



Fund for Ravenswood

A CHARITABLE FUND OF THE PACF

FUND FOR RAVENSWOOD OF PACF AWARDS \$104,672 IN GRANTS

The **Fund for Ravenswood** is a charitable fund of the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation (PACF), a nationally certified community foundation founded in 1963. Jackson County is among the eleven counties (ten in West Virginia and one in Ohio) in the PACF's regional service area. PACF's Executive Director, Judy (Sjostedt) Ritchie, a Ravenswood resident, announced major grants totaling \$104,672 from the PACF's Fund for Ravenswood at the Ravenswood City Council Meeting on May 17, 2022.

Created in 2019, The Fund for Ravenswood's mission is "to work together to make Ravenswood better by supporting programs, projects and initiatives that lead toward the vision of a better future for all residents." As a public charitable fund, other citizens who believe in supporting this vision of a better Ravenswood, are encouraged to support it; gifts to the Fund for Ravenswood are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law (contact info@pacfwv.com or call 304.428.4438 for details on how to help).

PACF's Executive Director said, "The Fund's founders see that a lot of good things are happening in Ravenswood right now and that there is energy in the community to help it to advance. So, they wanted to create a charitable fund to strengthen this momentum and to support the vision of a socially vibrant and economically robust community where people are healthy, respectful and inclusive of others, and have ample opportunities to thrive. Ravenswood is a great community and they want to help build up its positive aspects."

The Fund made its first grant early last year to aid the City of Ravenswood's public WIFI project with an award of \$4,000. In late December 2021, the Fund received a substantial gift commitment from the S. Douglas Ritchie family of Ravenswood which will enable the fund to award up to \$200,000 annually starting in 2022.

Funds will be made available twice a year (spring and fall) via the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation's online Community Action Grants process. If an opportunity is time sensitive or of an emergency nature, grant seekers may contact the PACF for off-cycle support, but generally, larger requests must use the online grant application process (see www.pacfwv.com, Grants section).

A key requirement to consideration for a grant is that an applicant organization can demonstrate significant benefit for the citizens of Ravenswood. Grants will be considered in five broad areas of life (see separate list of priorities for details): Quality of Life Improvement; Vibrant Economy-Downtown Support; Healthy Lifestyles; Public Safety; and Workplace Readiness.

A total of \$104,672 is being presented tonight to the following causes.

Hope House Ministries

\$15,000

Hope House is a Sober Living and Addiction Outreach program located in Ravenswood that seeks to strengthen its services by funding its operations costs.

Total award of \$15,000 toward the group's operations costs. Issued as a challenge grant to others in the community. \$7,500 awarded up front and remaining \$7,500 awarded upon showing that they have raised \$7,500 from others (businesses and others) in the community. [Jessica Haynes to receive]

Jackson County EMS

\$14,757

To purchase an automated CPR device for the Ravenswood EMS site. [Troy Bain and Ashley Davis to receive]

Jackson County Public Library

\$5,000

So librarians at both the Ravenswood and Ripley library branches can offer the PBS Inquire Within Program of learning activities for local children. [Angie Howard will receive]

Pilot Club of Jackson County

\$10,000

To aid Ravenswood residents with need to receive help through the Pilot Club's dental support program. [Greta Tyler to receive]

Ravenswood Youth Football League via the Jackson County Family Resource Network

\$16,935

Ravenswood Youth Basketball via the Jackson County Family Resource Network

\$7,980

Both Youth grants are one time allocations to help these two groups that offer youth recreational opportunities to recover from the inability to do their usual concessions during COVID, to help jump start them again. They are purchasing youth safety equipment and equipment necessary for the sports. [Denise Toler to receive]

City of Ravenswood / Kids Play Zone – Harvest in the Woods

\$10,000

To enable our young people to have things to do that are healthy and fun. This grant is intended to sponsor activities for children and youth at the Harvest in the Woods Festival

City of Ravenswood / Sand Creek Marina

\$25,000

This grant is to be earmarked in the City's budget for the Sand Creek Marina Kayak / Canoe Launch and campgrounds area project. We are excited about the possibilities that the Marina project offers to cultivate economic development in Ravenswood, while offering outdoor recreation for the public.

ABOUT THE “FUND FOR RAVENSWOOD” – FOUNDERS MESSAGE

The Vision of the Fund for Ravenswood

We envision that Ravenswood will be a socially vibrant and economically robust community of people who are healthy, respectful and inclusive of others, and who have ample opportunities to thrive.

Fund for Ravenswood Priorities

- Projects that leverage additional resources into Ravenswood for the broad public benefit (matching resources needed to leverage government or private foundation resources, for ex.);
- Projects that enhance the community’s vitality, sustainability or resiliency;
- Projects and programs that promote youth and community engagement (school athletics and cultural events) and promote service to others in the community;
- Projects that directly improve the employment prospects of the community’s residents (dental health, literacy training, support recovery efforts, for ex.);
- Projects that help to develop the full potential of each young person in the community; and
- Projects and programs that support those who are most vulnerable, such as senior citizens and children who lack family support, to have a decent quality of life here.

<p>Grant Requests Annually, about \$150,000-200,000 will be made available</p>	<p><i>In general</i>, requests for money for these projects are expected to arrive via the PACF’s Community Action Grants proposal process. Contact Marian.Clowes@pacfwv.com, 304.428.4438</p> <p>This category of grants includes major requests that benefit the broad public good in Ravenswood, WV, specifically.</p> <p>Areas of interest for support include:</p> <p>QUALITY OF LIFE / visual and performing arts; cultural opportunities and access to the arts for all age groups; etc.</p> <p>VIBRANT ECONOMY-DOWNTOWN / projects that revitalize the most visible parts of the community; that improve the energy efficiency and quality of owner-occupied dwellings; or that preserve the City’s most significant buildings and cultivate development of community use spaces (provided they are in use or have clearly planned uses anticipated).</p> <p>HEALTHY LIFESTYLES / dental and basic public health; senior citizens’ needs; food insecurity (basic human needs, provided funds do not supplant other available resources for these needs); public recreation and accessibility improvements (hiking, biking, greenways, etc.).</p> <p>PUBLIC SAFETY / training and support for Law Enforcement Officers and Emergency Medical personnel; home and personal safety improvement projects; youth safety, etc.</p> <p>WORKFORCE READINESS / efforts such as Junior Achievement; local employer projects in partnership with the community, etc.</p>
<p>The fund will also support: <i>City of Ravenswood public activities – health screenings, safety efforts (like installation of smoke detectors in owner-occupied dwellings, just for ex.), children’s events (like COSI on Wheels, just for ex.), fairs and festivals, etc., when the City is the grantee</i> <i>Ravenswood High School and other public schools’ athletics and arts-theater-music programs</i> <i>General youth activities that are not covered by school / public funds (Jr Achievement, STEM initiatives)</i></p>	

As a public charitable fund, other citizens who believe in supporting the vision of a better Ravenswood, are encouraged to support it; all gifts to the Fund for Ravenswood are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law (contact info@pacfwv.com or call 304.428.4438 for information on how to help).