



SISTERS *of* CHARITY FOUNDATION
OF CANTON

Celebrating 20 Years of Focused Intentional Giving

August 2017

Congratulations to the Early Childhood Resource Center



As of July 1st, the state of Ohio has named the ECRC the **child care resource and referral**

agency for Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, and Trumbull counties.

The Sisters of Charity Foundation established the ECRC in 2000 as part of its Quality Child Care Initiative. This significant state grant award expands the ECRC's service area greatly, taking it from primarily serving Stark County to serving a six-county area of northeastern Ohio.

Sandy Valley Local Schools District: FLOCK Program



As is the case in lots of school districts, many Sandy Valley kindergartners need help strengthening their reading skills. This past school year, FLOCK came to the rescue. FLOCK (Focused Learning Opportunities for Cardinal Kids) is a service learning program designed to boost those reading skills while helping older students learn to give back.

A librarian from the Stark County District Library trained high school students to work with young children. From October 2016 through May 2017, the high schoolers visited kindergarten classrooms four days a week for 30-minute sessions. Together, they tackled word-family egg hunts, sight word bingo, making letters and words with play dough, and other hands-on learning activities. Sixteen high school students worked with more than 100 kindergartners each week. A *Servant Leaders* grant from the Sisters of Charity Foundation funded supplies, such as alphabet letters, bingo games, and play dough.

This was definitely a win-win partnership: the younger children improved their reading skills, while the older children learned valuable leadership and teaching skills.



Massillon Junior High School: SWAG Life Skills Class

The Students With a Goal (SWAG) Life Skills Class was developed for seventh and eighth graders experiencing life challenges. The class provides services for the students while guiding them through service learning projects.

The class is designed to help students increase their self-esteem, determine their strengths and weaknesses, and learn goal-setting, conflict resolution, and leadership skills. In the past, the class has undertaken projects such as collecting teddy bears for Akron Children's Hospital and soliciting contributions for the Stark County Hunger Task Force.

A *Servant Leaders* grant from the Sisters of Charity Foundation allowed these students to undertake several service learning projects, including a *Hoops for Heart* campaign, prompting donations by ringing Salvation Army kettle bells during the holiday season, and helping out at the Humane Society. The grant supported the purchase of t-shirts for

the students, transportation to service locations, and incentives for good student performance

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS WORKSHOP

Participants will learn about our grantmaking strategies, proposal guidelines, and application process. Foundation staff members will be on hand to answer questions.

Tuesday, September 12, 2017 9:00-10:30 a.m.
First Floor Conference Room
400 Market Avenue North, Canton, Ohio 44702

To register, please contact Trudy Brown at 330-454-5800 or tbrown@scfcanton.org



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