



HUNTSVILLE HOSPITAL

Community Health Initiative

AGENCIES RECOMMENDED TO RECEIVE 2009-2010 COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE GRANTS

AGENCY

The Arc of Madison County, Inc.

\$10,000

The Arc provides education, job-skills training and supportive services for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The Community Health Initiative funds will provide medical and dental procedures or services for children with a developmental disability and/or adults with intellectual disabilities.

CASA (Care Assurance System for the Aging & Homebound of Madison County)

\$59,000

Safety Net Project

CASA's mission is to provide volunteer services to assist with the unmet needs of aging and homebound individuals so they can "age in place." The *Safety Net* project, supported by Community Health Initiative funds, provides individuals who visit clients' homes to assess needs through health and safety screenings, provide services and interventions, and facilitate referrals to existing community resources and service agencies. Both emotional and health related issues are addressed. CASA's *Safety Net* project collaborates with local university nursing and social work programs providing students clinical experience and enabling the *Safety Net* project to reach even more elderly and homebound clients.

The Community Free Clinic

\$90,000

The Community Free Clinic provides quality free medical care to those in the community without access to healthcare benefits. Through the operation of acute care and chronic care clinics, education and treatment is made available to the uninsured of the community. Additionally, operating within the Community Free Clinic, in collaboration with the Mental Health Center, First Stop, HEMSI, local churches and others, a clinic with appointments designated ONLY for homeless individuals is held on Wednesday mornings. Community Health Initiative funds will provide a nurse practitioner and pharmaceuticals for both The Community Free Clinic and the Homeless Clinic.

Girls Incorporated – Commit to be Fit

\$7,500

Girls Incorporated's Core Program is based on the special needs of young girls recognizing the critical educational, social and economic issues confronting young women. Community Health Initiative funds will support the *Commit to be Fit* program focusing on educating girls (5-15) on the importance of establishing healthy nutrition practices and physical fitness routines during childhood and adolescence thus setting the stage for establishing life-long habits in order to prevent childhood obesity. Community Health Initiative funds will also be used to provide educational materials, healthy snacks, entrance fees for local athletic events and to expand the *Commit to be Fit* program to additional public school after school programs.

HEALS - Health Establishments at Local Schools

\$85,000

HEALS provides school-based primary healthcare for children and their families through collaborative efforts with the school system and the medical community. HEALS provides diagnosis and treatment of acute and emergent health problems, dental care and health education classes. Community Health Initiative funding will provide medical staff for the clinics, including the addition of another half-time Nurse Practitioner.

Mental Health Center of Madison County

\$20,000

The Nova Center for Youth and Family, a Division of the Mental Health Center of Madison County, provides school-based mental health services in local city schools. The program plans to continue providing these services in collaboration with HEALS clinics while continuing to expand services to additional schools not affiliated with the HEALS clinics based on need. Referrals from schools without a HEALS clinic or an established school-based Mental Health Program are accepted through the HEALS clinics. As long as the child is listed on the school roster or referred through the HEALS referral system, he or she is eligible for mental health services. An assessment by the therapist will determine if the services offered are appropriate for the needs of the child. This fiscal year will bring new challenges for the schools and children with the merging of some of the schools with existing schools. The children will have to deal with the transition and adjustment to the new schools and new classmates which may require more attention from the therapist. The Community Health Initiative funds will be used to provide the funding for these school based therapist positions.

The Riley Behavioral & Educational Center

\$15,000

The Riley Behavioral and Education Center provides comprehensive services to children and families faced with autism and related disabilities. The Center offers a complete program from diagnosis through intervention to transition for families and children. The Center focuses on early diagnosis and interventions with a goal that no family will wait more than 3 months for a full diagnostic evaluation. Funds from the Community Health Initiative grant will help fund the Center's Diagnostic Clinic. The Diagnostic Clinic provides full assessments and evaluations by a trained staff in collaboration with a psychiatrist specializing in autism spectrum disorders.

The Pathfinder

\$15,000

The Pathfinder provides long term residential addiction rehabilitation services for men and women who "sincerely desire" sobriety. The Pathfinder promotes healthy living practices, and teaches a wide variety of life skills geared toward promoting a clean and sober way of life. Along with this philosophy, independent living and personal responsibility are also emphasized throughout the program. The Community Health Initiative grant will provide training and partial funding for a Women's Recovery Counselor.

United Cerebral Palsy – Equipping Families for Success

\$7,500

Equipping Families for Success is a program that provides access to mental health treatment for individuals with disabilities and their full-time caregivers. Community Health Initiative funding will provide access to direct counseling from a trained professional counselor for individuals with disabilities needing access to short-term mental health services and their families.

New Hope Children's Clinic

\$72,000

The New Hope Children's Clinic is designed to provide free/low-cost, school based medical care to the underserved children of Southeast Madison County (New Hope, Owens Cross Roads and Gurley communities), focusing on the most impoverished families. The clinic will be located on the New Hope School campus. The Community Health Initiative grant will provide a significant amount of the seed money for the establishment of this new program.

The Autism Resource Foundation

\$15,000

The Autism Resource Foundation provides financial support and information to families, service providers-- to include public school systems, advocates, and medical professionals who are helping children combat Autism Spectrum Disorders/Pervasive Development Delays. To this end, the Foundation will use the Community Health Initiative funding to establish a regional "Autism Resource and Knowledge Center". This Center will be used for several purposes: a place to go for parents who are just finding out that their child has autism to get information on treatment, join a family support group, and receive a mentor who has experienced similar challenges; provide a net-based knowledge repository that would provide educational resources, to include web-based training and dissemination of information on diagnosis, treatment and sources of support; a social networking capability for families; and a business enterprise capability to mobilize local, State and Federal resources to meet our regional needs.

Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

\$ 8,000

Huntsville-Madison County's Public Library's "The Pulse" Project will create a hip and attractive collection of information and resources available online, in the library, and in the community which will address the physical, emotional, and mental health of today's teens. Community Health Initiative Funds will be used to create and promote "The Pulse" Project. This includes: the creation of an online web portal named "The Pulse" to house information resources, subscriptions to online databases about health and other important issues specifically marketed towards teens, purchase of gaming equipment to promote physical activity and healthy competition between library locations, and the creation of partnership programs from various community organizations serving teens.

TOTAL

\$404,000