



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay Awards \$4.6 Million in Grants and Distributions**

GREEN BAY, Wis. (June 10, 2019) – The Catholic Foundation has made available \$4.6 million in distributions supporting Catholic ministries and causes in the areas of education, service, and ministry. Through more than 130 grants, individuals and organizations are supported in inspiring our youth, forming church leaders, and meeting the needs of those struggling in our communities.

For more than 20 years, the Catholic Foundation has been impacting lives within the 16 counties of northeastern Wisconsin which make up the Diocese of Green Bay. During this time, the Foundation has distributed nearly \$40 million to support Catholic schools, parishes and other Catholic organizations.

“Each year through grants and distributions, the Catholic Foundation is able to help many people across northeastern Wisconsin. We are pleased to support young people discover Jesus by providing tuition assistance to kids in Catholic schools. We also care for those in need by supporting the social services of Catholic Charities and organizations that aim to end homelessness. Through our grant making process the Foundation supports our parishes, Catholic schools and other Catholic organizations that help people discover Jesus,” shared Josh Diedrich, Executive Director of the Catholic Foundation. “These grants and distributions are only made possible through the generosity of many people. For this I am grateful.”

Grants and distributions are awarded based on an application process. The next opportunity to submit applications will be in October 2019. For more information about the grants and distributions, please visit [www.catholicfoundationgb.org](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org) or call 920-272-8181.

### **Following are examples of grants recently funded by the Catholic Foundation in the Oshkosh area:**

**UW-Oshkosh Newman Center** – After running the Alpha program successfully, the UW-Oshkosh Newman Center received a \$1,000 Advancing the Mission Evangelization Endowment grant through the Catholic Foundation to run a follow-up initiative during the spring 2020 semester. The goal is to bring 60 UWO students through a catechetical experience using a similar model to Alpha of a meal and discussion. This also includes a scholarship for each student to attend one of two retreat opportunities during the semester. Inviting those who previously went through Alpha and students who want to learn more about their faith, the Newman Center hopes to provide a transformational experience where participants will encounter Jesus in the Catholic Church.

**High School Kyrios Retreat** – Intended to be a welcoming community setting where teens who have either been a part of the religious education program or have never set foot in their parish, St. Raphael the Archangel Parish in Oshkosh received a \$750 Advancing the Mission Evangelization Endowment grant from the Catholic Foundation to plan and host two Kyrios retreats this year. The retreats are facilitated by a high school peer-ministry team that consists of about 20 high school students in conjunction with adult volunteers who have already experienced the retreat. This team shares their faith through witness and teaching talks, small group sharing, liturgical experiences, and powerful prayer opportunities. Peer ministers also gain valuable leadership skills and are trained to give in depth catechetical teachings paired with their own personal witness of the particular topic and why it could be of importance in the life of a teenager.

**Christian Art Showcase** – Planning a weekend-long, free and open-to-the-public Christian Art Showcase, Most Blessed Sacrament Parish in Oshkosh received a \$1,500 Advancing the Mission Evangelization Endowment grant from the Catholic Foundation to assist in exhibiting original works from local Catholic and Christian artists. This includes paintings, icons, photos, sculptures, metal or fabric art, poetry and music. Their goals are to evangelize by providing the public with an experience of beauty and original Catholic/Christian art and to showcase the talents of local artists and recognize their contributions to evangelization. Held in a location that is not a church setting, the Art Showcase can offer those who might never come to a church building the opportunity to meet Jesus for the first time through a song, a painting or a poem that touches their soul.

Grants through the Catholic Foundation help foster households and communities of discipleship through the mission and ministry of the Catholic Church. To learn more about how you can leave legacy to impact your community, call 920-272-8181 or visit [www.catholicfoundationgb.org](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org) today.

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**About the Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Green Bay:** For more than 20 years, the Catholic Foundation has been encouraging financial generosity through faith-based giving. As a full service foundation, the Catholic Foundation focuses on Catholic parishes, schools, and ministries by helping families with all their giving needs. Through the generous support of many people, nearly \$40 million has been distributed to impact thousands of people's lives throughout northeastern Wisconsin. Gifts are used to help people discover, follow, worship, and share Jesus. To learn more, please visit our website at [www.catholicfoundationgb.org](http://www.catholicfoundationgb.org), call 920-272-8181 or email [catholicfoundation@gbdioc.org](mailto:catholicfoundation@gbdioc.org).

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