



## THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS NEARLY \$200,000 TO AGENCIES SERVING SENIOR ADULTS IN 2014

Jacksonville, FL – September 24, 2014 – Local nonprofits dedicated to improving the quality of life for aging adults are benefitting from nearly \$200,000 in grants awarded by The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida.

“Now that the Baby Boomers have started reaching the age of 65, the need for senior services is growing in earnest,” noted Mark LeMaire, program director at The Community Foundation. “Our focus is improving the quality of life for aging adults, with a special priority on addressing gaps in services to seniors and their caregivers in under-served communities within the five county (Duval, St. Johns, Baker, Clay and Nassau) area.”

The grants are made possible through The Community Foundation’s Aging Adults Field of Interest Funds, which enable donors to focus their giving in a particular area.

A \$150,000 grant to **ElderSource** was made earlier this year through the J. Wayne and Delores Barr Weaver Senior to Senior Endowment Fund. The grant provides financial assistance for seniors in crisis in Duval, Baker, Nassau, St. Johns and Clay counties. ElderSource, the Northeast Florida Area Agency on Aging, administers these funds.

The following competitive grants were recently made from the Grace H. Osborn Endowment and the I.R. Bowen and Katherine H. Bowen Fund:

- \$9,500 to **I.M. Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless** to develop a pilot Geriatric Behavioral Health Program. The program was designed in response to a dramatic increase in the number of adults 55+ seeking medical care, and in particular, needing behavioral health services such as psychiatric assessment, pharmacologic management and counseling services.
- \$10,000 to **St. Johns County Council on Aging** to assist with the expansion of its Memory Enhancement Program which serves 8-10 participants twice a week at six host locations. They hope to expand to twelve locations, and this grant will help bridge this program operationally as the expansion occurs.
- \$10,000 to **St. Johns Housing Partnership** to provide full home inspections to seniors so that issues can be identified and addressed, allowing seniors to remain safely in their homes. The inspections could also be used as a basis for St. Johns Housing Partnership to apply for public grants for home repair assistance.
- \$7,500 to **Jewish Family and Community Services** to initiate a model of care to provide home-based services for seniors who are identified and assisted through a new collaboration of nonprofit aging providers, faith congregations and the medical community. The funds would help purchase services for 30 seniors over a 12 month period to help keep them living independently in their own homes.
- \$5,000 to **Pine Castle** to help build a model curriculum for staff training in the best practices of care and life enrichment for seniors with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The grant will enable Pine Castle to conduct competency assessment and trial curriculum development.
- \$7,200 for professional facilitation of **The Senior Roundtable**, a collaboration of senior serving organizations which meets to learn in depth about identified issues facing seniors and form strategies to create a positive change. The Community Foundation helped launch the Senior Roundtable in 2008 and continues to provide financial support.



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#### **About The Community Foundation**

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida ([www.jaxcf.org](http://www.jaxcf.org)) is Florida's oldest and largest community foundation. The Foundation works to stimulate philanthropy to build a better community – helping donors invest their philanthropic gifts wisely, helping nonprofits serve the region effectively, and helping people come together to make the community a better place. The Foundation has nearly \$297 million in assets and has made grants in excess of \$278 million since 1964.

#### **For more information**

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