

**Presbytery of Cayuga-Syracuse
Benevolent Care Fund Grants Summary
November 2019**

The following grants were approved by the Leadership Team at its meeting on November 25, 2019. There were 11 requests totaling \$15,940. **Funds available for 2019 grants totaled \$8,537.**

Amboy Belle Isle United Church = \$300

Grant will be used to purchase grocery store gift cards to assist shut-in and elderly residents residing in an area around the church.

Collamer United Church = \$400

Grant will be used to purchase food to be served at two dinners hosted by Brown Memorial Church for community residents in need, and for monthly desserts for residents of Sunnyside Adult Home.

Health Tapestry, Inc. = \$1,000

% Deborah Herst Hill, RN, FCN

Application endorsed by Westminster Presbyterian Church, Auburn, NY

Grant will be used to help service persons living on the margins of society referred by churches, food pantries, and health and human service agencies in southern Cayuga County by providing items and services not otherwise available to them including such things as transportation and advocacy for medical treatment, over-the-counter medications and/or co-pays, nutritional drinks/supplements, heating season fuel, first aid and personal hygiene/incontinence supplies, small medical equipment, home repair materials, car repairs, rental/security deposit to secure safe housing, legal support to secure freedom from violence, and occasional gas money for the Health Tapestry nurse and volunteers.

Community Resources for Independent Seniors (CRIS) = \$1,500

% Karisha Solomon, Executive Director, 10 Mill Street, Cazenovia, NY 13035 [315-655-5743]

Application endorsed by First Presbyterian Church, Cazenovia, NY

Grant will be used to support the CRIS CAT (Cazenovia Area Transportation) program which provides no-cost transportation to medical, dental, and other related appointments for residents age 55 and older in the Cazenovia area who strive to continue to live in their own home but are no longer able to drive themselves. Increased demand for this service requires purchasing updated technology (dedicated laptop, software, cell phone) for receiving calls, scheduling trips, and maintaining records.

New Hope Presbyterian Church = \$937

Grant will be used to construct a covered entry on the back of the church Annex to provide safe and reliable access and egress to/from the church during heavy snow and other inclement weather episodes and during emergencies. In addition to serving elderly church members, the entry will benefit local senior community members who participate in the Oswego County Opportunities Senior Nutrition Meals program which serves lunches at the church three days a week throughout the year, and members of AA who use the Annex once a week.

Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church = \$1,000

Grant will be used to support the Syracuse Memory Café (SMC) ministry of the church. The Café is open once a month and provides individuals with memory changes and their care partners with a place for community and socialization in a safe, welcoming, friendly environment. The Café currently serves an average of 20-20 guests per month. Funds from the grant will be used to develop a more robust and professional marketing and media strategy with the goal of attracting more guests not only from the greater Syracuse area but also from a broader Central New York area. It is also the hope that the new marketing and media strategy will inspire others to start more cafes on different days/weeks and in a variety of venues and promote these opportunities as well to make Café opportunities more accessible to a wider range of participants.

The Presbyterian Manor (Skaneateles, NY) = \$1,000

Application endorsed by First Presbyterian Church, Skaneateles, NY

Grant will be used to help fund the replacement of two garage doors. The current doors are old, heavy wood doors which are showing wear, and which tend to jump the track. New doors will offer smoother, safer, dependable operation for the independent senior residents of the Manor who still drive.

Vanderkamp Camp and Conference Center = \$400

Application endorsed by First United Church of Fulton, NY

Grant will be used to fund supplies, food and leadership for two "Senior Fun Days" in 2020 in order to keep registration costs for senior participants at an affordable level. Senior Fun Days offer seniors an age-appropriate opportunity for hands-on craft and mission projects, music, workshops (photography, history, etc.), and spiritual experiences in the context of faith-based fellowship and community. Almost one-third of our presbytery's membership is over age 70 and Senior Fun Days are one avenue for churches to expand their ministry to their senior population.

First Presbyterian Church of Weedsport = \$100

Grant will be used to help fund a once-per-month senior luncheon at the Westshore Apartments senior living facility including seniors from the greater Weedsport community. This grant will help offset costs of beverages, food items, and paper goods.

Transportation Project for Cayuga County, Inc. (SCAT Van Service) = \$800

Application endorsed by First Presbyterian Church, Weedsport, NY

This grant, along with other fund-raising projects and government assistance, will be used to help fund the purchase of two new vans to replace those that have aged out. The SCAT Van Service provides rides for senior and disabled citizens of Cayuga County for medical and other appointments.

Westminster Manor (Cayuga-Syracuse Presbytery Home for the Elderly) = \$1,100

Application endorsed by Westminster Presbyterian Church, Auburn, NY

Grant will be used to help create a corner in the dining room where residents can relax as if they were in their own home by purchasing a new refrigerator for healthy snacks, a single-cup coffee maker, table and chairs, and accessories, giving them a place to be independent, entertain family or guests, and congregate with each other.

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