

Applicant/Location	Program Type	Tax Credit Amount	Project Description
Erie Philharmonic - Erie, Erie County	NAP	\$30,250	<p>One problem connects our targeted population of students in grades 3-5 from Erie's Public Schools - lack of consistent exposure to the arts. This problem mirrors a national trend in which students from impoverished neighborhoods receive less arts education than their peers. The NEA has found that since 1982, the percentage of 18- to 24-year-old African Americans who receive arts education in childhood has dropped from 51% to 26%. We see a similar drop for the Hispanic population – 47% down to 28%. These students are negatively impacted by this lack of arts education. Academic achievement scores and dropout rates for students in this neighborhood are the worst in Erie County. According to Erie Vital Signs: 38% pass grade three reading (Erie County: 62%) while 30% pass grade three math (Erie County: 56%). 74% graduation rate (Erie County: 86%)</p> <p>Our proposal looks to tackle these problems with an innovative concert experience presented in partnership with Carnegie Hall. We are now partnering with one of the most prestigious organizations in the world, Carnegie Hall, to create an educational learning experience. Students and teachers will follow lesson plans in the curriculum leading up to our concerts. These plans, organized by Carnegie Hall, include sections on vocabulary development, rhythmic training, English language skills, etc. The process culminates with our Youth Concerts, during which these students are able to sing music they have learned along with the Philharmonic. This opportunity for students to perform with the orchestra will serve as a catalyst towards further engagement with the arts. Rather than be a spectator at this concert, the students will be active participants. Proposed outcomes: Reach 2,802 students in grades 3-5 – short term, Increase attendance for music programs by 100 students – mid term, Gradually help to increase the graduation rate from 74% to 76% and lower the dropout rate from 6.4% to 5.4% - long term.</p>

<p>Erie Center for Arts & Technology - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$82,500</p>	<p>This project seeks to address underserved residents in the 16503 zip code, where poverty rates exceed 39%. The addition of a pharmacy as part of the Wayne School project addresses a significant healthcare need for high-value health care services, particularly among low-income residents. Primary medication nonadherence (PMN) is defined as the failure to fill a newly prescribed medication. PMN rates are as high as 25% among the Wayne School population. Although not designated as an official pharmacy desert, the neighborhood surrounding Wayne School does not include any easily accessible pharmacy, with the closest one located .9 miles away, making it difficult for those without access to reliable transportation. For all of these reasons, ECAT and PHN see a critical need for pharmacy services in the Wayne School neighborhood and seek to implement this aspect of the project to increase its holistic approach to social determinants of health. ECAT will fully renovate Wayne School, transforming this historic and prominent blighted property into a community hub for healthcare, job training and the arts. As part of the renovation project, ECAT will partner with Primary Health Network, the largest Federally Qualified Health Center in PA, to build out a community pharmacy on the ground floor of the building. This request is to provide the funding for buildout of the pharmacy as part of the larger Wayne School Project. To that end, ECAT is seeking an NAP with support from UPMC Health Plan.</p>
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<p>Mother Teresa Academy - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$20,625</p>	<p>Currently, our school is facing a challenge of a roofing system that is in dire need of repair. The roof on the main section of the building and gymnasium are each over 20 years old and well past their useful lives. The needed repairs are necessary for the safety of students and staff in the building. The 2nd grade classroom has roof damage and major leaks. A mopping bucket is currently underneath missing and damaged tiling to prevent leakage that could damage flooring, desks and other items in the classroom. Additionally, the 5th grade classroom, school hallway and gymnasium have similar damage and are a major safety hazard for the students and faculty. There is currently a large garbage bin in the middle of the 5th grade classroom to catch leaks that arise in the classroom. Ceiling tiles are damaged and missing as well. The deteriorating roofing system's potential failure is a critical life safety emergency issue.</p> <p>Strategic Criteria: Organizational Justification- The mission of the school is to educate students in a safe and healthy learning environment and to provide a safe work environment for all staff. With increased accountability requirements, Mother Teresa Academy needs to ensure students have fewer distractions and a safe classroom so that they can achieve full proficiency in the core subjects.</p> <p>Energy Impact - The roof insulation has been compromised due to water damage, which has resulted in operational expenses due to increasing heating and cooling costs. Customer Service - Students and teachers deserve a safe learning environment. Prospective students and their parents touring the school would find the roof in need of critical repair upon visiting classrooms and gymnasium. Safety Concerns – Leaking roofs can result in a “sick building”, possibly causing illness in the students, and may damage furniture, equipment, additional ceiling and flooring.</p>
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<p>Community Action Partnership of Mercer County - Sharon, Mercer County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$55,000</p>	<p>The city of Sharon is demolishing houses that are not fit for living and are a blight in the community. After a blighted house has been razed and removed, without maintenance, the remaining vacant lot will create a different kind of blight in the neighborhood. The Community Action Partnership (CAPMC) and the City of Sharon intend to implement a pilot program: Lots to Love, a solution to mitigate this blight. It is our hope to inspire neighbors by demonstrating change is possible. We will identify three projects that can be implemented on vacant lots to activate the formerly blighted space; for example, as a small playground, a resting area checker tables, shaded areas for reading, relaxation and enjoying nature, or community garden. A project supervisor will be hired to oversee the community engagement meetings, develop a detailed plan and timeline for work completion and to ensure each project is done properly and according to the guideline of the program. We propose three action strategies to accomplish the Lots to Love project: 1. Side Lot Opportunity: Homeowner that are adjacent to vacant lots will be prioritized for lot acquisition, subsequently increasing their property value and putting vacant lots back onto the tax rolls. 2. Adopt-a-Lot: A new use for the vacant lot will be implemented, with a priority on place-making activities. CAPMC and City will implement 3 projects to demonstrate what can be done, thus inspiring others to adopt-a-lot. 3 Sponsor-a-Lot: Sponsorship fees will pay for lot maintenance. Outcomes will include the following: 1 job will be created, 5 homeowners will obtain a vacant lot, lot activation projects will be implemented by CAPMC and the City through the Adopt-a-Lot solution; projects will be identified through a participatory community engagement process, Remaining properties will be maintained by other individuals/organizations via the Adopt and/or Sponsor-a-Lot Program.</p>
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<p>Erie Civic Theatre Association dba Erie Playhouse - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$33,000</p>	<p>COMMUNITY COMMITMENT is an early learning and intervention program that helps inner-city and underserved children thrive through increased kindergarten readiness and literacy development. It engages them in arts activities to start them on the right path to school success, trains parents and teachers in literacy-building techniques, and provides access to live theatre. It addresses objectives of the Erie Together initiative and community-level outcomes of the United Way of Erie County. It supports children at the highest risk of school failure and their parents who play a large role in helping their children gain the self-sufficiency needed to get off to a great start in school and life. Testing reveals that 60% of Erie children enter school without adequate literacy skills and 62% of 3rd graders read below proficiency in the Erie Public Schools. Reading proficiency by 4th grade is a key indicator of school success and self-sufficiency as an adult. COMMUNITY COMMITMENT expands PLAYtime into 11 new classrooms, adds PLAYtime in the PARK, and creates PLAYright, an innovative kindergarten program for inner-city Erie Community Schools. OUTCOMES: PLAYtime: YEAR 1-Children engage in pre-reading development skills and demonstrate an increased interest in books; parents are more knowledgeable of literacy strategies and practice them with support. YEAR 2-Children demonstrate on-target pre-literacy skills; parents read to their children more often and implement literacy strategies without support. YEAR 3-Children score proficient or higher on kindergarten literacy assessments; parents promote literacy activities through engagement in reading 5-7 times weekly. PLAYright: Students succeed academically and are physically, socially and emotionally healthy. To achieve these outcomes, we will use performance art to increase literacy and build positive behaviors that lead to improved academic success and educational attainment.</p>
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<p>Gannon University - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$1,375</p>	<p>Strong Vincent Middle School students struggle to keep pace with PSSA/Keystone Exam Test Scores and are at risk of academic failure. Of the 774 students enrolled 69% are economically disadvantaged and 45% represent minority populations. Test scores in mathematics, science and language arts are an average of 21% below the PA statewide average. The purpose of this after-school STEM program is to address the academic gap for below under-performing students at SVMS. Gannon University faculty, students and community school director in coordination with the STEM teacher at SVMS will provide a six-week after-school STEM program for 20 SVMS students. Each two hour session will be taught by Gannon engineering faculty with assistance from Gannon engineering students. The expected outcomes include: Create and/or program a robot and/or drone, Improve their overall knowledge of STEM application, Increase their awareness of careers in STEM, Increase their confidence in learning STEM, Indicate that they had fun with the proposed STEM activities, Indicate they would participate in the program again and/or tell a friend to participate in the program.</p>
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<p>Erie County Historical Society - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$30,800</p>	<p>To continue the tradition of promoting Erie's history, ECHS has made the strategic decision to build a new 6000 sq. foot exhibit building on its campus to foster the children's love of learning Erie's history, build historical exhibits for our community, and encourage tourism. ECHS has an estimated 30,000 artifacts. Only a small amount of the artifacts is on display in the Watson-Curtze Mansion. The majority are in storage, unavailable for public viewing due to lack of exhibit space. The new building will permit more of Erie's rich history to be on display for all to see. In addition, a major donor has secured an exhibit of national significance and wishes ECHS to showcase it. This exhibit will be displayed on the first floor of the new building. The second floor of the new building will feature a comprehensive review of Erie County history. All exhibits will feature local artifacts and this floor will have children's activities built into each individual exhibit. ECHS broke ground on the new exhibit building March 1, 2019. Construction on this two-story building is expected to be completed by November 2019. An award-winning national exhibit design firm, the PRD Group, has been hired to design the exhibit space. This firm has also designed exhibits for the Smithsonian and National Park Service. The new building will feature interactive, dynamic, big picture exhibits which will encourage critical thinking, an appreciation for our heritage, and pride in our community. This is an exciting opportunity for Erie as part of the ongoing revitalization. PRD began seeking input from the community in April 2019. They have hosted shareholders meetings in Erie to learn what topics/themes are most important to Erie citizens to feature in the exhibits.</p>
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<p>Erie Arts & Culture - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$33,000</p>	<p>This project will increase educational engagement and achievement by providing access to exceptional cultural experiences for low-income youth. Erie Arts & Culture will work with Erie's Public Schools (Grades 6-8) to provide a comprehensive year-long series of cultural experiences as tools to enhance learning. Education is a barometer of a region's economic viability. 80% of students in Erie's Public Schools are classified as economically disadvantaged; the district receives 100% Title 1 services. Families do not have the means to meet their basic needs; participation in activities like the arts are prohibited without support from the community. Schools are also challenged to provide these learning opportunities. In 2016, the district filed a financial recovery plan; it continues to overcome six consecutive years of budget shortfalls. Helping students receive equitable opportunities for success is not only a goal for families and educators, but for the entire community. Research shows that arts education increases student engagement and achievement. Learning in the arts enables every individual to develop the critical thinking, collaborative, and creative skills necessary to succeed in today's ever-changing world. Through this project, Erie Arts & Culture will engage 2,300 low-income youth in exceptional cultural experiences, as well as arts integrated learning, to include: placement of professional teaching artists in all of the district's 6th grade classrooms, and Brig Niagara day sails for all 8th grade students. All of these school-based activities will take place in Erie's Public Schools' three middle schools, with the day sail occurring on board the US Brig Niagara docked at PHMC's Erie Maritime Museum. The project will also engage at least 30 of the district's art and music educators in a full-day in-service training.</p>
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<p>Arts Council of Erie dba Erie Arts & Culture - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$55,000</p>	<p>Problems were identified by reviewing the Destination Erie Strategic Plan, Erie Refocused, the Downtown Master Plan, OWB Community Plan, and reviewing the priorities of the BEST, ServERIE, and the SSJNN. Erie Arts & Culture's constituents also had input in defining these problems. Restore confidence in residents of Erie by creating strong emotional bonds between people and place. Transition Erie out of an industrial focus with a renewed and positive image that embraces both the cultural and creative economy. Encourage transparency, collaboration, and resource sharing to reduce duplication of efforts among Erie's non-profit sector. Reinforce Erie's pedestrian scale by improving Erie's visual landscape. Brand Downtown as a hub for creativity, innovation, and a gateway into Erie's neighborhoods. Embrace Erie's diversity and improve inclusivity across the board. Build the capacity of Erie's artists and cultural workers to better serve as leaders in their communities. New Horizons reflects and engages Erie's diverse neighborhoods and communities. Funds will be used to offer direct support to artists to expand their processes to work with communities to identify creative solutions to complex problems. Artists will serve in residence with neighborhood organizations and both groups will increase their internal capacity, expanded their network, and gain a unique perspective on their work and their community. EAC will harness the power of the arts to bring people together, push conversations forward, and elevate the voices of residents. As a form of mentorship and professional development, emerging artists will be paired with established artists who maintain a community-driven practice. EAC will practice equitable direct investment by empowering artists from marginalized or minority communities and placing an emphasis on extending residencies to those artists who have not previously accessed funding opportunities through the agency.</p>
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<p>Environment Erie - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$33,000</p>	<p>Through the Erie Redevelopment Authority alone, there are 77 vacant lots for sale and 87 lots available through the Adopt-a-Lot program. In addition, the City of Erie revitalization plan, Erie Refocused, identified 4,700 vacant housing units. In order to reduce the number of vacant housing units, it will be recommended some units are demolished as they are beyond repair. Given the volume of vacant lots already available for improvement and potential for more vacant lots in the future as disinvested properties are demolished, it is important for Environment Erie to continue its collaborative effort to reclaim vacant lots. Vacant lots are not only unsightly; they also pose a human health risk and environmental hazard. This project will beautify and repurpose three vacant lots, one in each of the following neighborhoods: Bayfront East Side Taskforce (BEST), Our West Bayfront (OWB), and ServErie. This project aids each group in furthering their vision for safe, vibrant communities. Meetings with each neighborhood group and stakeholders will determine appropriate lots to improve and amenities to develop. Such amenities could be community gardens, outdoor gym stations, pathways, edible gardens and native plantings. Once amenities are identified, appropriate vendors and contractors will be contacted to implement the projects. Expected outcomes are: at three neighborhood meetings held, three vacant lots repurposed for community use, at least 50 households have increased access to outdoor recreation opportunities, and at least 500 square feet of native plantings are established.</p>
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<p>Erie Zoological Society - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$11,000</p>	<p>The City of Erie has 14 to 15% lower household and per capita income than the state average. It has a 17% higher poverty rate than the state average. This situation has a huge impact on the neighborhoods and families in the City. The Erie Zoo is one of the leading family destinations in the region. The Zoo is open free for two hours every Sunday March to December to help bring families together in a pleasant site. Interviews suggest that over a dozen different nationalities attend these hours, particularly immigrants. These are the two busiest hours of the week and families come from some of the poorest neighborhoods in the City. Use of the Zoo's free time continues to grow. There are many times when visitation stresses the park's capacity. To address this demand the Zoo undertook a master plan and a capital campaign. The plan calls for the first expansion of the park in 50 years. This expansion will help reduce the capacity limitations incurred during free time. This is a five phase multi-year project. It will include renovations to the zoo's ice arena and restoration of the zoo's iconic Main Zoo Building. The zoo's master plan calls for new parking, a new entrance, gift shop, visitor spaces, a restaurant and plazas and pavilions. It will create several new animal exhibits such as bear, monkey and giraffe exhibits. All of this is designed to create a larger campus to accommodate increased visitation. It will also provide better education and recreation opportunities for our guests. Each phase will create about 25 prevailing wage construction jobs. The entire project will also create 5 new full time and about 25 part time jobs at the zoo.</p>
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<p>SSJ Neighborhood Network - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$27,500</p>	<p>SSJ Neighborhood Network will address the following problems: IMAGE: Public spaces require attention; 45% of homes are adjacent to distressed properties, 20% require major renovation; code sweeps create financial hardship for many homeowners. PLAN: award renovation mini-grants; provide vacant lot beautification through community gardens. SAFETY: Crime & perception of crime is high. PLAN: Install surveillance equipment to prevent crime and increase feelings of safety. ECONOMY: 26% residents did not graduate HS, youth enrichment programs are scarce and workforce development opportunities are inadequate. PLAN: Offer enrichment education & work readiness programs to build problem-solving and career skills. DISORGANIZATION: 76% of residents have low to moderate incomes, unemployment is high; 36% are food insecure and neighborhoods are classified food deserts. PLAN: Provide community gardening, hold farmers markets & match SNAP benefits. IMAGE: Award at least 10 property rehabilitation mini-grants; offer opportunity for neighbors to participate in 6 community gardens, 2 urban orchards and 1 urban farm. SAFETY: Install video surveillance equipment in at least 5 new high-risk crime or "hot spot" areas. EDUCATION & ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT: Implement educational and work readiness "Pedal Mettle" bike co-op with at least 30 youth; Employ at least 6 youth in urban farming social enterprise as part of our larger, SSJNN Supported Youth Employment career and workforce development program serving a total of 30 teens. ORGANIZATION: Coordinate weekly farmers market June - September; provide 100% match for SNAP, WIC & senior voucher customers at farmers market.</p>
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<p>All About Character, Inc. - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$44,000</p>	<p>The Erie School District did a comprehensive study of the school system and found two factors to be present: Some disparities among minority youth and staff, and a fundamental breakdown of trust between youth and authorities. These authorities included law enforcement, government officials, and administrators. With these ongoing challenges found in Erie's Public Schools (EPS), the current need for a balanced and tempered school climate is more important than ever. AAC's programming is now in all EPS middle schools, and in all but one EPS elementary school. As a result AAC has the opportunity to significantly and positively influence the social culture and climate experienced by a majority of EPS students, faculty, and staff. Ultimately, AAC's Troopers Teaching Student's goals are reduced juvenile crime, incarceration and increased graduation rates. Accomplishing the immediate purpose above will go a long way toward producing these substantial long-term outcomes. A trained Law Enforcement Instructor will be assigned to a specific EPS school for the academic year. Each week for 32 weeks each of these 18 AAC instructors will deliver one session of their designated curriculum in each program classroom, teaching two to five classrooms of students per day, one day per week. Outputs will be measured such as number of students receiving instruction, number of classrooms participating, number of Law Enforcement Instructors delivering the programs, number of trainings held, number of volunteers participating, etc. Compared to non-participating students, participating students will 1) demonstrate an increase in familiarity with and positive attitudes toward the character traits being learned; 2) demonstrate an increase in pro-social behaviors and a decrease in anti-social behaviors, measured by school/District indicators; 3) demonstrate more positive attitudes toward law enforcement; 4) demonstrate more positive attitudes toward school in general.</p>
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<p>Inner-City Neighborhood Art House - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$30,250</p>	<p>Our main goal is to support students ages 12-14 in re-imagining their futures to get out of poverty, cycles of abuse, unstable home environments, and generational situations who live in Erie's inner city. The Art House is the only organization to offer a high-quality program in the arts to Erie's inner-city children at no cost to them. Most of our children live in the sections of the city identified as high-density poverty areas. Children raised in impoverished environments are at higher risk for poor performance in school. The challenges they face in childhood can diminish their chances for successful adult lives. Children who engage in after-school and summer programs are kept out of two potentially dangerous situations: the streets and/or an empty house. Being involved in this program provides a safe space for them to socialize with their peers, eliminate the risk of them getting into trouble, and provide them with transferable skills that they can use for future opportunities. The classes that are the focus of this project are in our Visual Arts Program. Each improvement will apply to supporting Digital Photography, Video Editing, Computer Design, Graphic Design, and even our Wearable Art classes. These classes rank in the top for filling to capacity the fastest and are the classes that attract our older students. The longer we can keep the students engaged and learning new skills that will make them more marketable for potential job opportunities or future studies, the brighter Erie's future will be for the inner-city youth. The Art House's Logic Model is our foundation for measurable outcomes. Inputs, Activities, Outputs, Outcomes, Indicator, Data Source, and Data Collection Method are used when measuring the effectiveness of our classes and the impact on our students. Attendance, continued enrollment, and surveying the students at the start and again at the end of the course will provide key outcome data regarding pre and post knowledge of subject matter.</p>
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<p>Perseus House - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$27,500</p>	<p>The project is to renovate the physical plant in order to convert the Perseus House Boys Intensive Treatment Program to a Residential Treatment Facility. The needs of the clients from the communities we service have become more complex and the level of care needed by those clients requires Perseus House to update the treatment facility provided in order to successfully meet their mental health needs. The current facility needs to be upgraded to accommodate our clients and also increasing the number of staff needed to provide this level of care. Perseus House has provided residential treatment to at-risk adolescents since 1971. This building was purchased in 1976 and has provided services continuously since that time. The cost associated with locating a new building at a different site are so prohibitively high that our best and only reasonable option is to update the current facility. Staying in the same location is beneficial for the community we have been a part of for over 40 years. By remaining at the current facility the long term benefits include maintaining stable relationships with our commercial and residential neighbors. Our project fits the community wide endeavor to revitalize downtown Erie. This project would allow us to continue to serve at-risk youth and their families within the community in which they live. Having access to the community, the families of the clients we serve and all other community resources increases our opportunities for success in treatment. As a result of the conversion, we will add seven full-time benefited positions including: Mental Health Therapists, a Case Manager, additional nursing services and two Behavioral Specialists. Over the last three years 71 of the 83 clients serviced at that facility successfully completed the program. With the additional services in place, the number of clients serviced and successfully discharged will increase. Enclosed are our outcome measurements.</p>
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SafeNet - Erie, Erie County	NAP	\$24,750	<p>The specific problem is twofold. We need to rehab a newly purchased property to create housing for large families within our Crisis Shelter program. Secondly, is the need to increased security for victims residing in SafeNet housing programs. SafeNet's Campus has a security issue caused by an abandoned city alley that runs east to west bisecting our Campus. There is fencing around each property but the fence can and has been scaled. A recently purchased property has allowed us to close off the abandoned city alley which will provide security on the north boarder of our residential campus and the south border of our urban park, the Big Backyard. Repairs and Maintenance have not been performed on the property for 15 years. Areas of the property needs immediate attention to create a healthy living space. Those who need longer shelter stays have been the most damaged by abuses and have the most serious barriers that must be overcome to rebuild their lives. About 75% of the residents needing a long stay in Crisis Shelter are families. They have experienced DV and have no income or incomes that are below the poverty level. The newly acquired property can accommodate 2 large families. The maximum stay is less than 3 months. At full capacity, this means that the extended Crisis Shelter can accommodate 10 large families a year.</p> <p>Outcomes will increase housing: Completion of the rehab and building projects, Reduction in energy usage with installation of new windows, insulation and efficient heating, Securing abandoned alley enhancing safety and security of all residential clients and staff, To provide crisis shelter housing that accommodates large families in a safe, supportive environment, Exterior rehab modifications will enhance neighborhood by maintaining historic fidelity.</p>
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<p>expERIEence Children's Museum - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$23,650</p>	<p>The expERIEence Children's Museum (ECM) will increase access to high quality STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) learning experiences to 7,000 Erie children and families. The Mobile Museum will extend ECM's education reach into distressed neighborhoods allowing STEAM learning to be accessible for all and shrinking the opportunity gap that results from children living in poverty. According to the Erie Vital Signs, county-wide data tracking and reporting system, a growing total of 39% of children from the City of Erie live below the poverty line. Through unique and engaging STEAM Mobile Museum programs ECM will help children develop critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, collaboration and innovation. These 21st century skills are required for a pathway to a STEM career (NAEYC), careers that according to the Department of Education will grow by 14% from 2010 to 2020 outpacing the national average of 5-8 % across all job sectors. The objective for the community outreach Mobile Museum STEAM Program is to provide hands-on STEAM learning experiences for children and families that will scaffold kids' learning and bridge the opportunity gap. Desired outcomes for the program will include: children will develop an interest in and increased positive attitudes about STEAM learning, children will increase application of critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, collaboration and innovation, families will practice STEAM skills together as they investigate, discover, and solve problems. The Mobile Museum will visit neighborhood parks, community festivals, education fairs and summer camp programs, engaging 7,000 children and families through 8 key community partnerships with Our West Bayfront, the City of Erie, Erie Downtown Partnership, Perry Square Alliance, Penn State University, Gannon University, Neighborhood Art House and the YMCA.</p>
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<p>Mercy Center for Women - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$27,500</p>	<p>Unemployed women, single mothers, and mature women struggle with building job skills and securing new employment to reach self-sufficiency. According to Erie Vital Signs in 2017, the unemployment rate in Erie County was 5.8%. This was almost 1 percentage point higher than Pennsylvania as a whole (4.9%) and 1.4 points higher than the nation (4.4%). Since 2000, Erie County's unemployment rate peaked at 9.3% in 2010 and dropped in subsequent years before rising again in 2016. In the City of Erie, the 2017 unemployment rate was 6.4%. This was up 1.5 percentage points from 2000. The city's unemployment rate peaked in 2010 at 10.4%. It is difficult for unemployed women to enter, or re-enter, the workforce as they are not always comfortable in social and business settings. Women need 'job-readiness' skills and a support group to build a career for themselves and their family. The WEAR program will provide the education and tools needed for women to secure employment and self-sufficiency. DFSE and WEAR programs will move, and expand, from their current location at 1051 East 28th Street to the Holy Rosary facility. This move will reduce the costs and expenses associated with renting the current space and allow the WEAR program to grow in the new space and expand services to serve more clients. WEAR will coordinate with mental health agencies and social service agencies to provide support services for each client and their specific needs. Three Training Cohorts will be held each year. Each session is bridged to the following session with activities to reinforce topics and link the classes, allowing staff to build on the materials each week. Each class is a three-hour session, one day a week, for seven consecutive weeks. All the training will take place in the new classroom at the Holy Rosary facility and will include career center job searches, resume writing and completing job applications.</p>
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<p>Early Connections, Inc. - Erie, North East Township, Union City; Erie County</p>	<p>NAP</p>	<p>\$16,500</p>	<p>Early Connections serves children (birth through age twelve) from families who live or work within our community, including approximately 85% of families who are low income or living in poverty. Over 300 children are served in our six locations daily. Early Connections would like to take the next step with our quality curriculum implementation through effective implementation of the Curriculum GOLD assessment tool. We are requesting funding for technology and assessment support. With an iPad for each classroom, teachers can more accurately record observations of children's progress in real time. Currently, teachers take notes by hand and enter assessment data online at a later time, which impacts accuracy. In addition, we are requesting laptops for use by lead teachers and directors, to effectively supervise the use of the assessment, and to adequately train new employees through online Curriculum Gold assessment training. 26 classrooms will receive iPads, resulting in timeliness and accuracy in recording the observations of children's activities and progress. This better enables the teacher to plan appropriate instruction for each child, helping develop the foundation for success in school and the future workforce. 9 Laptops will be placed in the centers, improving system oversight and allowing Directors to support teachers in the use of Creative Curriculum GOLD. Laptops will also make online training accessible, so that all new staff will obtain 10 hours of training, prior to the scheduled October assessment. Funds will also be used to maintain the enrollment of over 280 children in Creative Curriculum GOLD. This phase of implementation helps provide the best potential for support implementation, skills gap recognition, and additional high-quality early learning opportunities for at-risk children within our community attending Early Connections.</p>
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<p>Downtown Bradford Revitalization Corp. - Bradford, McKean County</p>	<p>NPP 3/5</p>	<p>\$150,000</p>	<p>NPP private contributions will be used with City of Bradford CDBG Program and state funding, DBRC, local and private match funds to continue the partnership efforts of the DBRC, its NPP private funding partners, City of Bradford OECD to address blighting conditions in a predominately low income neighborhood following the goals and strategies outlined in the 2nd Ward Neighborhood Revitalization Plan Update. Activities to address blighting conditions include the acquisition and removal of blighted properties, rehabilitation of blighted properties, construction of new housing to stabilize the housing stock, enforcement of housing codes and provide affordable housing opportunities; address poor infrastructure and improve pedestrian safety and walkability through streetscape improvements and address quality of life issues such as reducing crime and creating a more welcoming place to live and work. The five-year updated strategy provides guidance for undertaking action items in accordance with the Elm Street Program's neighborhood improvement strategies. Year 3 NPP and other neighborhood investment funding will be used to continue the construction of two new single family homes on Congress Place and provide downpayment assistance to a qualified homebuyer; the interior renovation of a large combination commercial/residential building at 99-101 Congress Street; streetscape improvements on Congress Street (between Park Street and Leland Avenue), Jefferson Street (between Park Street and Thompson Avenue) and Thompson Avenue (between Jefferson Street and Congress Street); provide matching funds to property owners to address exterior housing code violations under the facade program), support the Crimewatch software that provide residents an avenue to report crime and housing/nuisance issues to the City and plan/hold neighborhood events to promote a sense of neighborhood.</p>
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<p>10 Thousand Friends of Pennsylvania - New Castle, Lawrence County</p>	<p>NPP 3/6</p>	<p>\$180,000</p>	<p>New Castle's South Side suffers from significant disinvestment and as a result has a high degree of vacancy and blight. This has discouraged investment in the neighborhood. As a result, population has declined, and the remaining population has a higher concentration of low-income households, making it difficult to support existing businesses and services. Our work is an asset based community development approach known as the Healthy Communities Initiative. We are working to improve the social, physical, and economic conditions in the neighborhood through this coordinated approach. The South Side community's vision is a healthy mixed-use neighborhood where residents have equitable access to transit, businesses, and services. Proposed outcomes will be measured by the decline in the number of blighted properties, return of properties to the tax rolls, and number of residents assisted. We will accomplish our goals in Blight and Safety, Community Services, Housing, and Business District Development through key partnerships with City of New Castle, Lawrence County Land Bank, Gussie Walker Community Outreach, DON Services, and Lawrence County CAP, as well as participation in the Blueprint Communities coalition. 10,000 Friends will employ 3 staff and 2-3 consultants for project management, planning, community engagement, and administration. Expected outcomes: Demolish 3 blighted and unsafe structures / transfer vacant lots to land bank, Build 2 new affordable homes. Emergency repairs of 3 homes to preserve homeownership, Side Yard program expansion by 3 homeowners acquiring vacant lots from land bank, Educational enrichment / homework support for 50 youth, Provide 6400 healthy meals. Expand community gardens and fresh produce grown by youth, college students, and neighbors, Improve small business opportunities through 3 microloans for impactful expansion.</p>
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<p>Bayfront East Side Taskforce - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NPP 2/6</p>	<p>\$280,000</p>	<p>BEST's Neighborhood Partnership Plan focuses on increasing neighborhood services, removal of blight, development of housing opportunities, homeowner education and youth programming. These strategies will transform the neighborhood into one families, individuals and businesses desire to live, work and play. The following list of specific activities to be completed with 2019-20 Neighborhood Partnership Program: 1.Promotion of the East Bayfront Neighborhood and activity through media outlets. 2.Continued development of new home owners as well as safe and affordable rentals. 3.Blight removal for future infill development. 4.Green space maintenance. 5.Home repair and home maintenance for low income homeowners. 6.Coordination of volunteers and marketing of volunteer opportunities. 7.Focused efforts to improve the safety and security of the neighborhood. 8.Long range planning for developments to attract new businesses and neighborhood residents. 1 Maintain a commercial space and high quality affordable rental units. 2 Acquire three blighted properties in 2019-20. 3 Demolish three blighted properties in 2019-20. 4 Maintain a repair fund to assist low-income homeowners with emergency repairs and to correct housing code violations. 5 Provide at least 16 units of safe affordable rental housing to low income tenants. 6 Development of new rental housing attractive to market rate tenants in the East Bayfront Neighborhood. 7 Reduce crime by 25% in neighborhood by installing security cameras and monitoring. 8 Provide community-building events and promote the positive aspects of the neighborhood through media. 9 Promote, recruit and provide volunteer opportunities for those interested in supporting the efforts of BEST. 10. Outreach to neighbors to both promote BEST services and activities as well as provide referrals for other social service and government agencies.</p>
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<p>Gannon University - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NPP 4/6</p>	<p>\$140,000</p>	<p>This project will continue to build on collaborative efforts to revitalize Erie's West Bayfront neighborhoods, an area that the city's comprehensive plan calls the city's "greatest residential asset" despite limited market confidence. The decline of population in Erie's core neighborhoods has resulted blighted and neglected properties, concentrated poverty, limited neighborhood amenities, and weaker community networks. OWB, a small, resident-led nonprofit affiliated with Gannon University, will coordinate the work of a variety of partners including local government, residents, businesses, and houses of worship who see the possibility for a stronger West Bayfront community. We will implement a multi-layered and targeted strategy to strengthen the neighborhoods with the goal of attracting new residents, businesses, and investment while serving the needs of current residents. This project will focus on five primary areas. First, it will improve property conditions in a targeted area by providing resources to 19 property owners for repairs/rehabilitation of their properties. Second, it will address blight and create safe, affordable housing through the acquisition of one blighted property and the rehabilitation of two properties, creating 4 units of affordable rental housing. Third, it will support commercial district revitalization of the district's primary neighborhood-focused commercial area with the implementation of property improvements, traffic and safety improvements, and promoting local businesses. Fourth, it will improve parks and public spaces by completing the first phase of Bayview Park enhancements and developing the second phase. Fifth, it will mobilize residents and create a stronger neighborhood voice by hosting community events, supporting neighborhood activities, and creating a new fund for grass-roots neighborhood projects.</p>
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<p>SSJ Neighborhood Network - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>NPP 4/6</p>	<p>\$200,000</p>	<p>PROBLEM: Over 76% of the neighborhood residents have low-to-moderate incomes, 46.6% live in poverty and 25% did not graduate from high school. More than 20% of the structures require major renovation, rental vs. owner-occupied housing rates are disproportionately high, higher than average blighted property and high vacancy rates add to the need for stabilization and revitalization. In 2016 we embarked upon a multi-year comprehensive plan to address these issues, with positive results. This application represents year 4 of the plan. GOALS AND PRIORITIES: 1. PHYSICAL IMAGE: improve the physical image of the neighborhood. 2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: stabilize distressed areas and encourage residential and business investment. 3. CRIME PREVENTION: improve neighborhood safety. 4. AFFORDABLE HOUSING: create affordable housing and increase home ownership. 5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: improve quality of life, create self-sufficiency and increase communication with local policy makers. 1. PHYSICAL IMAGE: Purchase and redevelop one blighted property, replacing it with community green space; complete at least 10 business or residential façade improvements, install urban art; organize at least 2 community clean-up events. 2. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Provide incentives to recruit new businesses; expand entrepreneurial opportunities for youth with the creation of 6 part-time jobs for teens. 3. CRIME PREVENTION: Increase neighborhood watch participation; install video surveillance in high risk areas; implement Byrne Justice Grant with local police. 4. AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Purchase one vacant single-family or multi-unit property, rehabilitating it for affordable housing or use in our home ownership program. 5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Coordinate a weekly, seasonal farmers market; create opportunity for increased, nutritional self-sufficiency through community garden opportunities; organize at least 3 community engagement events.</p>
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<p>DON Enterprise, Inc. - New Castle, Lawrence County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$142,500</p>	<p>The City of New Castle is in a housing crisis. With a large majority of homes being built before 1940, over 28% of the population live in poverty, and over 31% of homeowners in the city are cost burdened with housing expenses. On the Lower East Side (LES), of 521 housing units only 214 are owner occupied (41%)(City average is 56.8%), 131 are rental units (24%), and 176 are vacant (33%)(City average 16%). With the aging housing stock and low-income households there is an overwhelming need for home repairs/renovations with a limited number of resources available to help. To make matters worse, many homeowners' mortgages are close to or exceed the value of their home and they cannot finance repairs. Finally, when homeowners are no longer able to maintain their homes, the properties become vacant blighted properties. DON will use SPP funds to tackle blight using 3 of the following activities: owner-occupied rehab, vacant property rehab, and demolition. Inception Data: Over 20 prop. in the project area need owner-occupied repairs, At least 4 properties need demolished, At least 4 vacant blighted properties need rehabbed. Proposed Outcomes: Home Repairs, Help at least 10 homeowners improve their homes, Improve the façade of 10 homes, Increase security of 5 homes, Make 2 homes accessible, Vacant property rehab, Rehab at least 1 vacant prop. and convert it into aff. ownership, Create 1 new aff., healthy, and safe home, Create homeownership for 1 household, Demolition, 2 vacant prop. demo, 2 prop. cleared and seeded. General Outcomes: Complete 6 blocks in its original project area will be completed, Reduce signs of community distress and improve overall appearance of the neighborhood, Kickoff revitalization in new 12 blocks. Outcome Measurement: Waitlist data, Apps rec., Scope of work contractors completed, Photos of completed work, Cost to rehab home minus the sales price, Survey of completed blocks.</p>
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<p>Climate Changers, Inc. - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$165,000</p>	<p>We plan to reduce recidivism and crime, increase the workforce, restore dilapidated properties in the inner city and create a space where people can become productive members of society; through transitional housing, education and support. We will accomplish this with our renovated transitional housing facility and the development of an education center in the main facility as part of the Total Change Program. The problem is, two-thirds of prisoners released from prison are re-arrested and return to prison within the first three years of freedom. More than half return to prison within the first year. Education and job training skills present a better opportunity for former inmates to gain employment. The Total Change Program decreases the rate of recidivism in the City of Erie using evidenced-based practices which include a 3 phase process: 1 In Prison Classes, 2 - Residential/Transitional Housing, Education and Training Reentry Programs, 3 - Aftercare Community Support System. Renovation of the Transitional House with 6 bedrooms will provide housing to 24 men per year. With the addition of the Education Center, we will be able to work with 287 men and women in the first year to gain necessary documentation and the skills to obtain gainful employment. Members of the TCP are provided with intense, personal life skills training (an extension of the TCP inmate process), GED, job skills and trade instruction and strategically placed in the job market. According to statistics from the Erie County Prison, the recidivism rate of Total Change Program(TCP) participants is significantly lower than those who do not enroll - not enrolled rate is 56% and less than 7% of TCP participants recidivate. This initiative will introduce approx.120 skilled individuals to the job market who previously cost the county \$36,000 per year. Families from the community participating in the education programs can be as high as 5 times the number of TCP participants.</p>
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<p>Urban Erie Community Development Corporation - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$75,000</p>	<p>The Joyce A. Savocchio Business Park, a 24-acre site between Downing and Franklin Avenues, was established in 2005 by the Greater Erie Industrial Development Corporation. Development efforts were unrealized; only one business moved in. Hundreds of New Americans live in public housing near the park. 63% of residents of Census Tract 15 live below federal poverty income indicators. UECDL purchased the property out of bankruptcy in January of 2019 in partnership with the Minority Community Investment Coalition. The property has recently been designated as an Opportunity Zone. Urban Erie CDC will manage this project. The site is located in Census Tract 15, an area historically plagued by a high rate of persistent concentrated poverty and a child poverty rate of 87%. Stakeholder residents of the census tract, particularly low-income New Americans who face multiple barriers to integration, including cultural, language, and educational attainment, have informed the need for this project and will further participate in its planning and implementation. There are more than 50 low income individuals assisting with project planning & implementation through participation in the Eastside Grassroots Coalition meetings and surveys. We are targeting a minimum of 3 residents to participate in job training in basic landscaping and property maintenance, with one FT and two PT hires resulting. The project site will be cleaned and repurposed for development. 4 blocks that will have noticeable improvements in lighting, beautification, signage and security.</p>
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<p>Community Shelter Services - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$26,250</p>	<p>CSS will maintain the structural integrity of the buildings that house our programs. The main building in which our programs and administrative offices are housed was built in 1914. We are proposing to complete a number of building repairs and improvements that make our facilities more structurally sound and more functional for our needs. With this phase of our project, the south side exterior brick walls of our main facility will be repointed to stop leaks and maintain structural integrity. The physical improvements will help preserve our building for years to come and allow our programs for the homeless to continue at our present locations, with uninterrupted 24/7 year-round services. The west and east wing side walls and roof were successfully repaired 2016 and 2018 respectively as part of s previous phase, and our north exterior walls are receiving this renovation treatment in 2019. The outcomes of this project are the renovation of the Emergency Shelter that houses 65 men, women, and children nightly; and the 96 individual low or no income housing single room occupancy units in Columbus Apartments and Lodge on Sass. The physical improvements will help reduce our energy consumption, preserve our buildings for years to come, and allow our programs for the homeless to continue at our present locations with uninterrupted 24/7 year-round services.</p>
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<p>Mercy Center for Women - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$157,500</p>	<p>Inadequate housing for homeless women and their children. Homeless women and their children make up one of the most vulnerable populations in our community and homelessness is a direct result of the high poverty rates in our area. Over the last four years, Erie County has seen an 8% increase in homelessness for women and their children. The City of Erie's poverty rate is currently at 29.2%, higher than the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and national averages. Mercy Center for Women average three housing requests for homeless women and their children per day. Each participate in an interview process, of those interviewed, 60% are accepted into the program. Recent statistics, obtained from the 2018 Erie County Single Point in Time Count and Erie Vital Signs, show that homeless women and their children are the fastest growing homeless population as 67% of homeless families are headed by women. In Erie, 35% of homeless women and their children become homeless to escape domestic violence. Mercy Center for Women leadership identified the former Holy Rosary School as a prime location to develop permanent housing for MCW clients. Women and their children will move from transitional housing to permanent housing at the Holy Rosary Apartments. Mercy Center for Women will develop 14 one- and two-bedroom permanent housing apartments for area women and their children in the former Holy Rosary School building. On May 31, 2019 the Catholic Diocese of Erie approved the sale of the former Holy Rosary School to Mercy Center for Women. Once the building is renovated, other programs will include collaborations with other local agencies; lease space for health care, Dress for Success Erie, GED classes, college coursework, mental health options, art therapy, exercise and beautician services. This will also increase overall financial support for the operations and facilities.</p>
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Erie DAWN - Erie, Erie County	SPP	\$60,000	<p>The 2019 Erie County Continuum of Care Strategic Plan identifies a lack of affordable housing for low to moderate income families. Statistics show nearly 18.3% of Erie County and 29.2% of the City of Erie residents live below the federal poverty level. The City of Erie poverty rate ranks second highest of cities statewide. The poor in the City of Erie are often one paycheck away from homelessness. Erie Dawn sees a growing problem of financial need for families who are at risk of becoming homeless; because of low income, limited education, domestic violence, recovery issues, and poor mental and physical health. In hopes to be part of the solution to reoccurring homelessness and part of a homeless prevention initiative Erie Dawn's Housing, Health and Hope Project will assist families with financial support and intense case management. The goal is for poor and at-risk- families to remain in safe affordable stable housing, increase life skills, and improve income capacity. To accomplish the project Erie DAWN will receive referrals from Erie Coordinated Entry, social agencies, employers, churches and self-referrals; followed by a phone or personal intake with a Case Manager. Next, a needs assessment to address their urgent need would be completed. They will then sign a contract stating the participant agree to develop a budget plan and work with a case manager in order to receive financial assistance and case management. After the service plan is completed, the participant will meet with a case manager weekly or bi-weekly the first month. The following three months the participant and case manager will continue to meet monthly and the last 3 months they can meet via phone if the case manager is satisfied with their progress. The Case Management function of the project is based on needs assessment. For example, if the participant is working a non- life sustaining job the case manager will refer them to Career Link for job training and placement.</p>
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<p>Warren Forest Counties Economic Opportunity Council - Warren, Clarendon; Warren County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$56,250</p>	<p>The lack of affordable housing options is an on-going and well known problem plaguing Warren County. The available subsidized and supportive housing options are unable to meet demand. This problem is further compounded when taking into account the growing generational poverty, populations decline, rising numbers of families living in poverty, and little to no economic growth. Those households with additional barriers such as mental health diagnosis, disability, or addiction are further burdened. The wait for housing through the Housing Authority has been as fast as 4 months and as long as 7 months. Wait times for larger 3 bedroom units are even longer. The lack of options for struggling families is made more difficult when families have left housing owing money or on bad terms. Availability, accessibility, safety, affordability, and location are all factors vulnerable households seek to overcome. This project addresses this issue with the addition of 2, 3 bedroom affordable options. The Warren-Forest Counties EOC is working with the local Habitat for Humanity to acquire two of their properties. One is ideally located within the City of Warren and the other is in the borough of Clarendon (east of Warren). Both properties are ideally suited for families and have 3 bedrooms. The concept for the proposed project is to repair/rehab the home in Warren and complete necessary construction to complete the home in Clarendon to then use as permanent supportive housing within the community. Eligible household applications will be reviewed by a Housing Advisory Board comprised of area stakeholders like Beacon Light Behavioral Health, Forest-Warren Human Services, and Warren County Probation. Once in permanent housing, households work with existing service providers and access all needed supports to remain stably housed. The Agency will be the Property Manager and also work with households to address issues and barriers which may have threatened permanent housing in the past.</p>
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<p>Crime Victim Center of Erie County - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$76,500</p>	<p>CVC will create a sexual assault response center (SARC) adjacent to its counseling offices to meet the confidential, forensic and medical needs of sexual assault victims, with care and compassion they deserve. Rape is the most under-reported crime with 63% of sexual assaults not reporting to police and fewer seek adequate medical care and follow-up with needed service referrals, thus reducing client retention for crisis counseling and treatment, leading to poor victim outcomes in Erie County. Poor coordination and communication among victim services stakeholders along with chaotic emergency rooms and inconsistent protocols to treat sexual assault victims discourages reporting, rape kit collection, processing and potential prosecution. Long wait times due to injuries are not considered life threatening, and lack of private waiting areas in Erie County emergency rooms may re-traumatize sexual assault victims and impede prosecution. Provide best practices in terms of trauma-informed victim services, forensic evidence collection, coordination with law enforcement and prosecution, and follow-up services in order to improve victim outcomes. CVC will leverage existing funding for current CVC staff and programs. Additional opportunities to train Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners. We expect to see an increase number of victims seeking care (measurable by comparing current known numbers, of approximately 7 completed rape kits per month) increase follow-up (measured by appointments scheduled with CVC Counselors and District Attorneys), decrease in the amount of time before and during the gathering of the evidence, currently 4-6 hours (measured by a time log, and maintaining a 20 minute response time by CVC advocate and SANE.) increase in trauma-informed care (measured through self-reported survey).</p>
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<p>St. Martin Center, Inc. - Erie, Erie County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$86,250</p>	<p>Stable Home Pathway (SHP) is a comprehensive housing approach that we began in FY 18-19 through NAP funds. Whether in a rental unit or one's own home, families need to be in affordable and stable housing. SHP has helped build responsible tenants and homeowners by providing rental counseling, home buying education, and financial counseling and assistance. We plan to strengthen this program to better match the needs of families. We will continue providing assistance to keep them in their homes, but we will also add supportive services that provide comprehensive assistance. We have seen many cases of circumstantial hardships that result in needing support beyond a rent or utility payment. Examples can include a surgery or a switch in jobs that causes a temporary loss of income; usually one month. We have found that if we can better assist with multiple needs during a one-month period, we can give the family a greater boost out of their hardship and back to their path of self-sufficiency. Approximately 10 households will avoid homelessness by receiving assistance with a security deposit and/or rent payment. Additionally, approximately 5 households will receive assistance with mortgages or down payment and/or closing costs. Utility assistance will be provided to approximately 50 households to maintain housing. Employment needs and other items will be provided to approximately 75 individuals. All households will learn the financial tools needed to build savings, pay debt, and work toward a more stable future due to financial counseling. Counseling and assistance will be offered off-site at partnering agencies as well. Counselors will monitor client progress.</p>
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Bethesda Lutheran Services - Woodcock Township, Crawford County	SPP	\$75,000	<p>In Beyond the Buildings: A Foundation for the Future, Phase 1, Bethesda's special project will begin providing a new building for our male youth who currently live on "Unit B". Our youth primarily come from low-income families with stress and trauma that include frequent school dropouts, unemployment, abuse or neglect, and dependence upon public assistance. When they come to Bethesda, for various reasons, we help them to get to a place where they can provide a promising future for themselves. The current facilities were built as temporary, modular structures in 1975 with a life span of 20 years and require each youth to have a roommate. Our maintenance team has done outstanding however it is time to focus on new facilities. Recently we saw the impact of what new furniture had on our youth as one child went out of his way to say "the new furniture made me feel important." With a new building for our current male unit, our youth will be one step closer to a promising future. To accomplish this project, Beyond the Buildings: A Foundation for the Future, Phase 1, Bethesda will begin the process of working with contractors, obtain any special permits, and begin to build the foundation of a new dormitory with 15 individual bedrooms, two office locations, a laundry facility, a classroom, an activities room, a utility kitchen and two bathrooms. The completion of the foundation is one outcome, another is the decrease of physical interventions involving our youth and staff when we can move the youth from two dwelling rooms, to individual rooms. This double occupancy causes friction with the youth as they are trying to focus on their individualized treatment plans. With each youth having their own room we look to see a decrease in those interventions, especially in the mornings and evening when they are at the dormitory.</p>
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<p>Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County - Sharon, Mercer County</p>	<p>CFP</p>	<p>\$17,600</p>	<p>Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County (CFWMC) is the primary source of emergency food products in the county. We serve over 4,200 food insecure households through 33-member agencies, which include food pantries, soup kitchens, abuse and homeless shelters, after school programs, low-income day-care centers, and mental health treatment centers. Our mission is to provide supplemental food to those who are hungry and to raise awareness of hunger throughout Mercer County. Our target population is always low-income county residents. We are applying for two projects: 1) Regular food program for mass distribution and congregate feeding. 2) A specifically targeted summer mobile feeding program to areas where there are congregates of low income residents. This program addresses two key issues of food insecurity: lack of transportation to food pantries and summer-months hunger when children are not in school receiving breakfast and lunch and weekend meals through the Backpack Program. Mass food distribution: A variety of boxed, canned, refrigerated and frozen food products will be sourced, purchased, warehoused to member agencies for front line food distribution throughout the year. Fresh fruits and vegetables will be sourced locally during harvest season and in the off-season, through the Mid-Atlantic Regional Coop (MARC). Outcomes include: Approximately 14,700 food insecure residents receive high nutritionally valued foods year-round through monthly pantry distributions and meal programs. Summer Mobile Meal Program: The primary goal of the meal bus is to decrease the number of children and families going without a meal during the summer weekdays. The bus addresses the transportation issue that is often the hindrance to obtaining a daily meal - meals come to the people. Measurements/evaluation will be determined by a report generated of how many meals and people were served on each given day at each of the 5 sites. Estimation: 75-100 meals will be served per day.</p>
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