

## Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Brandywine Health Foundation Announces Grants of \$2,389,600:**

**New \$2 million grant to ChesPenn Health Services Included**

COATESVILLE, PA - The Brandywine Health Foundation announced its year-end Summer 2008 Grant Awards on June 25, 2008, with a highlighted grant to ChesPenn Health Services for \$2 million.

According to the Foundation's President and CEO, Frances M. Sheehan, "As we continue to face a rocky economy, the healthcare needs of our community are climbing, and organizations like ChesPenn Health Services help provide vital care to thousands of our neighbors in the greater Coatesville area."

"The foundation's board of directors is focusing even greater attention on making larger grants to fewer groups that are focusing on caring for the uninsured and underinsured. They care deeply about the quality of care accessible to the residents of our local community. We are pleased to have reached over \$6.8 million in grants and scholarships since the foundation's inception just seven years ago," Sheehan said.

Sheehan noted that the four agencies in the new Brandywine Center (ChesPenn Health Services, Chester County Community Dental Center, Child Guidance Resource Centers, and Human Services, Inc.) are holding a Block Party on Saturday, July 26 from noon to 5 pm. "It will be a healthy, educational, free and fun event for our neighbors. We are expecting hundreds of Coatesville area residents to participate in free health screenings and receive educational health information empowering them to lead healthier lifestyles."

Additional grants were made to meet the foundation's funding priorities: Safety Net Healthcare Services, Outreach and Advocacy for the Uninsured, Preventing Obesity, Reducing Violence and Helping Kids Succeed; and Emergency-Related Services. The foundation is able to make these grants thanks to the generosity of hundreds of area businesses and individual donors giving through events like the annual Strawberry Festival presented by Brandywine Hospital and Willow Financial Bank.

The Brandywine Health Foundation is the only charitable foundation dedicated to health-related services in the greater Coatesville area. Its signature project is the new Brandywine Center, the first major development in the City of Coatesville in over three decades, providing behavioral, dental and primary health care services and affordable housing for senior citizens.

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For more information on the Brandywine Health Foundation's grant making guidelines, restrictions and priorities, please visit the foundation's website at: [www.brandywinefoundation.org](http://www.brandywinefoundation.org).

## **JUNE 2008 GRANT AWARDS**

### **Safety Net Health Care Services**

**ChesPenn Health Services** - \$2 million grant to support this new Federally Qualified Health Center in the City of Coatesville, providing primary care services to people of all ages and incomes, with a focus on the uninsured and underinsured.

**Child Guidance Resource Centers** - \$50,000 grant to provide community-based therapeutic, supportive and preventive behavioral healthcare services for children, adolescents and their families with mental health, developmental disability and residential needs.

**Community Volunteers in Medicine** - \$15,000 grant to serve patients from the Coatesville area with primary and dental care, largely provided by volunteer practitioners in their West Chester location.

**Family Service of Chester County** - \$15,000 grant to provide bilingual, bicultural counseling services on a sliding scale basis at the Family Service office in the Coatesville Center for Community Health.

**La Comunidad Hispana's Project Salud** - \$20,000 grant to provide capital support for new building.

**Planned Parenthood of Chester County** - \$30,000 grant to provide family planning services, gynecological care, and HIV+ primary care to over 2,300 patients -- all from the Greater Coatesville Area -- 95% of whom are low-income, either uninsured or on Medical Assistance.

### **Safety Net Health Support Services, Outreach, and Advocacy**

**Chester County Branch of the Penna. Assoc. for the Blind** - \$12,000 grant to support the provision of eyeglasses and vision exams to uninsured and underinsured individuals in collaboration with the Coatesville Area School District and ChesPenn Health Services.

**Chester County Health Dept. Nurse-Family Partnership** - \$20,000 to assist this national program with documented positive outcomes promoting positive birth outcomes, and healthy parenting of children in low-income, high-risk families.

**Chester County OIC** - \$20,000 to support 10-week Certified Nursing Assistant training program.

**Coatesville Area Senior Center** - \$9,000 to fund wide range of exercise programs, including the ongoing Fall Prevention Series, and PACE/PACENET/Medicare Part D prescription assistance program at this Senior Center in the heart of Coatesville, serving over 2,300 seniors in the past year.

**Coatesville Center for Community Health** - \$10,000 for this collaborative effort to coordinate bi-lingual health and social services provided in the Center building.

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**Domestic Violence Center of Chester County** - \$10,000 to provide bilingual domestic violence services in their Coatesville Center for Community Health office. Over 400 residents from the Coatesville area will be served this year with a set of unique services no other provider offers.

**Downingtown Area Senior Center** - \$9,000 for the Center's "Active Older Adults Program," including the Ageless Exercise program designed by the Arthritis Foundation, Aqua-Therapy, Ballroom Dancing, Body Recall exercise classes and strength training classes, tai chi, yoga, health screenings, and prescription assistance.

**Maternal and Child Health Consortium Healthy Start Program** - \$25,000 to facilitate health care access for pregnant women in need of 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' Senior Health Link** - \$20,000 grant to provide visiting nurse outreach services to low income and uninsured frail senior citizens, using experienced nurses and student nurses from the county's nursing programs to train them as well as introduce them to community nursing as a career.

**Regional Housing Legal Services** - \$20,000 to support legal assistance and advocacy to encourage the inclusion of health services in the development of low income housing, using the Brandywine Center as a model, and thus improving access to quality medical, dental and mental health services in low income communities.

**University of Pittsburgh Medicaid Policy Center** - \$10,000 for second year to match Pew Charitable Trust's grant to start-up this neutral "think tank" source of information and analysis about Medicaid funding in Pennsylvania.

### **Preventing Obesity**

**Cares Food Network** - \$15,000 for general operating support for the principal agency providing food assistance for low-income residents in the Coatesville Area.

**Octorara Area School District** - \$2,600 grant to fund educational materials and conference attendance for the district's participation in the development of a Comprehensive School Health Program.

**Southeastern Pennsylvania AHEC Obesity Project** - \$20,000 for third year of funding "Addressing the Need for Fitness and Nutrition in Children" at the Scott Middle School. This after school program involves 40-45 girls aged 10-14 in an after school program focused in helping them develop healthy nutrition and exercise practices.

### **Reduce Violence & Help Kids Succeed**

**Bridge of Hope** - \$8,000 to support services provided to women in the Coatesville area who are at risk of homelessness or who are homeless at a residential facility in the heart of Coatesville. This intensive program provides temporary housing and helps women achieve permanent housing and financial self-sufficiency through employment and enhanced self-esteem.

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**Chester County Futures** - \$5,000 to enable expanding the role of Mentor Recruitment Coordinator in Coatesville to full-time, thus improving this mentoring organization's ability to help CASD high school students graduate and attend college.

**CYWA** - \$12,000 to provide free camp and after school programming in Coatesville to 30-55 children on any given day, and another 15-20 teens participating in the Teen Drop-In Center, which has gang participation and drug and alcohol prevention program components. The after school programming for children ages 6-12 includes a homework club run by the CASD and a Kids Café, a "safe, structured place where (kids) can come for homework support, recreation, snacks, dinner and enrichment activities after school, on school closing days, holidays and vacations."

**Downingtown Area Communities That Care** - \$10,000 to fund this broad community collaborative to decrease problem behaviors among our community's youth.

**Octorara Communities That Care** - \$12,000 to fund this community collaborative's use of Big Brothers/Big Sisters' mentoring program in the Octorara School district.

#### Emergency Services

**Chester County Health Dept. Cribs for Kids** - \$2,500 to purchase fifty portable cribs for low income families living in the Coatesville area as part of educational program to reduce Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

**Chester County Health Dept. Injury Prevention Program** - \$5,000 to support the coordination of a Home Safety and Fall Risk Assessment Program through strategic partnerships with several local home and health care service organizations, focused on low-income residents, age 65 or older.

**Health Care Improvement Foundation** - \$25,000 to support the Chester County Trauma Services Task Force.

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