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King's Daughters Organization Fund awards \$115,000 in grants

Springfield – The King's Daughters Organization Fund at the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln has announced the recipients of its 2012 grant awards. A total of \$115,000 was awarded to 14 nonprofit agencies to support programs and services for seniors in Sangamon County. The organization has awarded grants of \$440,000 over the last five years.

The King's Daughters Organization announced the grant awards at its 119th Annual Corporation Meeting and invited the recipients to attend and be recognized.

"We have been so pleased that the King's Daughters Organization legacy of serving seniors continues through these grants to local nonprofits. We have awarded \$440,000 in just five years, and our Circles have continued to volunteer to serve seniors in our area," said Sue Shevlin, president of the organization.

American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter - \$12,000 grant to support the work of the Meals on Wheels program, ensuring continuation of free and discounted special dietary meals to seniors.

Catholic Charities of Springfield - \$10,000 award to provide emergency assistance to seniors for food assistance, rent and utility assistance, assistance with medical co-pays and prescriptions.

Comfort Living and Associates - \$4,200 grant to strengthen its existing Heating & Cooling Assistance Program which provides low income seniors with support for emergency utility costs.

Contact Ministries - \$12,000 grant to provide emergency prescriptions to senior clients for medication that many are unable to afford and would otherwise have to do without.

Greater All Nations Tabernacle Church of God in Christ - \$4,800 grant to enhance the monthly senior lunchbox presentations with information, services or programs that are beneficial to seniors.

Illinois Symphony Orchestra - \$6,000 grant to create a free concert series especially for senior citizens in Sangamon County who are not able attend regular symphony performances.

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Land of Lincoln Honor Flight - \$10,000 grant to cover the costs of a one-day trip to Washington, DC for World War II veterans to visit the memorials which honor their service & sacrifice.

Loami Area Community Pantry - \$4,000 grant to purchase items for seniors that are not routinely available at the food pantry.

Senior Services of Central Illinois, Inc. - \$15,000 grant fulfill emergency senior requests, provide meals to seniors in need, and ensure the physical wellness of the seniors in our community.

Springfield Arc., Inc (Sparc) - \$12,000 grant for furnishings at Sparc's Senior Center which are designed for individuals with special needs and will benefit the 30 seniors at the Center.

Springfield Municipal Opera Association (The Muni) - \$3,000 grant will allow seniors to attend shows when they are no longer able to drive and or may not be able to afford the cost of the ticket and transportation.

Springfield Park District - \$3,000 grant to expand a pickleball league designed to assist seniors to more effectively lead an active and healthy lifestyle.

The Parent Place - \$9,000 grant for services to grandparents raising grandchildren including crisis intervention, monthly support group meetings, respite, and educational topics/speakers.

The Salvation Army - \$10,000 grant to assist clients in Sangamon County with the increased cost of prescriptions, which prevents seniors from skipping their prescriptions and causing further illness.

In addition to awarding grants, the King's Daughters Organization is actively involved in service to the community. The KDO Fund was established at the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln in 2007 with assets from an existing endowment fund and proceeds from the sale of the Carrie Post King's Daughters Home for Women in Springfield, IL. The purpose of the KDO Fund is to provide financial support to programs and services which enhance the quality of life for older residents in Sangamon County.

Local nonprofits can apply for the competitive grant awards from the KDO Fund at the beginning of each year. Charities should watch the Community Foundation website, www.CFLL.org, for the next round of applications in January 2013. Charities can also sign up on the website to receive grant opportunity alerts via e-mail.

Through philanthropic services, strategic grantmaking and community leadership, the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln "connects people who care with causes that matter."

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