## SCHMEECKLE FOUNDATION

"Providing Grants for the Betterment of Martin County, Minnesota"

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 25, 2018

Schmeeckle Foundation

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# Schmeeckle Foundation Awards \$81,275 in Grants

**Martin County, Minn., Date July 25, 2018** – The Schmeeckle Foundation recently approved three grants totaling \$81,275 for projects in Martin County.

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

"The Schmeeckle Foundation Grants are designed to support projects that are innovative, involve collaboration and achieve sustainable, measurable results," says the Schmeeckle Foundation Trustees.

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Grants are reviewed by the four trustees with assistance from the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation. Grants are awarded based on their likelihood to create measurable change in early childhood care and education, serving the disabled and elderly, and the arts. This round's grantees include:

- \$8,475 to Martin County Pheasants Forever for their project entitled "No Child Left Indoors Youth Introduction to Pollinators, Trapshooting, and Hunting. This project will involve approximately 120 first-graders in the planting and follow up visits to a pollinator plot of public grounds, a Youth Conservation Day is August open to the public, a mentored pheasant hunt, and introducing youth to shooting sports.
- \$27,800 to the Fairmont Opera House, Inc. for Outreach Programming for the Continental Ballet production of Sleeping Beauty and a production of the play Charlotte's Web. This will provide the programs and tickets for three outreach programs for schoolchildren and also disabled residents of the county who might not otherwise be able to attend.
- \$45,000 to Habitat for Humanity for their project entitled "Moving Homes and Moving Lives!"
   These funds will be used to move two homes, one of which is presently handicap accessible and the other of which will be made handicap accessible which will provide housing for two qualified applicant families who will then be required to make mortgage payments and will ultimately own their own home.

Applications will be accepted for the next round of grants beginning July 1, 2018, and are due October 1, 2018. For details on applying for a Schmeeckle Foundation Grant please visit our website at schmeecklefoundation.org.

For more information you may contact the Trustees:

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## SCHMEECKLE FOUNDATION

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# Schmeeckle Foundation

Through the middle of 2018, the Schmeeckle Foundation has made grants of \$335,723 for many necessities in Martin County, in the areas of arts, living aids, disability, nature, education, health, history, continuation of various existing programs, and child development.

### Some examples:

- \$47,800 to the Fairmont Opera House to provide programs to benefit children and disabled who might not otherwise have access and for sound equipment so there is more access to events
- \$45,000 to Habitat for Humanity to allow two homes to be moved for those in need, one with disability access, to save good houses that otherwise would be demolished
- \$69,948, along with much more community investment to Adventure Playground, City of Truman, STEP, Crest, and MRCI WorkSource to provide playground equipment designed for the disabled and general public, to increase Martin County's ability to employ people with disabilities, arts enrichment for individuals with disabilities, and support for caregivers
- \$62,175 to Martin County Pheasants Forever, Martin Luther High School, and Fox Lake Conservation League to provide education to Martin County children regarding pollinators, renewable energy, aquaponics, and producing wildlife seeds for purposes of reenergizing wildlife areas
- \$10,000 to Apple Tree Dental to facilitate dental care for those who lack financial resources
- \$10,000 to Heritage Acres to help in providing a place to see history and provide a venue for community events
- \$40,000 to Lakeview Methodist Home to improve kitchen facilities to aid in preparing Meals on Wheels, Head Start, and Building Blocks Day Care with a unique component of uniting those in day care with our senior citizens; and for use in their expansion project to create a more home-like atmosphere
- \$62,500 to Fairmont Youth Hockey, Martin County 4-H, ARC MN Southwest, and Project 1590 Playground to provide you with venues for youth to play and exercise, gain confidence in arts and skill development

We will welcome all the great ideas for new innovative projects, collaboration with others, and for the obtaining of other community investment.

www.schmeecklefoundation.org