

## First Church Community Fund 2021 Awards

On Sunday October 17<sup>th</sup>, the First Church Community Fund (FCCF) committee announced 2021 nonprofit microgrant awards. The grants are possible through income from a First Church endowment created more than 30 years ago by the late Renni Shuter, a First Church member and St. Louis activist, and the ongoing generosity of First Church members and friends. Grants support programs and projects addressing issues surrounding homelessness, poverty and/or underserved populations in St. Louis.

The FCCF committee selected fifteen nonprofits from twenty-five applicants to receive a portion of the \$7400 in available funds this year. Individual grants ranged from \$300-\$750 and, with one exception, matched requests.

All microgrant recipients are doing important work in our community. The FCCF committee invites you to take a moment to learn about their mission and challenges and consider becoming involved if time and resources permit.

Recipients and how monies will be used:

- **All Nana's Kids Closet (allnannakids.org)** - Warm winter coats for children and adults
- **Crime Victim Center (supportvictims.org)** - Steering wheel and gun locks for crime victims
- **Energy Care (energycare.org)** - Purchase and installation of air conditioners for vulnerable seniors
- **Gateway 180 (gateway180.org)** - Purchase of undergarments and clothing essentials for shelter clients
- **Healing Action Network (healingaction.org)** - Emergency hotel stays and transportation for victims of sex trafficking
- **Immigrant Home English Learning Program (ihelpstl.org)** - Educational supplies for its language outreach to isolated and under-resourced immigrants
- **Joe's Place (joesplacestl.org)** - Dryer purchase for its group home for homeless teens
- **Lift for Life Gym (lifegym.org)** - Support for its After-School programming for North City youth
- **Love for St. Louis (loveforstlouis.org)** - Payment of co - pays to ensure children and teens receive needed counseling
- **Northside Youth and Senior Services (nsysscc.org)** – Diaper supplies to families served through its programming
- **Room at the Inn (roomstl.org)** - Nutritious food for shelter clients coping with homelessness
- **Southside Early Childhood Center (southside - ecc.org)** - Plants and supplies for its outdoor play space utilized by 140 children
- **Unleashing Potential (upstl.org)** – Infant formula for families served in its Building Resilience Programming
- **Walker Scottish Rite Clinic (srclinic.org)** - Support for remote telepractice capability ensuring free speech /language diagnostics, therapy, evaluation for Spanish-speaking children including those at Southside Early Childhood Center
- **Wellston Loop Community Development Corporation (wellstonloopcdc.org)**-Stipends to community residents to assist with community events, clean-ups, and outreach

FCCF committee members include: Rosemary Lawton, 2021 Chair and members: Kay Dusenbery, Donald Jeffries, Alyssa Morrison, Lynn Shuter, Margaret Weck and Laura Zacher.