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Trident United Way Awards More than \$20,000 in Community Engagement Grants

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – Trident United Way announced Community Engagement Grant offers exceeding \$20,000 to six area nonprofits whose missions align with the building blocks of a solid foundation: education, financial stability and health. These grants will support activities that will take place in the next six months, ranging from an early literacy fair to a pro bono immigration and emergency preparedness legal clinic.

“We are excited about the different outreach activities and events this grant funding will support,” Trident United Way Vice President of Community Impact Amanda Lawrence said. “The Community Engagement Grants are an important part of overall TUV investments to support community nonprofit organizations.”

Today’s announcement marks the second of two rounds Community Engagement Grant awards that were awarded in 2017, totaling just over \$45,000. The next round of community engagement grants will be announced in July, with the application period beginning in March.

The Community Engagement Grant will ultimately award \$150,000 over a three-year period and seeks to allow agencies an opportunity to educate the community about their services through events, broadening their connections and improving their reach throughout the Tri-County area. The \$150,000 represents one percent of the total investment dollars Trident United Way will make to benefit the community during the 2016-2019 funding cycle.

“We are absolutely thrilled to receive news of funding from Trident United Way, which enables us to host an educational seminar entitled *Roadmap for Success in Landlord Tenant Disputes*,” Charleston Pro Bono Legal Services Executive Director Alissa C. Lietzow said. “It will give low income residents of Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties an opportunity to learn about their rights and responsibilities provided under the SC Landlord Tenant Act. The ultimate goal is for these residents, who are often marginalized due to their economic status, to be equipped to recognize when their rights are being violated and empowered to adequately remedy the situation.”

December 2017 Community Engagement Grant Recipients:

Bridges for End-of-Life, *“What Matters Most: A Creative Arts Festival Exploring Living Fully & Dying Well”*

Charleston County First Steps, *“2018 Week of the Young Child Early Literacy Fair”*

Charleston Legal Access, *“Pro Bono Immigration/Emergency Preparedness Legal Clinic”*

Charleston Promise Neighborhood, *“Family Engagement Event”*s

Pro Bono Legal Services, *“Roadmap for Success in Landlord Tenant Disputes”*

Reading Partners, *“Commit to the Next Chapter”*

To date, Trident United Way has completed four rounds of funding through Community Engagement Grants, investing more than \$95,000 in 23 agencies for 27 different activities.

The Community Engagement Grant application process is open to any 501c3 nonprofit that operates in the Tri-County region. The application period for the first round of 2018 Community Engagement Grants will be available on Trident United Way’s website in March 2018. Visit www.tuw.org/community-investments-0 for more information.

Trident United Way is a catalyst for measureable community transformation through collective impact in education, financial stability and health.