

Rotary

Club of Front Royal

Kym Crump, President

NEWS RELEASE

Rotary Club of Front Royal Awards Annual Community Grant to Two Local Organizations

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Front Royal – The Rotary Club of Front Royal awarded its annual community grant this year to two local organizations. The Club awarded \$6,100 to the Front Royal Little League to pay for the replacement of the roof on the concession stand and 6 dugouts, to place gravel to create a walkway, purchase an ice cream freezer and to complete installation of an indoor batting cage by installing a concrete floor and providing heat. The Club also awarded \$2,400 to C-CAP of Front Royal for the implementation of technology driven infrastructure for C-CAP to train volunteers implementing QuickBooks Software and their new Link2Feed operating system which will allow them to expand their foodbank services in the community.

Since 1976, the Rotary Club of Front Royal has provided 43 grants to the Front Royal-Warren County community totaling \$239,100. The projects have ranged from helping to refurbish the Ressie Jeffries Elementary School Playground in 2017, to other projects including the purchase of hospital equipment, construction of the former Samuels Public Library building, the purchase of band uniforms, to Homes for Our Troops to help build a new home for local war hero Bunky Woods, and grant to support the Warren Coalition to provide a “Framework for Understanding Poverty” to Warren County teachers and a “Bridges Out of Poverty” training that assisted community agencies to understand what support is truly needed to create a cultural shift away from poverty.

This year the Club was blessed with thirteen outstanding and worthy grant applications. In addition to the two organizations receiving funding, the list of organizations submitting grant applications included:

- Front Royal Police Foundation (K9)
- Front Royal Police Foundation (Honor Guard)
- St. Luke Community Clinic
- Warren Coalition
- Warren County Special Olympics (T-Shirts)
- Warren County Special Olympics (Equipment)
- House of Hope
- Front Royal Diamondbacks
- Front Royal Rippers Lacrosse
- Blue Ridge Heritage Project
- John XXIII Montessori Children's Center
- County of Warren (Splash pad for Lions Park)

Qualifying organizations must be not-for-profit and benefit local citizens. It is preferred that the grant is used as seed money to start a “brick and mortar” or equipment project and not for general or operational expenses; however, it is not the intention of the Club to exclude a worthwhile and deserving project.

The Front Royal Little League improvements are for the upkeep of the fields and buildings. The indoor battling cage will be able to be used year-round and help develop stronger, more confident batters as well as provide a year-round activity for youth.

Missy Henry, Little League Treasurer, stated that, “We cannot thank the Rotary Club of Front Royal enough for their generous donation to make the batting cages a reality for the Little League children. We appreciate the donation and plan to put it to good use.”

According to Rotary Club Past President Jennifer McDonald, “Our Club is extremely proud to be part of these two projects. We are extremely pleased to be able to assist C-CAP to expand their foodbank services and the Front Royal Little League with their efforts to complete the refurbishment of the Little League Shelters. While there were many other worthy projects in the community, our Club members chose to support their efforts to upgrade the Little League Complex and to help C-CAP as they try to assist those in need in our community.”

Although the Special Olympics projects did not receive funding through Club, several Club Members, George McIntyre and Katie Tewell (owners of the Apple House and Bushel Pub) made a personal commitment to fund their project to purchase sports equipment. Seeing the presentation, George and Katie wanted to help and by doing so it allowed the Club to concentrate on the other projects that were presented. Front Royal Rotary President Rick Novak added, “The fact that

George and Katie stepped up to support Special Olympics is no surprise to the members of the Club. They care deeply about the Front Royal-Warren County community and supporting projects that improve the quality of life for all of its residents.”

The Club would like to take the opportunity to thank its FY 2017-2018 Club Sponsors. With the sponsors' support, the Club is able to better serve the Front Royal-Warren County community.

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Past president Rick presents Missy Henry with the Front Royal Little League with a check for \$6,100 as part of the club's annual grant.

The league is using the money to create an indoor batting cage at the fields.

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