

Press Release

For Immediate Release
May 30, 2006

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Brandywine Health Foundation Distributes Over \$400,000:
More to Come After Strawberry Festival
(Coatesville, PA)

Following on the surprise announcement of a \$70,000 gift to the City of Coatesville's Weed and Seed Program, the Brandywine Health Foundation today announced its Spring 2006 grant awards. Over \$350,000 was awarded to non-profit organizations serving the residents of central and western Chester County, bringing the Foundation's total giving in its first five years to over \$3.3 million.

Final grants for the Foundation's 2006 fiscal year will be announced after the Rouse/Chamberlin Homes' Strawberry Festival, scheduled for Thursday, June 1, through Sunday, June 4, on the grounds of Brandywine Hospital. According to the Foundation's President and CEO, Frances Sheehan, "our hope is that the Strawberry Festival will be successful so that we can provide last minute funding to support several community health agencies."

Grants were provided to the following organizations for the purposes described below. Sheehan stated that, "the Brandywine Health Foundation's Board of Directors places a heavy emphasis on strengthening the safety net for the uninsured, as well as health care education and outreach programs designed to reduce racial and economic inequities. We are a lucky community to have so many dedicated and talented people working hard to address critical health needs in western Chester County."

For more information on the Foundation's grant making guidelines and priorities, please visit the Foundation's website at: www.brandywinefoundation.org.

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Brandywine Health Foundation
Spring 2006 Grant Awards

Funding the Safety Net for the Uninsured

Chester County Community Dental Center

\$12,500 to support new dental center for the uninsured and underinsured in Coatesville.

Child Guidance Resource Center

\$7,500 for comprehensive behavioral health care for children and families in Coatesville, including services on-site in twelve Coatesville school and in local office.

Community Volunteers in Medicine

\$25,000 to serve over 2,000 uninsured patients from the BHF service area with primary and dental care.

Family Service of Chester County

\$7,500 to provide bilingual, bicultural counseling services on a sliding scale.

La Comunidad Hispana's Project Salud

\$20,000 grant to serve approximately 100 patients from the Coatesville area who travel to Kennett Square to be seen by this experienced, fully bilingual, bicultural nurse-managed health center that is part of the social service agency for Latinos in Chester County: La Comunidad Hispana.

Planned Parenthood of Chester County

\$20,000 to provide family planning services, gynecological care, and HIV+ primary care to over 2,000 patients, 95% of whom are low-income, either uninsured or on Medical Assistance, in the Coatesville Center for Community Health.

Outreach and Advocacy for the Uninsured

Center for Hearing & Deafness

\$15,000 to fund outreach and advocacy for the deaf and hard of hearing community with health care providers in central and western Chester County.

Mental Health Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania

\$20,000 to launch the PEAK Program in Chester County: Parent Empowerment for Advocacy through Knowledge. Designed by parents and caregivers, the program provides them with the knowledge, skills, and resources that enable them to become their child's most effective advocate.

Health Screening and Education

Adult Care of Chester County

\$5,000 grant to provide enhanced exercise, comprehensive nursing and music therapy programming in this award-winning adult care and support services for frail and/or dependent adults, and respite for their caregivers.

Bridge of Hope

\$7,000 to provide parenting education for low-income single mothers with children living in this transitional housing non-profit in Coatesville, helping these formerly homeless women create a stable, positive environment in which to raise their children.

Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

\$20,000 to match a state grant to expand services from Delaware County into Chester County, meeting the needs of the low-income and minority communities, particularly the elderly.

Chester County Health Dept. Cribs for Kids

\$2,500 in second year funding for local collaborative effort between Chester County Children and Youth, Maternal and Child Health Consortium, WIC, Crime Victims Unit, and the Nurse-Family Partnership to purchase Pack 'N Play cribs for low income parents, educating them about SIDs and unsafe sleeping positions.

Chester County Health Dept. Nurse-Family Partnership

\$12,500 to provide intensive parenting and home visit assistance to first-time teen mothers over a two-year period, as part of a national program with documented positive outcomes promoting positive birth outcomes, and healthy parents and children in low-income, high-risk families.

Chester County Health Dept. Women's, Infant's and Children (WIC) Program

\$3,000 to fund low-literacy nutrition education materials for over 5,000 low income mothers, including Spanish-speakers, with information from the new federal nutrition guidelines.

Coatesville Area Senior Center

\$5,000 to fund wide range of exercise programs, new Fall Prevention Series, and PACE/PACENET/Medicare Part D prescription assistance program at this Senior Center in the heart of Coatesville, serving over 2,000 seniors in the past year.

Coatesville Center for Community Health

\$10,000 recommended for this collaborative effort to coordinate bi-lingual health and social services provided in the Center building, making it easy for those in need to access a variety of services.

Crime Victims Center

\$10,000 to provide *The Link: Anti-Drugs, Alcohol, and Sexual Assault Program* to Coatesville area youth in school. 45-minute program for teens and two-hour after school program for parents was developed in response to Judge Paula Ott's concern about the number of young teen

girl victims in her courtroom. Students learn about the connection between drug and alcohol use and sexual assault, prevention techniques, and where to turn for help if they or a friend become victims.

Downingtown Area Senior Center

\$5,000 for Fit and Fun Program, exercise classes, health screenings, and prescription assistance, serving over 2,000 people each year.

Ken-Crest

\$12,000 to provide START (Social/Transition Activities for Relationship Transformation Program) in collaboration with the Chester County Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation, workshops and group meetings designed to teach appropriate forms of social/sexual behaviors and relationship skills to individuals age 18 and over with developmental disabilities.

Maternal and Child Health Consortium

\$12,500 for the Coatesville Healthy Start Program, serving over 100 women each year and facilitating their access to early and ongoing prenatal care, pediatric care for their babies and toddlers, and linking them with other needed services to improve the physical and mental health of the family.

Neighborhood Health Agencies

\$50,000 to restart Senior Health Link, a free program begun to support the uninsured and the frail elderly in their homes after insurance has run out, while providing a clinical setting in community health for student nurses from four area nursing schools

Southeastern Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center

\$24,000 to continue the healthy exercise and nutrition program for middle school girls they began at the South Brandywine Middle School, this time offering it at Scott Middle School.

After School Programs

CYWA

\$12,500 to provide free after school programming in Coatesville to 30-60 children on any given day, and another 15-18 teens participating in the Teen Drop-In Center, a drug and alcohol prevention program.

Downingtown Area Communities That Care

\$12,500 to fund community collaborative providing After School Mentoring in the Downingtown Area School District, with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the YMCA of the Brandywine Valley's after school programs for children, and Bishop Shanahan High School. Also funded is use of the Parenting Wisely Curriculum, a three-session professionally facilitated program designed to improve parenting skills and dynamics in the home in order to decrease problem behaviors among our community's youth.

Octorara Communities That Care

\$12,500 to implement Big Brothers/Big Sisters' mentoring program in the Octorara School district.

Penn State Cooperative Extension Service

\$10,000 for free 4-H After School programming for Latino children and teens in Cochranville and Parkesburg, in collaboration with a variety of agencies including the Migrant Education Program of the CCIU.

Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence Center of Chester County

\$10,000 to provide bilingual domestic violence services in their Coatesville Center for Community Health office.

Additional Funding

Egenville Nursing Scholarship

\$1,500 from Foundation funds added to the \$8,500 provided by the Brandywine Medical/Dental Staff for the annual Egenville Nursing Scholarship, bringing the total amount of the scholarship to be awarded in August to \$10,000. Applications from students at the Brandywine School of Nursing are being accepted through June 30th.

American Cancer Society's Reach to Recover, Chester County

\$500 donated in memory of Mary Devese, former chair of the Consignment Shop who recently died of breast cancer. Reach to Recover has volunteer breast cancer survivors who visit newly diagnosed women with a bag of items such as educational materials, mastectomy bras, and most importantly referrals for ongoing support.