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Orlando Sentinel Family Fund Announces 2014 Grant Awards Totaling \$1,000,000

ORLANDO, Fla. (July 9, 2014) – The Orlando Sentinel Family Fund, a Fund of the McCormick Foundation, recently distributed \$1,000,000 in grants to 33 qualified, non-profit organizations across Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake and West Volusia Counties. Grants are made to help support hunger, homelessness, child & youth education or child abuse prevention & treatment programs.

Since 1990, the Orlando Sentinel Family Fund has granted more than \$34 million to qualified non-profit agencies in Central Florida that help local children and families in need. The McCormick Foundation matches all donations at fifty cents on the dollar. In addition, all administrative costs are covered by the Orlando Sentinel and the McCormick Foundation, allowing 100% of all donations, plus the match, to go directly to these invaluable programs and services.

“Each of the organizations that received grants this year works tirelessly to help those in need in Central Florida,” said Orlando Sentinel’s Publisher and CEO Howard Greenberg. “The Orlando Sentinel Family Fund is proud to support and partner with organizations that have shown proven, measurable results in improving the lives of Central Floridians.”

“The Orlando Sentinel Family Fund and McCormick Foundation share a commitment to addressing the growing needs of our local communities,” said David Hiller, President and CEO of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation. “One of the best investments we can make is providing children and families year round access to vital programs that help Central Florida thrive.”

Agencies that received grants in 2014 from the Orlando Sentinel Family Fund and a description of the programs funded are listed below:

Adult Literacy League, Inc. received \$30,000 for the Literacy Services for Youth program which serves youth 16-24 with individual and group tutoring in preparation for post-secondary education.

Apopka Family Learning Center received a \$50,000 grant for the Kids In Motion program, an after-school, academic enrichment program for disadvantaged children, ages 5-14. The program helps students acquire passing grades and maximize their potential.

BETA Center, Inc.’s Teen Parent program which provides educational and support strategies that promote positive parenting and reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect in at-risk adolescent mothers received a \$35,000 grant.

Boys & Girls Club of Central Florida, Inc. received \$40,000 for the teen education and career development programs which to provide comprehensive tutoring, mentoring and skill building to low-income youth.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake & Sumter Counties, Inc. received \$20,000 for the Project Learn program which provides academic skill building aligned with classroom instruction.

Boys Town Central Florida, Inc. received \$50,000 for their 'Continuum of Care' Parenting Program in order to reduce the risk of the cycle of child abuse by providing trauma treatments for children impacted by abuse and family violence.

Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Inc. is a social service agency that provides counseling and emergency assistance to families. It received \$30,000 to help low-income families pay their rent and utility bills and to distribute food.

Christian HELP received \$25,000 for their Stop Hunger Now Program which provides unemployed and underemployed individuals and families weekly food.

Children's Home Society of Florida received \$50,000 for the Faine House program which provides transitional housing to youth who have aged out of the foster care system.

Christian Sharing Center's REACH Family & Emergency Services program received \$35,000 to help provide food and utilities and rent support for families in crisis.

Covenant House Florida, Inc. received a \$50,000 grant for their Independent Living Track program which provides transitional and permanent housing support, life skill development, financial literacy, job search skills and GED preparation to homeless youth in Central Florida.

Elevate Orlando received \$35,000 for general program support as well as evaluation support for their in school instruction, 24/7 mentoring and post-secondary education preparation for at-risk, low-income youth.

Foundation for Foster Children's 'BEST – Building Educational Success Together' tutoring program received a \$25,000 grant to assist children in the foster care system.

The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools Inc. received \$50,000 for the 'Take Stock in Children' program which provides academic mentorship, tutoring, long-term persistence support and advocacy to low income and at-risk students in Seminole County.

The Foundation for Osceola County Education, Inc. received \$25,000 for their 'Bookmark Buddies' after school tutoring program for at-risk third grade students.

Great Kids Explorer Club, Inc. runs a Bridges to Success program, which provides life skills enrichment and one-on-one tutoring to underserved children. They received a \$20,000 grant for this program.

Harvest Time International received \$18,000 for the Help for Today program, which provides free emergency vouchers for food and needed household products for families experiencing hunger and financial crisis.

Hope Community Center received \$40,000 for their Strong Families-Strong Futures mentoring, tutoring and college readiness program for struggling low-income children.

Hope Helps, Inc.'s Kids of Hope School Break Lunch program which provides food baskets to families with young children who experience food insecurity during the summer and school breaks received \$20,000 to support their efforts.

Impower received a \$30,000 grant for their Village Transitional Housing program which provides housing support and full wrap-around support services for youth 18-23 who age out of the foster care system.

Jewish Family Services of Greater Orlando, Inc.'s Family Stabilization program received a \$40,000 grant to provide assessment, case management and job skills training and preparation for families at risk of homelessness.

Kids House of Seminole, Inc. received a \$25,000 grant to support their Child Advocacy program which provides child abuse prevention, parent education and training and treatment.

Meals on Wheels, Etc. provides nutritious meals and support services for low-income seniors. They received a \$40,000 grant for their program.

Orlando Day Nursery received a \$7,000 grant for their intensive after school math and reading program which provides four 10-week tutoring sessions for elementary students five days a week for 3 hours a day.

Rescue Outreach Mission of Central Florida, Inc. helps provide women and children comprehensive support services through their Transitional Housing Program for families impacted by domestic violence. They received a \$20,000 grant to support their efforts.

SafeHouse of Seminole's SafeKid/"Triple P" Positive Parenting Program provides educational and support strategies that promote positive parenting and reduce the risk of child abuse and neglect. They received a \$10,000 grant.

Salvation Army Seminole County received a \$40,000 Emergency Services grant which provides direct financial assistance to individuals and families in crisis for rent, mortgage and utilities payments.

Salvation Army of Lake County received \$30,000 to help support their Food Assistance program which provides emergency food distribution to those in need in Lake County.

Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, Inc. received a \$30,000 general support grant. This agency services the Orlando community eight hunger-related programs and distributes more than 39 million pounds of food resources to 500 local nonprofit agencies.

Seniors First, Inc. received \$25,000 for their Emergency Meals On Wheels program, providing home delivered meals and case management assistance to elderly adults.

Society of St. Andrew, Inc. gleans produce that remains after farmers have finished harvesting and food that is rejected by commercial markets. They distribute it to food banks and received a \$15,000 grant to support that effort.

Valencia College Foundation received \$20,000 for the Transitions Summer Academy which gives at-risk high school students tours at the college campus and exposes them to programs and career choices.

YMCA of Central Florida's Summer Zone Program received \$20,000 in support of their academic enrichment and skill building program over the summer months.

About the Orlando Sentinel Family Fund

The Orlando Sentinel Family Fund, a Fund of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, is committed to supporting programs that move low-income children and families to self-sufficiency. Since 1990, through the Fund, more than \$34 million has been awarded to local nonprofit organizations serving Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake and W. Volusia Counties. To learn more about the Orlando Sentinel Children's Fund, visit www.OrlandoSentinelFamilyFund.org and "Like" us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/OrlandoSentinelFamilyFund).

About the Robert R. McCormick Foundation

The Robert R. McCormick Foundation is committed to fostering communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens. Through philanthropic programs, Cantigny Park and museums, the Foundation helps develop citizen leaders and works to make life better in our communities. The Foundation was established as a charitable trust in 1955, upon the death of Colonel Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. The Robert R. McCormick Foundation is one of the nation's largest foundations, with more than \$1.5 billion in assets. For more information, please visit www.McCormickFoundation.org , follow us on Twitter, and "Like" us on Facebook.

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