The Finish Line Youth Foundation Announces Second-Quarter 2012 Grants Tuesday, August 21, 2012 03:47:00 PM (GMT)

The Finish Line Youth Foundation today announced the award of nearly \$200,000 to its grant recipients in the second quarter of 2012. Among these was a \$62,053 grant awarded to Damar Services of Indianapolis. The 25 other grants also went to organizations in 16 states and the District of Columbia that place an importance on youth development and an active lifestyle.

"Our mission is to make a real, lasting impact on the lives of youth across the nation," said Marty Posch, executive director of the Youth Foundation. "We're working harder than ever to ensure we dedicate our resources to projects that promote healthy, active lifestyles."

The Youth Foundation supports qualified, non-profit organizations that provide community-based access to athletics for kids, as well as camps that provide services to those who are disadvantaged or disabled.

LEGACY GRANTS

Damar Services (Indianapolis, Ind.) - \$62,053 for the Home Field project to build a baseball field for youth in the community. Damar Services' mission is to provide children and adults challenged by autism and other developmental disabilities the tools they need to live more successful and independent lives.

Boys & Girls Club of Central Mississippi (Jackson, Miss.) - \$13,915 for a pool restoration project at Camp John I. Hay, which offers outdoors experiences for youth who normally would not have resources needed to go to camp.

CAMPS

Alphapointe (Kansas City, Mo.) - \$5,000 to support their day camp for youth who are blind or visually impaired.

Camp Kesem (Lafayette, Calif.) - \$5,000 for chapter program growth that empowers college student leaders nationwide to create free, life-changing summer camps for children affected by a parent's cancer.

Camp Smile-A-Mile (Birmingham, Ala.) - \$5,000 to provide year-round challenging recreation and education experiences for young cancer patients and survivors, as well as their families.

Central Ohio Diabetes Association (Columbus, Ohio) - \$5,000 for development of Camp Hamwi, a camp for children with diabetes to learn about eating healthy, checking blood sugars, exercising and living with diabetes.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta Foundation (Atlanta, Ga.) - \$5,000 for Camp Carpe Diem, an overnight summer camp for children with epilepsy and other seizure disorders.

City Kids Wilderness Project (Washington, D.C.) - \$5,000 for their Summer Wilderness Camp, an outdoor education program for underserved and at-risk inner-city youths in the D.C. area.

Hearts & Horses Therapeutic Riding Center (Loveland, Colo.) - \$5,000 for their all-abilities summer camp, which promotes the well-being of youth with special needs through equine-assisted therapy.

Heroes, Great & Small (Armuchee, Ga.) - \$2,500 for programming at Camp HeroMania, a camp that has served more than 1,600 children who have risen above the difficulties of sexual abuse.

Le Bonheur Foundation (Memphis, Tenn.) - \$5,000 to go toward the Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center Cardiac Kids Camp, which offers the opportunity for children with heart-related illnesses to enjoy outdoor activities like swimming and canoeing in a safe environment.

Little Friends for Peace (Mt. Rainier, Md.) - \$4,500 for Peace Camp scholarships for refugees in El Salvador.

The Boggy Creek Gang (Eustis, Fla.) - \$5,000 for life-changing programs for children with chronic and life-threatening illnesses.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

America SCORES New York (New York, N.Y.) - \$5,000 for partnerships with urban schools that provide a team-based program that integrates soccer, poetry and service-learning.

Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation (Glendale, Ariz.) - \$5,000 of funding for athletic activities for children in foster care.

Beyond the Ball (Chicago, Ill.) - \$5,000 for Project Play, a program that claims underutilized space in Chicago's Little Village by providing recreational activities for kids and their parents.

Girls on the Run (St. Louis, Miss.) - \$5,000 for the organization's "Adopt-A-School" project, which allows them to provide active lifestyle programming at 20 schools in areas of need.

KidCommute (Boulder, Colo.) - \$5,000 for help in promoting sustainable communities through its Boltage program, which encourages kids to walk and bike to school.

Maryhurst (Louisville, Ky.) - \$5,000 to build an athletics program at Maryhurst that provides community-based treatment programs to children with severe emotional disabilities.

Nicholas Wolff Foundation (Millville, Pa.) - \$5,000 for their Challenge program. The foundation provides essential services to handicapped and chronically ill children.

Pottstown Area Police Athletic League (Pottstown, Pa.) - \$5,000 to revitalize and complete the Pottstown Police Athletic League's baseball field.

Boys & Girls Club of San Leandro (San Leandro, Calif.) - \$5,000 of support for additional athletic equipment for the organization's physical education program, for their healthy choices cooking classes, and for funding to develop and implement a Healthy Choices Cookbook.

Shining Stars Foundation (Tabernash, Colo.) - \$2,500 for the Shining Stars Winter Games, an eight-day adaptive snowboard and ski recreation held every year for children living with cancer and other lifethreatening diseases.

Terrebonne Children's Advocacy Center (Houma, La.) - \$5,000 for the Girls on the Run Houma-Terrebonne Scholarship Fund. The center provides a place where children can be interviewed about reports of abuse in a safe, home-like setting.

Things of My Very Own (TOMVO) (Scotia, N.Y.) - \$5,000 for teambuilding programs at TOMVO, a provider of supportive services to abused, neglected, displaced and at-risk children within the state.

Westhab (Elmsford, N.Y.) - \$5,000 for the Elm Creek Youth Center, a community center that serves more than 250 school-age youth in the high-need Nodine Hill neighborhood of Yonkers.

About The Finish Line Youth Foundation

The Finish Line Youth Foundation strives to make a difference in the lives of youth in the communities where employees and customers live, work and play. The Youth Foundation funds non-profit organizations that provide opportunities for kids to participate in community-based youth athletic programs and camps that emphasize sports and active lifestyles, especially programs that serve disadvantaged and special needs kids. In partnership with The Finish Line, Inc., the Youth Foundation has pledged multi-year support of Special Olympics as a part of its ongoing mission to celebrate the everyday achievements of athletes everywhere. For more information about the Youth Foundation, please visit www.finishline.com/youthfoundation.

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