

FREDERICK COUNTY GIVES



THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
of FREDERICK COUNTY
For Good. Forever. For Frederick County.



Parents create art while attending the Family Resilience program at Family Partnership.

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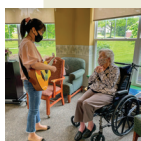
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SUPPORTING FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN **Family Partnerships**

In FY2022, the Community Foundation provided almost \$44,000 in grants to Family Partnership for its Family Resilience program.

“We are always looking to enrich our child development and parent education services,” said Maria Dennis, Family Programs Supervisor at Family Partnership. “We provide more than child education; we also provide family health education and parent education, and grant funding helps us implement activities as well as planning and assessment tools.”

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Participants in the Family Partnership Family Resilience program attend a class.



Denora De Karmen Vasquez shares her experience with the Family Resilience programs through Family Partnership.

According to Dennis, about 31 parents and 36 children completed the Family Resilience program last year; many are still participating. In an effort to remove barriers to service, they provide transportation, and serve children and parents under the same roof so childcare does not present an issue for attendees. Dennis said they utilize evidence-based assessment and curriculum tools that help them gauge where a child is developmentally, what skills are emerging, and what activities would help further develop those emerging skills. Then that information is shared with the parents so they can understand their child's development and continue activities at home.

"Approximately 90% of the children we serve for six months or more were at or above developmental expectations, so if they stay on that projection, then they will be kindergarten ready or more when they turn five," Dennis said.

Denora De Karmen Vasquez moved to the U.S. from El Salvador nine years ago. She is married with two children (age 2 and 6) and says Family Partnership is helping her continue her education, build job readiness skills, and expand her parenting skills.

"My son is learning how to talk and interact with other children and I'm attending ESOL [English language] classes," Vasquez said. "I'm

also learning things about my six-year-old like healthy activities to do with him and how to discipline and talk to him."

Vasquez says this program allows her to dream big.

Supporting families with children is one of the Community Foundation's core strategic initiatives as outlined in the human needs assessment. To find out how to support Frederick County's greatest needs, visit www.FrederickCountyGives.org.

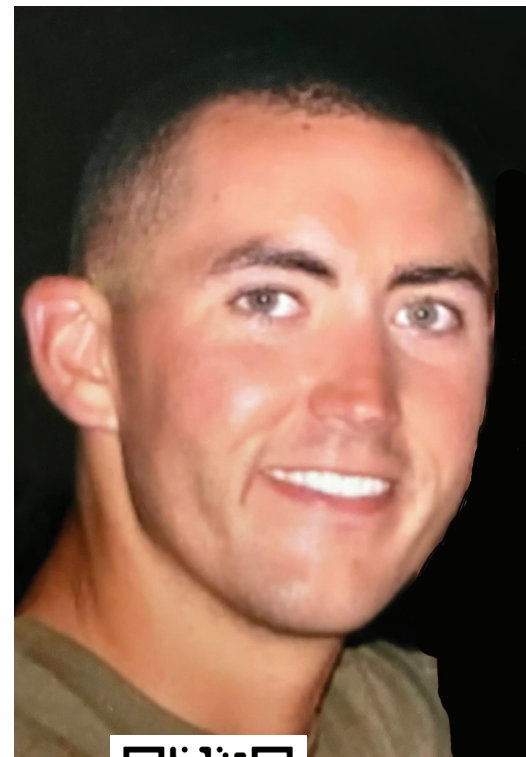
“

I will never stop dreaming. Maybe in the future I can go to college and start a career. I have two kids, I want to give them something better.

— DENORA DE KARMEN VASQUEZ
Family Resilience program participant

You Can Make a Difference

WITH A GIFT TO THE WIDENING CIRCLES SOCIETY



Close your eyes and imagine the person who brings out the best in you, the best in everyone. Imagine the person who lights up a room and just brings a smile to your face.

Sgt. David Smith was that person for his friends, family and countless Marines who served with him. With an infectious laugh and the first one out on the dance floor, David was the life of the party. More importantly, he was kind, and wanted to make a difference by helping people. In 2003 he joined the Marine Corps Reserves where he deployed to Iraq in 2006 and Afghanistan in 2009.

At age 25, David courageously gave his life to protect our country. Knowing his work was not yet finished and he had so much more to offer, his family turned to the Community Foundation. They needed to ensure his legacy would continue forever.

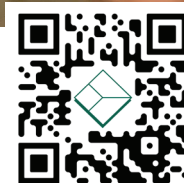
The Sgt. David J. Smith Veterans Relief Fund was established to support emergency relief assistance for Frederick County veterans. The first grant provided emergency housing assistance to a veteran who was sleeping in his car as he secured permanent housing.

Because of this special fund, David's legacy will carry on. He continues to make a difference.

This story shows how The Community Foundation of Frederick County connects people who care with causes that matter. We need your help to tell David's story and many others. Your gift to the Widening Circles Society helps us share the great impact that grants and scholarships achieve. It allows us to make more connections and ensures David is still making a difference by helping others.

We are honored to be doing this important work and hope you will join us by making your gift to the Widening Circles Society, as we create change in ways that is **For Good. Forever. For Frederick County.**

For more information, contact Becki DeLauter, Philanthropic Services Manager, at 301.695.7660 or b.delauter@FrederickCountyGives.org.



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GIVING TO THE
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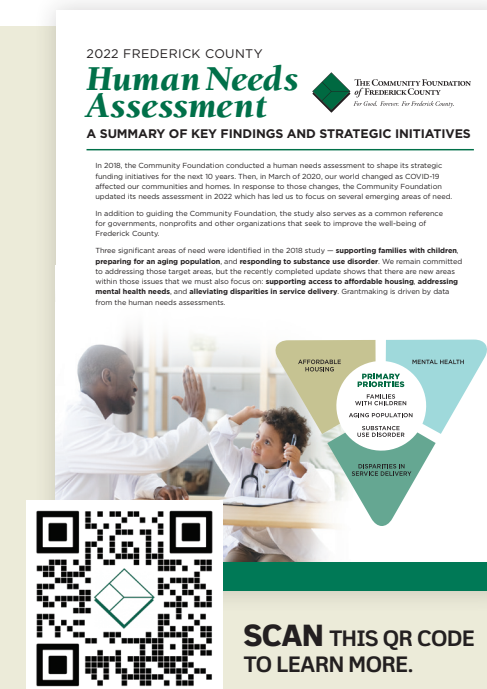
UPDATED HUMAN NEEDS ASSESSMENT *Reveals New Areas of Focus*

The Community Foundation strives to be a progressive influence for change and constantly seeks new and powerful ways to create impact. In 2018, the Community Foundation conducted a human needs assessment to shape its strategic funding initiatives for the next 10 years. Based on information gleaned in that report, for the past few years we have focused on our funding in three significant areas of need - supporting families with children, preparing for an aging population, and responding to substance use disorder. This past year, as a result of the many ways COVID affected our communities

and homes, we updated our human needs assessment, which has led us to focus on several emerging areas of need.

We remain committed to addressing the target areas identified in the 2018 study, but the recently completed update shows that we must also focus on needs including supporting access to affordable housing, addressing mental health needs, and alleviating disparities in service delivery.

The 2018 and updated 2022 human needs assessments are available at www.FrederickCountyGives.org.



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THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S

GRANT SNAPSHOT



1. Homewood Foundation, Inc. received a grant from **The Geraldine Virts and Jack Brady Memorial Fund for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders**, enabling them to provide music therapy sessions for residents as shown here. Homewood residents love the program and come to life through the power of the music.
2. A grant from **The Friends of Waterford Park, Inc. Fund** put volunteers to work at the park, planting a 15-gallon tree. The grant funds also allow for the biannual treatment of three dozen green ash trees to prevent their destruction by the emerald ash borer.
3. A Mother's Rest Charitable Respite Foundation received a grant from **The Sharon I. Hooper Fund for Children** to support The Terrace Guest House located in New Market, MD. The Terrace Guest House is one of only two respite inns open year-round to provide support services for parents and caregivers of loved ones with chronic illnesses or disabilities.
4. Grants from **The Supporting Families with Children Strategic Initiatives Fund** and **unrestricted funds** assisted City Youth Matrix in their mission to provide family empowerment and education programs. City Youth Matrix strives to remove barriers, such as finances, transportation and cultural differences that prevent children from participating in extracurricular and recreational activities.
5. NPLB Outdoors (No Person Left Behind Outdoors) supports veterans through a variety of outdoor activities and outings. This group participated in a 44-mile hike of the Maryland portion of the Appalachian Trail. A grant from **The Grove Foundation Fund** supported this Libertytown-based organization and its efforts to support veterans.



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OUR MISSION

The Community Foundation of Frederick County is dedicated to connecting people who care with causes that matter to enrich the quality of life in Frederick County now and for future generations.

Thank you for helping us maximize our resources! If you receive a duplicate newsletter or wish to be removed from our mailing list, please call 301.695.7660.

The Community Foundation of Frederick County, MD, Inc., is a 501c3 public charity. A copy of the current financial statement of the Community Foundation is available by writing to the Community Foundation, 312 East Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 or by calling 301.695.7660. Documents and information submitted under the Maryland Solicitations Act are also available, for the cost of postage and copies, from the Maryland Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD, 21401, or by calling 410.974.5534.