

2014 Grant Recipients

A total of \$50,000 in grants were awarded by Operation Our Town during the 2014 grant cycle for the following proven prevention and treatment programs:

Altoona Area School District Foundation: SOAR (Study, Overcome, Achieve, Reward)

Identifies students who will receive financial assistance to pursue a post-secondary education, given that they meet program guidelines and participate fully in the program.

Altoona Parochial Catholic Youth Organization: APYO-Operation Our Town #ONE Athletic Programs

Youth flag football and high school boys basketball programs open to all youth in the area that are not on a school team and still have an interest in participating in athletics.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Blair County: One-to-One Youth Mentoring

Evidence-based one-to-one youth mentoring program offered to children of Blair County between the ages of 6 and 18, who are paired with a trained adult mentor to do a variety of activities, to confide in as a friend, and to serve as a role model.

Blair County Drug & Alcohol Program, Inc.: Youth League

Will transport, collaborate, organize, and chaperone three summer activities which will serve approximately 150 low-income/at-risk children and their families.

Blair County Juvenile Probation Office: Blair County Juvenile Drug Court Program

Evidence-based program that provides a system of incentives and sanctions to promote each youth's ability to account for his/her actions.

Booker T. Washington Revitalization Corporation: Prospect Park Revitalization

Funding to provide a bench and two picnic tables at the new state-of-the-art playground facility located at Prospect Park in Altoona.

Evergreen Manors Supportive Services: Evergreen Manors Community Garden

Encourage individuals from a variety of backgrounds to work together to achieve a healthy, sustainable, community garden which will initiate a source of fresh produce.

Gloria Gates Memorial Foundation: After School Program

After-school and summer programs provided for children ages 5 through 12 in a daily structured setting held within the housing developments of Evergreen Manors, Fairview Hills, Logan Hills, and a new site at Penn Lincoln Elementary School.

Hollidaysburg Area YMCA: Family Y-Nite

Offers their facilities to kids and their families on the first Saturday of each month of October through May and provides swimming, arts and crafts, games, music, food, and local entertainment.

Home Nursing Agency: Blair County Nurse-Family Partnership

Funding to provide necessary items for vulnerable first-time mothers that are paired with a registered nurse home visitor to receive ongoing support and guidance throughout their pregnancy until the child reaches age two.

Joshua House, Inc.: Cross-Town Basketball League

Provide teens in Northern and Central Blair County the opportunity to play basketball with students from their own school and other schools in a safe and fun atmosphere, along with helping give life direction at a weekly dinner at Joshua House and through coaching mentorship.

Northern Blair County Recreation Association: Northern Blair Rec Center Family Nights

Will offer their facilities to kids and their families one Saturday per month from September through April and will provide arts & crafts and local entertainment.

Ski Gap Community Action Council: Outdoor Movie Night Against Crime & Drugs

Will fund an outdoor movie night free to the public for children and families to enjoy.

The ROCK: After School Program

After-school program for children in Kindergarten through 12th grade held at the 2nd Avenue United Methodist Church, which includes a recreational period, classroom lesson time, creative development period, and a hot, nutritious home-cooked meal.

United Way of Blair County: Family Resource Center – Parents as Teachers Program and Make Parenting a Pleasure Parenting Class

Funding to provide program supplies for Parents as Teachers educational family home visits and group events, and educational materials for the Make Parenting a Pleasure curriculum.