



# 2025-2026 Skaggs Legacy Endowment Grant Recipients and Project Details

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Promoting essential health services for everyone

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# **ACCESS TO CARE**

Promoting essential health services for everyone

## **Transportation Assistance for Local Breast Cancer Patients**

### **\$5,000 | Breast Cancer Foundation of the Ozarks**

Breast Cancer Foundation of the Ozarks' Transportation Assistance fund helps local patients overcome transportation barriers to life-saving treatment. Many patients in Stone and Taney counties face long drives and financial strain during cancer care. This program ensures they can attend appointments, supporting access, health, and well-being in the community.

## **Compassion in Action Project**

### **\$7,500 | Charis-Group**

The Charis Group provides essential transportation services to underserved residents of Stone and Taney Counties, including individuals recovering from substance use, survivors of domestic violence, seniors, people experiencing homelessness, and those recently released from court custody. The program ensures safe, reliable access to critical destinations such as medical appointments, social service agencies, recovery centers, and nonprofit organizations. By removing transportation barriers, the initiative promotes independence, well-being, and connection to vital resources for vulnerable community members.

## **Providing Diabetic Shoes to the Uninsured**

### **\$7,500 | My Neighbor's Charitable Pharmacy**

Neighbor's Pharmacy provides diabetic shoes to uninsured individuals at risk for diabetic neuropathy. These medically designed shoes reduce pressure, prevent injury, and improve mobility, helping to prevent serious foot complications. The program supports early intervention and promotes overall health for people living with diabetes in the community.

## **Life Saving Lucas Chest Compression System**

### **\$21,464.71 | Cox Medical Center Branson**

Cox Medical Center Branson will use the LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System to deliver consistent, high-quality CPR for patients arriving in cardiac arrest. This device ensures a seamless transition from EMS to emergency staff, improving patient outcomes and enhancing the efficiency of lifesaving care.

## **Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation Patient Scholarship**

### **\$25,000 | Cox Medical Center Branson**

Cox Medical Center Branson provides scholarships for cardiopulmonary rehabilitation, ensuring patients recovering from heart or lung conditions can access essential care regardless of financial barriers. This program helps improve recovery, reduce hospital readmissions, and support long-term health for residents of Stone and Taney counties.

## **Patient Transportation**

### **\$25,000 | Cox Medical Center Branson**

Cox Medical Center Branson's transportation program helps residents of Stone and Taney counties get to medical appointments and return home safely from the ED or psychiatric unit. By removing transportation barriers, the program improves access to care, reduces readmissions, and supports better overall health outcomes.

**Neptune Suction and Docking Device for Accurate Blood Loss Tracking in the Operating Room**  
**\$26,190 | Cox Medical Center Branson**

Cox Medical Center Branson will use the Neptune suction and docking device to improve care for mothers during and after childbirth. By providing accurate blood loss measurement, the device allows faster response to postpartum hemorrhage, supporting safer deliveries and healthier outcomes for women.

**Ultrasound Machine for In-Clinic Thoracentesis in CMCB Pulmonology and Sleep Clinic**  
**\$28,800 | Cox Medical Center Branson**

Cox Medical Center Branson's Pulmonary and Sleep Clinic will use a portable ultrasound to perform safer, more precise thoracentesis for patients with fluid in the lungs. This technology improves accuracy, reduces complications, and eases the strain on hospital and emergency resources.

**Senior Nursing Student Scholarships**  
**\$80,000 | College of the Ozarks**

Scholarships for College of the Ozarks Nursing Program seniors support students in completing their degrees, help address the regional nursing shortage, and empower graduates to build healthcare careers that improve the health and well-being of Stone and Taney County communities.

**My Neighbor's Charitable Pharmacy Staff**  
**\$160,000 | My Neighbor's Charitable Pharmacy**

Neighbor's Pharmacy, the first and only charitable pharmacy in Missouri, provides low-cost access to essential medications, medical supplies, and disease management for residents in Stone and Taney counties. This grant helps sustain a full-time pharmacist and increase community awareness of this vital local resource.

## **CHILD & FAMILY SAFETY**

Ensuring the well-being and safety of children and families

### **Cents of Pride Store - Mark Twain School**

#### **\$1,000 | Gift of Hope, INC**

Gift of Hope is launching a new Cents of Pride program at Mark Twain School, a small rural school serving approximately 30 students in grades 5–8. This positive behavior incentive program provides essential items while promoting responsibility, kindness, and academic effort. Students earn “Pride Bucks” for positive actions such as good behavior, attendance, and classroom participation, which they can redeem in a school store stocked with hygiene products, school supplies, healthy snacks, clothing, blankets, and creative activity kits. Open to all students, the program offers a dignified and inclusive way to access needed resources, fostering motivation, confidence, and a sense of pride.

### **Cents of Pride Store - Kirbyville Middle School**

#### **\$2,500 | Gift of Hope, INC**

Gift of Hope’s Cents of Pride program at Kirbyville Middle School serves students in grades 4–8, using a positive rewards system to meet essential needs while encouraging responsibility, effort, and kindness. Students earn “Pride Bucks” for positive behaviors, which they can redeem in a school store stocked with hygiene items, snacks, school supplies, and activity kits. This discreet and empowering approach removes barriers for students who might otherwise decline help, fostering confidence, self-worth, and a sense of community.

### **Healthy Starts: Promoting Learning Through Meeting Health and Wellness Needs**

#### **\$2,500 | Tri-Lakes Special Education Cooperative**

This program supports Early Childhood Special Education students and their families by providing essential health, wellness, and learning resources. Items such as healthy snacks, hygiene products, clothing, classroom supplies, and basic medical tools help students thrive, improve focus, and support teachers in meeting the children’s needs.

### **Helping Hands in Stone County**

#### **\$3,500 | Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC)**

The OACAC Helping Hands project supports healthy lifestyles for income-eligible individuals and households in Stone County. The program provides essential healthcare items not covered by insurance, assists with small household repairs, and reduces financial stress to improve overall health and mental well-being.

### **Hurley School Store**

#### **\$4,000 | Hurley R-1 School**

The School Store program motivates K–12 students in a rural community by rewarding improved attendance and positive behavior. Students earn points for consistent attendance and exemplary conduct, which can be exchanged for supplies and other items. The program promotes responsibility, personal growth, and school spirit in an engaging, interactive way.

**Galena-Abesville Cents of Pride Store****\$4,250 | Galena R-II Schools**

The Cents of Pride Store at this school provides Kindergarten through 6th grade students with opportunities to earn Bear Pride Bucks for positive behaviors, timely completion of assignments, and consistent attendance. Students use their Bear Pride Bucks to “shop” in the store, which offers a wide range of items including household necessities, toiletries, food, clothing, shoes, cleaning products, small appliances, toys, and larger items such as scooters and bicycles. This program not only meets students’ essential and aspirational needs but also teaches valuable lessons in personal responsibility, saving, and budgeting.

**Direct Service Support for Foster Children****\$5,000 | FosterAdopt Connect**

FosterAdopt Connect supports children and caregivers in the child welfare system across Barry, Stone, and Taney counties. The Branson resource center provides essential items and services to foster and adoptive families, kinship caregivers, and foster care alumni. Funding will supply basic needs like clothing, hygiene items, and diapers, improving stability and outcomes for children and families.

**Cents of Pride Store - Hollister Schools****\$5,000 | Gift of Hope, INC**

Gift of Hope’s Cents of Pride store at Hollister Middle School serves students by allowing them to earn “Pride Bucks” for kindness, academic effort, and positive behavior. Students use these to access essentials like hygiene items, snacks, school supplies, and creative tools, fostering confidence, dignity, and a sense of accomplishment while meeting basic needs.

**Cents of Pride Store - Forsyth Schools****\$6,000 | Gift of Hope, INC**

Gift of Hope’s Cents of Pride store at Forsyth Schools serves students in grades 5–12 by allowing them to earn “Pride Bucks” for positive behavior, attendance, and academic effort. Students use these to access hygiene products, snacks, school supplies, and more, promoting responsibility, confidence, and dignity while addressing economic barriers.

**HOSA- Future Health Professionals-EMT Class****\$7,000 | Table Rock Career Center**

The Table Rock Career Center Emergency Medical Technician program prepares juniors and seniors from Stone and Taney counties for careers in healthcare. Integrated with HOSA – Future Health Professionals, the program develops leadership, motivation, and hands-on experience, empowering students to pursue health professions and improve the quality of care in their communities.

**BHS Cents of Pride dba Pirate's Cove****\$7,500 | Branson R-IV School District**

This program provides BHS students with access to personal hygiene items, school supplies, clothing, snacks, and other essentials to support healthy, productive lives. It promotes self-advocacy and autonomy, with a focus on students with financial need, newcomers, those with special needs, and students experiencing homelessness. BHS-branded clothing fosters unity and school spirit.

**CASA Volunteer Training in Taney County****\$7,500 | Court Appointed Special Advocates of Southwest Missouri (CASA)**

CASA of Southwest Missouri's *CASA Volunteer Training in Taney County* program trains and supports volunteers to advocate for abused and neglected children in foster care. Funding helps screen applicants, provide required training, and expand volunteer capacity, ensuring more children in Taney County have a consistent, trained advocate to guide them through the child welfare system.

**PBIS (Positive Behavior Incentive System) Store****\$7,500 | Reeds Spring School District**

The PBIS Wolves Den School Store provides year-round support to all students by offering hygiene items, school supplies, spirit wear, snacks, gifts, and rewards. The store also hosts special reward days for students who meet grade and attendance goals, reinforcing the importance of consistent attendance. Teachers and counselors utilize the store to address student needs as they arise, promoting both academic success and personal growth.

**Single Mom University® (SMU)****\$7,500 | The Life of a Single Mom**

Single Mom University® (SMU) is an online, self-paced program providing life skills education for single mothers in Stone and Taney Counties. The platform offers courses in Parenting, Finances, and Health & Wellness, with pre-recorded lectures, quizzes, homework, and peer discussion opportunities. Up to 38 single mothers—legally single with at least one child under 19—will have access to 175 courses for one year, with 25 additional courses launching in 2025, supporting personal growth, financial literacy, and overall well-being.

**Dad Prep University & Dad Grads Continuing Education****\$7,500 | Options Pregnancy Clinic**

Dad Prep University is an evidence-based program supporting men aged 19–24 in Taney County whose partners are pregnant or have children under one year. The eight-week evening sessions, led by a facilitator and volunteer dad coach, teach skills such as nurturing, co-parenting, and child discipline. Participants receive a meal and fuel card, and the program aims to empower fathers to be actively involved and effective in their children's lives.

**When Seconds Count****\$60,000 | Central Taney County Fire Protection District**

This project equips the Central Taney County Fire Protection District with battery-operated extrication tools to improve response times during vehicle accidents. The tools increase on-scene efficiency, reduce physical strain on responders, and help reach patients faster when every second matters.

**Junior Eagles Childcare Scholarships****\$12,800 | Ozarks Technical Community College Foundation**

Building on last year's support for the Jr. Eagles Childcare Center, this program covers childcare fees for student-parents at Ozarks Technical Community College's Table Rock Campus. By removing this barrier, it supports college retention, strengthens the local healthcare workforce, and promotes family well-being in Stone and Taney counties.

**Save a Life with an AED****\$15,366 | Southern Stone County Fire Protection District**

This grant will provide six Physio-Control Lifepak 1000 AEDs for Southern Stone County. The devices address sudden cardiac arrest, giving residents rapid access to lifesaving care and significantly increasing survival chances.

**Pathways Project Outreach: Protecting Our Future****\$20,000 | Pathway Project Coalition of the Ozarks**

The Priority Health Needs grant helps the Pathways Project raise awareness of human trafficking, promote online safety for youth, and provide educational resources. This program empowers the community to recognize, report, and prevent exploitation, guiding at-risk individuals to life-saving support and safer outcomes.

**Harbor House Complete Wellness Project 2025-26****\$30,000 | Harbor House Domestic Violence Center**

Harbor House's Complete Wellness Program provides survivors of domestic and sexual violence—and their children—with immediate medical care, including exams, prescriptions, and transportation. The program ensures access for those who are uninsured, helping survivors restore their health, safety, and independence.

**Elevate Community Case Manager****\$46,026 | Elevate Branson**

This grant funds a Case Manager at Elevate Community, a tiny home village in Taney County. The Case Manager supports residents with housing, life skills, and access to care, promoting healthier lifestyles, improving long-term outcomes, and reducing unnecessary use of emergency services.

## DENTAL CARE

Supporting critical oral health services to underserved populations

### **New Facility to Expand Dental Care to More Children**

#### **\$7,500 | Children's Smile Center**

Children's Smile Center is expanding its Ozark facility to meet the growing demand for pediatric dental care. The new, updated clinic will increase capacity, allowing the center to serve at least 30% more children, ensuring timely access to dental services and improving oral health outcomes in the community.

### **Dental Care: Stone & Taney Counties**

#### **\$7,500 | Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC)**

This project addresses the oral health needs of uninsured and underinsured residents in Stone and Taney Counties. Priority is given to those at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, but services are available to any resident with unmet dental needs. The program serves all ages, providing up to \$500 in assistance per household.

### **Smiles for Stone County - Fordland Clinic**

#### **\$50,000 | Fordland Clinic, Inc.**

Fordland Clinic's *Smiles for Stone County* program brings dental care directly to schools, reducing barriers to access for children. By offering on-site services and easy referrals, the program promotes early intervention and healthier smiles for Stone County students.

### **Stone and Taney County Dental and Housing Assistance**

#### **\$57,000 | Stone County Judiciary**

The Stone and Taney Counties Dental and Housing Assistance program helps individuals in recovery from substance use disorder access dental care and stable housing. By addressing two critical health needs, the program supports long-term recovery and overall wellness.



## HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Encouraging wellness through active living and nutrition

### **Youth Sports Scholarship Program**

#### **\$3,350 | Branson Parks and Recreation Department**

The Branson Parks and Recreation Department Scholarship Fund increases access to youth sports and activities for children in Taney and Stone counties, especially those from families with financial need. The program helps children participate in programs that promote healthy living, physical activity, and overall well-being.

### **Food for Mood- Gardening for Mental Health and A Better Understanding of Food Production**

#### **\$3,750 | Mark Twain R-8 School**

This program introduces students to healthy eating through a school garden. Each classroom will grow a variety of vegetables, learning about plant care, nutrition, and food preparation. The harvested produce will be used in the cafeteria, connecting hands-on learning in science and math to lifelong healthy habits for students.

### **Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds**

#### **\$6,600 | Mark Twain R-8 School**

The *Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds* program promotes physical activity and organized sports for students in the community. By providing new equipment and coaching, the program helps students develop healthy habits, teamwork skills, and overall well-being, supporting both their physical health and academic success.

### **Sunny Side - Part 7**

#### **\$7,500 | Branson Hollister Senior Center**

Branson Hollister Senior Center (BHSC) promotes healthy aging in Taney County by offering wellness programs, social activities, and essential services for adults 60 and older. Programs include fitness classes, balance training, yoga, and art groups, with new outdoor exercise equipment for accessible, low-impact activity. Skaggs Foundation support helps sustain these offerings, providing seniors opportunities to stay active, healthy, and socially engaged.

### **BridgeFit Scholarship Program**

#### **\$7,500 | White River Community Development**

BridgeFit, the only local fitness center in Rockaway Beach, provides access to exercise equipment and wellness programs for approximately 4,000 residents from surrounding communities. The center offers membership scholarships for youth, seniors, and first responders, ensuring equitable access to fitness and promoting healthy lifestyles for those who might not otherwise have the opportunity.

### **BridgeFit Expansion**

#### **\$17,260 | White River Community Development**

BridgeFit, the only fitness center in Rockaway Beach, serves 4,000 residents. This project expands the facility to support physical and mental health through fitness, community programs, and wellness activities, helping residents build healthier, more connected lives.

**Kimberling City Park Phase I****\$25,000 | City of Kimberling City**

Kimberling City Park Phase I will create new opportunities for health, wellness, and connection. The project will provide green space for recreation, programs, and community gatherings—bringing residents and visitors together in a vibrant, active setting.

**Stone and Taney Counties Data Dashboard/Community Resource Developer****\$33,500 | Christian Action Ministries**

The Stone & Taney Counties Data Dashboard provides local, state, and national data in an easy-to-use, map-based format. It helps community members identify needs, plan projects, support grant applications, and improve service delivery across the region.

**Better Care, Better Health****\$35,000 | Mark Twain R-8 School**

Maintaining a full-time school nurse ensures students and staff have consistent access to healthcare during school hours. The nurse manages chronic and acute health needs, administers medications, conducts screenings, trains staff, and keeps vaccination records, supporting the overall health and safety of the school community.

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

Expanding support through counseling and mental wellness treatments

### **Taneyville Special Education Adaptive Self-Care Tools**

#### **\$2,500 | Taneyville School**

The Special Education program provides adaptive self-care and sensory tools to support students' basic needs, including diapers, wipes, and necessary equipment. By ensuring a comfortable and supportive learning environment, the program helps students focus on education, fostering a love of learning and promoting success for every child in the district.

### **Stone County Expansion Feasibility Project**

#### **\$7,500 | Hope Counseling Center**

Hope Counseling Center's Stone County Expansion Feasibility Project will assess mental health needs and access gaps in rural Stone County. Engaging local leaders and residents, the project will produce a strategic plan to guide the development of a future counseling location, targeting underserved adults, seniors, and families in the community.

### **K9s for Camo**

#### **\$7,500 | K9s for Camo INC**

K9s for Camo provides highly trained service dogs at no cost to veterans in Stone and Taney counties. Rescue dogs are trained at the Ozark Correctional Center, where inmates gain skills and purpose. The program enhances veterans' independence and well-being while supporting rehabilitation for both dogs and inmates.

### **Stone &/or Taney County Wishes**

#### **\$7,500 | Make-A-Wish Missouri & Kansas**

Make-A-Wish Missouri & Kansas grants wishes to children in Stone and Taney counties facing critical illnesses. Wishes provide hope, joy, and resilience, supporting emotional and physical well-being. Eligible children, ages 2½–18, receive their first wish, creating life-changing experiences that strengthen them and their families during challenging times.

### **Mental Health Workforce Expansion Initiative**

#### **\$116,352 | Hope Counseling Center**

The Mental Health Workforce Expansion Initiative recruits and supports mental health providers and student interns, increasing access to affordable mental health care for residents of Taney and Stone counties.

## **SUBSTANCE USE**

Fostering prevention and recovery programs for substance-related challenges

### **Restoring Dignity Through Hygiene Access**

#### **\$5,000 | Stone County Recovery Center**

Stone County Recovery Center's *Restoring Dignity Through Hygiene Access* program provides hygiene kits to residents of the county's recovery housing. By supplying essential personal care items, the program supports physical health, restores dignity, and promotes wellness for individuals overcoming substance use, homelessness, or incarceration.

### **Rural Recovery Connections**

#### **\$7,500 | Stone County Recovery Center**

The Eliminating Barriers and Upgrading Rural Recovery to 2025 project at Stone County Recovery Center (SCRC) expands recovery housing services for rural residents in early recovery from substance use or mental health challenges. The project provides short-term financial assistance for critical needs—such as transportation, emergency housing, medications, and employment readiness—through a Recovery Stability Fund and integrates Sobriety Hub, an electronic platform for housing and outcomes tracking. This initiative serves individuals facing poverty, unemployment, homelessness, post-incarceration or post-treatment transitions, and digital access barriers, helping them maintain stable housing and recovery supports.

### **Simmering Center Respite Care**

#### **\$150,000 | Simmering Center, Inc.**

Respite Care provides a safe, home-like environment for individuals affected by substance use. The program offers shelter, meals, medical care, and connections to treatment and recovery resources—helping participants begin their journey toward stability and healing.