



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GAR Foundation awards \$1,598,333 to Greater Akron and Northeast Ohio Nonprofits

AKRON, Ohio (February 21, 2013) – At its first quarterly meeting of 2013, GAR Foundation awarded \$1,598,000 in grants to 15 area nonprofit organizations, with the Fund for Our Economic Future (the Fund) among the front runners with a grant of \$1 million over three years.

“We have a strong belief that philanthropy can play an important role in sustaining a globally competitive Northeast Ohio,” president of GAR Foundation Christine Amer Mayer commented on the grant to the Fund. “By uniting with fellow charitable organizations, we can continue to address our region’s economic competitiveness priorities.”

The Fund, entering its tenth year, is a collaboration of 53 philanthropic organizations across 16 counties with the distinct mission to “encourage and advance a regional competitiveness agenda leading to long-term economic revitalization that strengthens our region’s core cities.” GAR is supporting the Fund’s overall goal of raising \$15.3 million to support its work over the next three year phase. GAR’s commitment will total \$1 million with disbursements of \$333,333 being made in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

GAR also awarded a number of other grants to area nonprofits. Among those is the Akron Museum of Art with a grant of \$135,000. The long-time grantee shares a history with the foundation that dates back to the 1960’s. East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation (EANDC) received \$20,000 for its Emergency Home Repair Program. EHRP provides emergency repairs that protect the integrity of a home or helps homeowners satisfy health department orders. Christ Child Society of Akron also received \$15,000 to purchase school uniforms and new clothes for its Clothing Center. The all-volunteer organization distributes the clothes to needy Akron-area school children.

The following organizations received grant awards at the February 14, 2013 GAR Foundation Distribution Committee meeting:

| <u>Organization</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Purpose of Gant</u> |
|---|---------------|--|
| Akron Art Museum | \$135,000 | General operations |
| Akron Community Health Resources, INC | \$60,000 | Operations |
| Christ Child Society of Akron, Inc. | \$15,000 | Clothing Center |
| College Now Greater Cleveland | \$20,000 | Provide college access services to students at Buchtel CLC |
| Community Legal Aid Services, Inc. | \$10,000 | Legal Support for Families with Children Program |
| East Akron Neighborhood Development Corporation | \$20,000 | Emergency Home Repair Program |

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|---|-----------|--|
| Fund for Our Economic Future | \$333,333 | Year one of three year commitment |
| Hiram College | \$20,000 | Summit County student scholarships |
| International Institute of Akron, Inc. | \$25,000 | Resource case manager |
| International Soap Box Derby | \$20,000 | Operating support |
| Boys Hope Girls Hope of Northeastern Ohio | \$25,000 | Summit County Hope Prep scholars |
| Kent State University Foundation | \$50,000 | Last Opportunity Scholarship Fund |
| Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education | \$25,000 | Development of 50 internships in Summit County |
| WKSU 89.7 FM | \$20,000 | WKSU's Spring 2013 Fund Drive* |
| United Way of Portage County, Inc. | \$25,000 | The 2013-2014 campaign* |

*The award consists in part or entirely in the form of a challenge grant.

For more information contact Christian A. Turner at cturner@garfdn.org or 330.572.2809.

GAR Foundation

GAR Foundation is a private, independent foundation established in 1967 as a charitable trust by Galen J. Roush, co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Roadway Express, and his wife Ruth on the principle of strengthening communities in the Northeast Ohio region. Since its inception, GAR has distributed more than \$200 million to support nonprofit organizations within the Foundation's areas of interest. Funding priorities include: Education, Health & Social Services, Civic Engagement, Arts & Art Education and Non-Profit Enhancement with a preference for organizations serving Summit County, Ohio. GAR is housed in the historic Andrew Jackson House at 277 E Mill Street in Akron, Ohio. Visit www.garfoundation.org for more information.

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