SCHMEECKLE FOUNDATION

"Enriching lives through innovation and creative collaboration." Serving Martin County, Minnesota

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Schmeeckle Foundation Awards \$535,376 in Grants

FAIRMONT, MN (September 9, 2019) – The Schmeeckle Foundation recently approved grants totaling \$535,376 for community enhancement projects in Martin County, Minnesota. A reception to honor all current and former grant recipients will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 from 3:30pm to 5:00pm at the Fairmont Mayo Clinic Health System located at 800 Medical Center Drive, Fairmont, MN 56031. This event is open to the public and media is encouraged to attend.

These grants support the Schmeeckle Foundation's three core focus areas: early childhood care and education, serving the disabled and elderly, and promoting the arts. The Schmeeckle Foundation is a private family foundation serving Martin County. Its mission is to carry on the legacy of long-time Martin County resident, Juanita Ellen (Teubner) Schmeeckle, awarding grants to support the betterment of the residents of Martin County.

All grant proposals are reviewed by the four Schmeeckle Foundation Trustees with the assistance of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation. Trustees said, "The Schmeeckle Foundation grants are designed to support projects that are innovative, promote community collaboration, and achieve sustainable, measurable results." Grants are awarded based upon their likelihood to create measurable change within the Foundation's three focus areas, which are (1) early childhood care and education, (2) disabled and elderly, and (3) the arts.

This round of grantees includes:

- \$474,000 to Apple Tree Dental to support a new Fairmont Center for Dental Health Community Collaboration Project
- \$14,176 to Fairmont Area Schools to support the Celebrating Families Project
- \$500 to Girl Scout Gold Award for local girl scout Janessa Nelson's Hammock Villages Project
- \$20,000 to Martin Luther High School to support the purchase of band Instruments
- \$7,700 to Martin County Pheasants Forever to support the No Child Left Indoors Project
- \$19,000 to Project 1590 to support the Miniature Golf Course Project

Applications for the next granting period are due no later than September 30, 2019.

About the Schmeeckle Foundation

The Schmeeckle Private Foundation is a family foundation serving Martin County, Minnesota. The Foundation is carrying on the legacy of long-time Martin County resident Juanita Ellen (Teubner) Schmeeckle to provide grants for the betterment of Martin County. A major intent of this grant program is to receive and successfully implement new ideas, provide working relationships with other non-profit organizations, and spur new financial and other commitments from the community to show support for projects that will improve and benefit Martin County, Minnesota.

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Please visit <u>www.schmeecklefoundation.orq</u> for more information regarding the grant process and to learn more about the trustees and advisory committee.