Freeport Community Foundation Awards $93,048.80 in Spring Grants to 12 Northwest Illinois Non-Profits

[FREEPORT, IL – April 19, 2022] – The Freeport Community Foundation (FCF) Board of Directors announced today the recipients of its Spring 2022 Matt Marvin Community Needs granting cycle. Twelve regional non-profit organizations (NPOs) were awarded a total of $93,048.80. The 12 grant applications selected represent projects including a community composting initiative, accessibility programs and upgrades, a new preventative dental care program for seniors, arts and cultural programs, and more. Grants were awarded from the organization’s Community Needs/Marvin Unrestricted Fund and the Craig Wilson Trust.

Recipients and projects include:

- Aquin Catholic School System (Stephenson) - Fire Alarm Panel Replacement $10,000.00
- Blackhawk Area Boy Scouts (Stephenson) - Discover Your Future $5,775.00
- Freeport Area Church Coop (Stephenson) - Chicago Avenue Mission $18,775.00
- Freeport Art Museum (Stephenson) - BIPOC Initiative $9,665.00
- Freeport High School (Stephenson) - Freeport Community Composting $5,444.95
- Malcolm Eaton Enterprises (Stephenson) - Freeport Eats & Beats 2022 $5,320.00
- RAMP (Stephenson) - Community Accessibility $6,365.00
- Senior Resource Center (Stephenson/Jo Daviess) - Preventive Dental Care $10,000.00
- St. John’s Lutheran Church (Northwest Illinois) - Grace Meal $5,000.00
- The Workshop, Galena (Jo Daviess) - Wheelchair Accessible Van $10,000.00
- United Way of Northwest Illinois (Stephenson) - Community Care Cupboards $1,703.85
- VOICES of Stephenson County (Stephenson) - Operation Handrail Replacement $5,000.00

Non-Profit Organization (NPOs) located in and/or serving the residents of Stephenson, Jo Daviess, and Carroll counties are eligible to participate in the Foundation’s semi-annual Matt Marvin Community Needs granting cycles. Response to the Foundation’s initial call for spring applications resulted in a record-breaking 22 applications requesting $240,049.09 in funds. FCF Executive Director Michelle DeHaven commented that the dramatic increase in grant requests received reflects a region that is still struggling economically.

“The FCF continues to see requests for support for programs typically funded by the respective organizations own fundraising efforts,” DeHaven said. “It is no secret that the northwest Illinois economy continues to struggle. When our economy struggles, our non-profits struggle, including NPOs that provide a variety of critical-need and basic human services throughout northwest Illinois. In times of need like this, it is vital that we pull together as a region to help our neighbors in need. The Freeport Community Foundation is honored to be a regional leader in that arena, thanks in large part to our Matt Marvin Community Needs fund, the Craig Wilson Trust, and other funds housed with our Foundation.”

Freeport Community Foundation has a 47-year history as a community-based charitable organization guided by community leaders who are dedicated to providing financial solutions for current and future community needs. During that time, the FCF has awarded over $3.6 million in grant funding to non-profit organizations and projects throughout northwest Illinois. For additional information or to schedule a media opportunity, please contact the FCF at either (815) 801-3035 or via email at fcfdirector@freeportcommunityfoundation.org.

###