	Habitat always accepts future homeowner applications. Currently Habitat For Humanity of East Polk County has 13 families who have completed the requirements, are approved for new homeownership, and are awaiting funding for their new home construction to begin. Our current program is actively working to secure funding for the 13 new construction homes.	\$20,000.00
Mulberry Community Service	Meeting Community Needs One Family at a Time	During our last fiscal year we were able to provide 17 households with rent and utility assistance. These services have allowed families to remain in their homes who would otherwise would have been homeless. We encourage our families to participate in our Personal Finance Center of Polk County financial literacy program to learn more effective money management techniques. Applicants will be able to access these services at our location and satellite location our work with various non-profits and service agencies throughout the county we coordinate with our partners to come to these areas to accept applications and work with clients on their goals.	\$5,000.00

Southeastern Guide Dogs	Guide and Service Dog Client Support for Polk County Residents	Our mission is to transform lives by creating and nurturing extraordinary partnerships between people and dogs. We provide our highly trained dogs to their handlers completely free of charge. However, the ongoing care of the dog once the human/canine team trains together has been the responsibility of the handler. The burden of this expense created hardships for our clients and caused some, who could benefit from one of our dogs, not to apply because they could not afford the extra expense. We wanted a way to lift this burden from our clients and to make our dogs affordable and available to all who need them regardless of their economic circumstance. Our new Client Support Program offers ongoing support to each guide and service dog team at no cost to our clients. Funding will help provide these benefits to the fifteen Southeastern Guide Dogs clients who live in Polk County.	\$5,000.00
Meals on Wheels of Polk County	Meals on Wheels of Polk County Angel Meal Program	No senior should have to decide between food and other expenses such as prescriptions. Three of the biggest threats of aging are isolation, hunger and loss of independence. Meals on Wheels is a program that empowers many homebound to avoid nursing homes or institutions and remain comfortable and secure in their own surroundings. Our "Angel Meal" program provides meals free of charge to seniors on a fixed income. Volunteers and Staff coordinate with community businesses, organizations, churches and individuals to deliver a hot, nutritious meal and daily contact to the homebound.	\$10,000.00