

Habit of the Heart Fund



Our Mission and Passion:

Habit of the Heart (HOTH) is a fund of the Hendricks County Community Foundation that grants assistance to Hendricks County children, women, and families with emergent needs.

The Need:

Since its inception, the HOTH Fund has granted over \$435,000 to provide eyeglasses, hearing aids, wheelchairs, dental work, clothing, transportation, medication, tutoring and other essential requests as approved by the Grant Committee. Guidance counselors and school nurses are seeing an increasing need for assistance with basic items that are critical to enabling students to succeed. The Grant Committee receives an average of 5 grant requests per week; most of these requests are for needs that “fall thru the cracks” and are not covered by other assistance agencies.

Our Goal:

Our goal is to increase our community’s awareness of the emergent needs of children, women, and families in Hendricks County that are being met through the Habit of the Heart Grant Fund. We also desire to increase the awareness of the availability of our grant fund both in the community school system and the community at large. We feel it is important to continue to assist the needs of those in our community and to involve our community members in supporting our fundraising events through sponsorship opportunities and donations.

Our Story:

The Habit of the Heart Committee was formed in 1996; the goal was to involve “Women in Hendricks County in Philanthropy”. Our Fund was developed through the Hendricks County Community Foundation; it is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Habit of the Heart is a committee made up of all volunteers who donate their time, talent and treasure to make a difference in our community. **We have grown and prospered due to the generosity of our sponsors, community partners and local businesses who have given us their kind and loyal support over the years.**

Our Impact:

The Habit of the Heart Fund serves all of the Hendricks County School Systems. We have developed an extensive referral network and built an awareness of these available funds throughout all of the Hendricks County schools.

- To date, the Fund has provided over \$435,000 in grant awards assisting local children, women and families.
- The application process is simple; when a Hendricks County School representative or community member identifies someone in need they simply email an Emergency Request Form to the Grant Committee thru the Hendricks County Community Foundation. Most requests are fulfilled within 48 hours.
- The HOTH Grant Committee reviews all applications and fulfills requests when the submissions meet specific criteria. Information and request forms are available online at www.hendrickscountycf.org/habit.
- The HOTH Outreach Committee visits every school nurse and counselor in the county to keep them updated on the availability of the Grant Fund; as well as to provide any emergent needs the school nurses may have such as extra clothing, gloves, hats, personal hygiene items and more.
- A growing endowment has been established so that the Habit of the Heart Grant Fund will continue to assist those in need not only now, but in the future.

Our Work:

Our Habit of the Heart Committee works year-round to raise money for the Grant Fund. **We will be holding our annual Habit of the Heart Gala event on Saturday, September 9, 2017.** The Saturday Gala features dinner, live and silent auctions and the fabulous Diamond/Champagne Raffle. We also have various other fundraisers during the year with local businesses and sponsors that have partnered with HOTH.