



## GRANT MAKING

### Three-Year Grant Funding for Impactful Programs

by Annette Beuchler, President and CEO, Obici Healthcare Foundation

Throughout 2019, the Obici Healthcare Foundation has awarded three-year grants to several local nonprofits to support opportunities to achieve greater success.

“Multi-year grants allow organizations to focus on long-term outcomes and help them reach their goals more efficiently,” Foundation President and CEO Annette Beuchler said.

These awards were provided to the following grantees under our Healthcare Safety Net and Healthy Behaviors Initiatives:

#### Safety Net

- ForKids Inc., \$123,000 grant to strengthen access to healthcare for families experiencing homelessness.
- Horizon Health Services Inc., \$510,000 grant to fund infrastructure development and to address the social determinants of health of its patient population.
- RxPartnership, \$55,000 grant to provide access to medication at Western Tidewater Free Clinic and beyond.
- The UpCenter, \$388,050 grant for the Western Tidewater Continuum of Trauma Informed Mental Health and Substance Use Counseling Services.
- Virginia Legal Aid Society, \$549,000 grant for protecting safe, secure and healthy housing for low-income families.
- Western Tidewater Community Services Board, \$637,068 grant to continue to expand Behavioral Health Safety Net Services throughout the Western Tidewater area.
- Western Tidewater Free Clinic, \$1,441,000 grant to

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provide continued access to comprehensive healthcare for the uninsured and underinsured.

#### Healthy Behaviors

- Girls on the Run Hampton Roads, \$288,000 grant for service expansion to Franklin and to Southampton, Surry and Gates counties.
- The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia, \$300,000 grant for its Community Produce Hub.

“This multi-year funding is for more impactful programs that can focus on long-term outcomes and will allow for the Foundation to work alongside the grantees to come up with a strategy that will support them in doing their best work at the right pace,” Beuchler said.

#### **Foundation Holds 2nd Annual Symposium and Introduces New Partner**

The goal of the Foundation’s annual symposium is to update the community on its current programs. The Foundation’s 2nd Annual Symposium, “Building Impact: Strengthening Organizations from Within,” was held Thursday, October 31, at the Suffolk Center for Cultural Arts. Beuchler presented an update on all Foundation programs to approximately 150 event guests.

A Community Health Needs Assessment was commissioned in 2017 in order to secure a deeper understanding of the Foundation’s service area. This in-depth needs assessment gathered local community level data to help the Foundation identify the health issues of greatest concern. The results were used to help the Foundation make decisions on where to commit resources in order to have the greatest impact on community health status.

The Foundation works to improve access to comprehensive, quality health services through Strengthening the Safety Net and Improving Maternal and Child Health and the prevention of chronic disease through the promotion of Healthy Behaviors, Early Childhood Education and Capacity Building.

Access to Healthcare Initiative, which receives 50% of the Foundation’s funding, focuses on strategies that support health safety-net providers who deliver care to uninsured, underinsured and medically underserved populations who otherwise could not access it. Core safety net providers include emergency rooms, free and charitable clinics, local health departments, Federally Qualified



President and CEO Annette Beuchler addresses the 2019 Obici Healthcare Foundation Symposium participants.



## Three-Year Grant Funding for Impactful Programs (cont.)

Health Centers and community health centers. The Foundation's Safety-Net Initiative focuses on improving access to primary care, oral and mental health. Under this initiative, the Foundation in 2019 awarded \$3.8 million in grants to eight safety net providers.

Long-term goals for safety net providers who were awarded three-year funding grants include increasing the percentage of adults in the Foundation's service area with a specific source of ongoing care and reducing the number of adults that use a hospital emergency room more than once a year.

In addition, the Foundation partners with ACCESS College Foundation to provide students with the guidance and resources needed to attend and complete college. This partnership will include a healthcare component that encourages ACCESS College graduates to enter the healthcare field in the Foundation's service area upon graduation.

Access to Healthcare also includes a strategic investment in improving maternal and child health outcomes. By addressing potential health issues in pregnancy or early infancy, death and disability can be prevented. The goal is to decrease the overall infant mortality rate in the Foundation's service area, which may help children to reach their full potential in life.

The Foundation's Prevention Initiative, which also receives 50% of the Foundation's funding, is designed to prevent chronic illness and disease. Research shows that addressing social determinants of health is a path to better health status. Social determinants are the environmental conditions to which people are born, live, learn, work, play and worship. These conditions, and age, can affect a wide range of health functioning and quality of life outcomes and risks.

The Foundation's Prevention Initiative has three components:

- The Healthy Behaviors Initiative supports programs that address new and expanded opportunities for better nutrition and increased physical activity. In 2019, the Foundation

awarded \$345,000 in grants under its Healthy Behaviors/Healthy Spaces programs in seven communities and another \$700,500 in planning and implementation grants. The three-year Healthy Behaviors grants have a goal of decreasing the percentage of overweight children from 33.6% to 33% with an impact of stabilizing the percentage of adults suffering from multiple chronic conditions at 67.1%.

- The Early Childhood Education Initiative supports programs that provide training for teachers to improve kindergarten readiness and to identify kids in trauma. Early Childhood Education is the primary path for improving overall academic achievement and ultimately better health status.

- The Foundation's Capacity Building Initiative represents 30% of its allocation in Prevention. The overall goal is for the Foundation to provide services and tools designed to strengthen nonprofit programs, finances, governance, evaluation and sustainability and enhance the ability of nonprofits in the Foundation's service area to achieve their mission.

Another goal for the October Symposium was to announce the Foundation's new partnership with the Center for Nonprofit Excellence (CNE). Through its grant to CNE, local nonprofits will have assistance in various organizational areas, including strategic planning, fund development, program evaluation, financial management and sustainability.

Obici Healthcare Foundation recognizes the importance of helping to build up nonprofits so that they can become sustainable and help our communities, especially with our shared opinion that strong nonprofits lead to strong communities.

The Obici Healthcare Foundation is a private foundation established in 2006 from the sale of Louise Obici Memorial Hospital to Sentara Healthcare. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded over \$53.4 million in grant funding. The Foundation's service area consists of approximately 168,000 people and more than 1,100 nonprofits. It has a longstanding commitment to helping local nonprofits improve their organizations, and ultimately, our communities.

## Meet the Foundation's Newest Staff

**Gina Lilley** is the Foundation's new Administrative Assistant.

Her role includes supporting program officers with appointments, phone calls and calendars. She performs grant entry and ongoing management and maintenance of the grants database.

Gina also organizes and prepares materials for the Grants Committee of the Board of Directors. She coordinates arrangements and logistics for program staff meetings and workshops and manages faxes and emails related to grantmaking.

Gina comes to the Obici Healthcare Foundation with eight years of experience as an administrative assistant at the YMCA of South Hampton Roads.



*Gina Lilley*

**Jessica Mullen**, Program Officer, comes to the Foundation from Bon Secours Health System where she was a Health Promotion Coordinator for the Hampton Roads market. She brings over 15 years of experience in public health.

Jessica will be working on the Foundation's grantmaking related to Strengthening the Safety Net and Improving Maternal Child Health. "I was born and raised in Western Tidewater and look forward to working alongside organizations across the service area to create effective and long-term positive health outcomes for my community."

Jessica is a graduate of East Carolina University where she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Exercise Science and from Old Dominion University where she earned her Master's in Public Administration.



*Jessica Mullen*