



Osteopathic Heritage Foundation
Osteopathic Heritage Foundation of Nelsonville

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Osteopathic Heritage Foundation Announces Awards totaling nearly \$1.3 Million in Central Ohio for Capital Improvement Initiative in Franklin County, Low Back Pain Study at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Medical Simulation Equipment for Doctors Hospital OhioHealth

Columbus, OH—The Osteopathic Heritage Foundation announces the approval of nearly \$1.3 million in grants for the Capital Improvement Initiative in Franklin County, OH, a continuing study of osteopathic manipulative treatment for low back pain at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, and medical simulation equipment and training technology to support the Doctors Hospital OhioHealth Medical Education Program and new Heritage Center for Osteopathic Medicine.

“The Foundation recognizes the economy’s continued impact on the non-profit sector’s ability to provide increasing, needed services to vulnerable populations in Franklin County,” said Richard Vincent, president and CEO of the Foundations. “We are committed to supporting local capital improvements to enhance the infrastructure and operational efficiency contributing to improved outcomes for those served. The grants for medical research and education will enhance patient care and help advance and expand a new state-of-the-art medical education center’s physician training program,” said Vincent.

Capital Improvement Initiative in Franklin County, Ohio -- Background

The Foundation has identified support for capital improvements as a need among non-profits serving primarily vulnerable Franklin County residents, and in 2008 awarded \$500,000 to six non-profit organizations. Experiencing a decrease in resources and an increase in service demand, support is needed to help stabilize vulnerable individuals and families as well as the non-profits that serve them. The Foundation continued the Capital Improvement Initiative into 2009 to help fund capital projects that will positively impact the ability of nonprofit organizations in delivering direct client services.

Capital Improvement Initiative: 10 grants totaling \$454,205

--**American Red Cross of Greater Columbus - \$48,047** to improve efficiency and capacity to safely transport low-income older adults and persons with disabilities to needed medical and social services via a wheelchair accessible lift van.

--**Boys & Girls Clubs of Columbus - \$50,000** to acquire a mini-bus to provide safe and efficient transportation of low-income youth for after school and summer programs.

--**Columbus Metropolitan Library-Main - \$36,790** in matching funds for the Gates Foundation technology grant to replace 38 obsolete community accessible computers in public libraries serving low-income neighborhoods.

--**Directions for Youth & Families - \$50,000** to increase physical activity opportunities for youth through expanded after-school and summer programming at the Ohio Avenue Youth Center.

- Heart of Ohio Family Health Centers - \$38,858** to increase access to health care services for low-income individuals and families through support of a medical transportation program and acquisition of a client transport van.
- Heinzerling Foundation – \$50,000** to enhance the capacity to safely and efficiently transport, via a customized mini-bus, residents with severe mental retardation and developmental disabilities to off-site recreational and educational activities.
- Heritage Day Health Centers - \$42,500** for facility expansion and renovations to improve the capacity for personal care services to older adults and clients with disabilities.
- The Salvation Army - \$49,090** to implement a Choice Food Pantry, a best-practice model, and increase access to nutritious foods for low-income individuals and families.
- United Cerebral Palsy of Central Ohio - \$38,920** for facility renovations to improve personal care services for low-income older adults and persons with disabilities in an adult daycare center.
- Vision & Vocational Services - \$50,000** to increase access to vocational, clinical and independent skill development services for low-income, visually impaired clients through an expanded short-term residential program.

Osteopathic Medical Education and Research: two grants totaling \$834,871

- Ohio University/College of Osteopathic Medicine - \$84,871** for neuromusculoskeletal research in patients with low back pain. This project will study the helpful physiologic and biomechanical effects of spinal manipulation in patients with low back pain, and identify patient populations for whom osteopathic manipulative treatments are best suited.

- Doctors Hospital Ohio Health - \$750,000** to equip a new skills laboratory for the training of postgraduate osteopathic resident physicians through the use of patient care simulators and training modules. The training equipment includes adult human simulators, an infant/child simulator, maternity and neonatal birthing simulator, a laparoscopic and a GI virtual reality simulator and table top training modules. This training will better prepare the resident physicians in patient treatment techniques and procedures.

About The Osteopathic Heritage Foundations

The Osteopathic Heritage Foundation and the Osteopathic Heritage Foundation of Nelsonville (the Foundations) are pre-eminent in supporting community health and quality of life programs in central and southeastern Ohio as well as advancing, on a national scope, osteopathic medical care, biomedical research and osteopathic medical education. The mission of the Foundations is to improve the health and quality of life in the community through education, research and service consistent with the principles of its osteopathic heritage and the philosophy of osteopathic medical care. The Foundations advance this mission through a broad spectrum of funding awards, initiatives and funding methods.

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