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Trident United Way Awards \$25,000 in Community Engagement Grants

NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. – Trident United Way (TUW) announced Community Engagement Grant grant offers totaling \$25,000 to seven 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 12 months, ranging from summer training on disability awareness for the North Charleston police to a financial education summit for teens to learn basic financial management concepts.

“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 TUW investments to support community nonprofit organizations.”

Today’s announcement marks the first of two rounds Community Engagement Grant awards that will be given in 2017, totaling \$50,000. The second round will be announced in December.

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’re always excited to work with Trident United Way because it’s a great partnership and it always offers us a lot of exposure,” Charleston Area Senior Citizens (CASC) Executive Director Donna Cook said. CASC received a grant offer to expand upon its 50+ Market Day to include cooking demonstrations featuring fresh produce from the farmer’s market, exercise demonstrations and music by fellow senior citizen artists.

“We hope to take the opportunity of having 300 seniors in our senior center and expose them to some different ways of cooking with fresh produce and healthy options. Our other goal is to get them moving.

July 2017 Community Engagement Grant Recipients:

AccessAbility, “Raising Awareness About Disability”

Charleston Area Senior Citizens “50+ Market Day”

Origin SC, “Money Rocks”

Florence Crittenton, “Career Day”

Lowcountry Food Bank, “Singles Mingle to Fight Hunger”

Our Lady of Mercy, Fall Festival

Palmetto Project, Volunteer and Partner Recruitment and Appreciation Event

To date, Trident United Way has completed three rounds of funding through Community Engagement Grants, investing a total of \$75,000 in 20 agencies for 21 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 second round of Community Engagement Grants will be available on Trident United Way’s website in September 2017. 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.