

St. Martin's Foundation address COVID-19 needs with 2020 grant requests

St. Martin's Foundation has awarded 16 grants to local agencies who address needs in the community from free medical assistance to providing housing to the temporarily homeless. Grants like these are awarded annually by the Foundation, but this year came with a provision that the funds could be used to address programming needs the agencies were adjusting due to their response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We determined unanimously to allow the organizations to make their own decisions on how to use this year's funds." Said Tim Thames, Foundation chair. "We are living in unprecedented times, and the board wanted to support inventive and sustainable use of the monies to help in any way that is needed for citizens of the Midlands."

The St. Martin's Foundation's Cloak and Sword fund supports local charitable giving each year. Applications are submitted in January with awards determined in the spring.

the debt but also clears a family's credit report, allowing them to move forward with their lives.

For more information about St. Martin's and its Foundation, visit stmartinsinthefields.com.

2020 Cloak and Sword Grantees

1. St Luke's – Fresh Start Ministry: Comet passes for those in need/ \$2,000.
2. St Luke's – Fresh Start Ministry: Emergency funds (rent, utilities) for families in need/ \$1,500.
3. Camp Gravatt Episcopal Camp and Conference Center: Initially intended for a weeklong camp for kids of incarcerated parents/ \$3,500.
4. Serve & Connect- Greg's Groceries: Allows police officers to have emergency goods (food, etc.) for people in need, bridging the gap between police and the community/ \$3,250.
5. Homeless No More: Life skills training for homeless people/ \$4,000.
6. Transitions: Shelter for women and their children experiencing homelessness/ \$2,000.
7. Fast Forward: Provides bicycles and bike kits for people without transportation/ \$1,500.
8. Free Medical Clinic: To purchase medication for people in need/ \$1,000.
9. The Cooperative Ministry: Crisis utility intervention/ \$2,000.
10. Senior Resources: Meals on Wheels for an individual for one year/ \$2,000.
11. The Therapy Place: Physical therapy support for children not covered by insurance/ \$3,000.
12. Teen Challenge Columbia: Spearheading a woodworking shop for teenagers to build shop skills/ \$500.
13. Midlands Mediation: Mediation services for those in need in civil and family court/ \$500.
14. Jubilee Academy: Parenting session based on Christian and Montessori principles/ \$1,750.
15. Dyslexia Resource Center: Sliding scale Dyslexic tutoring sessions for Midlands children/ \$2,500.
16. Family Promise: Initially to assist with building a computer lab, but due to COVID, may cover hotel expenses for families until program begins again in area churches/ \$2,000.