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CHESTER COUNTY EDITION

Grants to aid health services

Foundation distributes \$425,000 to nonprofits

By DANIELLE LYNCH
Staff Writer

COATESVILLE — The Brandywine Health Foundation recently awarded \$425,000 in grants to nonprofit agencies that serve Coatesville area residents.

"This is the toughest economy we've encountered yet ... people in our community are in need," said Frances Sheehan, the president and CEO of the Brandywine Health Foundation.

The health foundation has been providing grants since its

inception in May 2001.

"The economy requires that we step up to help those agencies with a proven track record of quality services for the uninsured and underinsured in our community," said attorney James H. Manning, Jr., chairman of the health foundation's Grantmaking Committee.

"These are valuable organizations serving an increasingly needy population at a time when funding is tight. Thankfully the foundation's generous supporters enable us to focus

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Grants

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on those groups with top quality staff and programming that are having the greatest impact."

Chester County Community Dental was one of the agencies that received a grant from the health foundation. It received the top award of \$250,000 which will be used to cover the differences between dental services and Medicaid reimbursement from insurance companies, according to agency officials.

"We are pleased with the Brandywine Health Foundation's generosity in a rather difficult economic time," said Donald Price, executive director of Chester County Community Dental.

The Maternal and Child Health Consortium was awarded a \$25,000 grant to support its Healthy Start program in Coatesville. Healthy Start helps low-income pregnant women across Chester County get the health insurance, prenatal care, health education, and emotional support they need to have healthy babies, according to agency officials.

"The Brandywine Health Foundation has been a longtime supporter of our work to improve the health of mothers and children," said Pamela Bryer, the health consortium's executive director. "We are extremely grateful in these financially difficult times to have their continued generosity."

The following is a list of the health foundation's grants:

- \$10,000 to the Blind Association (Pennsylvania Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Chester County Branch, Inc.)
 - \$250,000 to Chester County Community Dental
 - \$45,000 to Child Guidance Resource Centers
 - \$10,000 to Coatesville and Downingtown Area Senior Centers
 - \$10,000 to Coatesville Center for Community Health
 - \$10,000 to Domestic Violence Center of Chester County
 - \$10,000 to Family Service of Chester County
 - \$25,000 to Maternal and Child Health Consortium Healthy Start Program
 - \$15,000 to Neighborhood Health Agencies Senior Health Link
 - \$10,000 to Nurse-Family Partnership
 - \$30,000 to Planned Parenthood Coatesville Health Center
- These grants are in addition to \$400,000 in funding for ChesPenn Health Services, which is this year's portion of a \$2 million commitment to that Brandywine Center agency last year.

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