Drs. Thomas H. Powell, President of Saint John’s Catholic Prep High School (SJCP) named Marlene Young as a recipient of the 2020 Presidential Medal in a private ceremony at the Delaplaine Arts Center on Friday, November 13, 2020. “Honoring Marlene is long overdue for her outstanding work in our community,” said Powell during his remarks at the event. “When I think of Marlene, I am reminded of a quote by one of my heroes, Dr. Albert Schweitzer, ‘Example is not the main thing in life...it is the only thing in life.’ Marlene Young is an inspirational example for our students and our entire community. She has made a significant difference in so many lives, and her leadership has improved our community and our Nation. May we all be inspired by her commitment to serve and tonight we celebrate all that she has accomplished.”

IN BRIEF

Carson Scholars Fund

Delaplaine Foundation is excited to award a first time grant to the Carson Scholars Fund which will honor and provide scholarships for a total of ten Delaplaine Foundation Scholars in Frederick County High Schools. The Carson Scholars Fund, now in its 25th year was founded by Dr. Benjamin Carson and Mrs. Candy Carson and provides for seven additional clinical behavior health offices, and two other larger suites for family meetings. “In total, Aleshire says that MHA facilities have grown by 20% with the expansion. Prior to the availability of the new meeting spaces, MHA staff had the benefit of technology to help meet local demand. Funding is the key. We invest in updated technologies, which allowed them to better serve MHA clients remotely—underwritten by Delaplaine Foundation and the COVID-19 Collaborative. “Our tech was woefully outdated. Having new technology on a HIPAA-compliant platform allowed our staff to work with clients who preferred or needed tele-med. The funding also provided for PPE, which was important because some clients prefer to walk in and see a counselor one-on-one. The Collaborative insured our continuum of services.” Aleshire says the local grants to walk in and see a counselor one-on-one. The Collaborative insured our continuum of services.”

MHA staff member speaks with a caller who has phoned the 24 Hour Call Center in need of information or intervention crisis.

Emergency reappropriations of facilities expanded the staffing within hospitals in response to COVID-19 continue to occur on a daily basis nationwide. Less capable of adaptation are smaller community mental health organizations, which nonetheless, are receiving unprecedented requests for client services. This has been the case for Mental Health Association of Frederick County (MHA), which has seen a staggering increase in requests. However, according to Shannon Aleshire, CEO, MHA, a combination of unexpected circumstances has allowed the organization to grow in facilities, staff, and technology to help meet local demand. Aleshire says that MHA facilities have grown by 20% with the expansion. Prior to the availability of the new meeting spaces, MHA staff had the benefit of technology to help meet local demand. Funding is the key. We invest in updated technologies, which allowed them to better serve MHA clients remotely—underwritten by Delaplaine Foundation and the COVID-19 Collaborative. “Our tech was woefully outdated. Having new technology on a HIPAA-compliant platform allowed our staff to work with clients who preferred or needed tele-med. The funding also provided for PPE, which was important because some clients prefer to walk in and see a counselor one-on-one. The Collaborative insured our continuum of services.” Aleshire says the local grants were especially important because they underwritten by Delaplaine Foundation and the COVID-19 Collaborative. “Our tech was woefully outdated. Having new technology on a HIPAA-compliant platform allowed our staff to work with clients who preferred or needed tele-med. The funding also provided for PPE, which was important because some clients prefer to walk in and see a counselor one-on-one. The Collaborative insured our continuum of services.” Aleshire says the local grants were especially important because they underwritten by Delaplaine Foundation and the COVID-19 Collaborative. “Our tech was woefully outdated. Having new technology on a HIPAA-compliant platform allowed our staff to work with clients who preferred or needed tele-med. The funding also provided for PPE, which was important because some clients prefer to walk in and see a counselor one-on-one. The Collaborative insured our continuum of services.”

George Delaplaine celebrated his 94th birthday on December 9 with many well wishes, family and his favorite confection--carrot cake. George is pictured with Marlene Young and Phil Hammond.

Delaplaine Foundation CFO/ Treasurer

MHA offers 12 active programs. Requests for services have increased significantly as seen in these two examples.

24 Hour Call Center—Information and referral, crisis intervention and suicide prevention. Serves as an entry point for services. MHA is the Western MD regional center for all 211 calls. FY 2019 36,340 / FY 2020 40,910 +13%

Walk-in Behavioral Health—Free, immediate, face-to-face support for anyone experiencing a non-life-threatening emotional, mental, family or relationship crisis. FY 2019 579 / FY 2020 705 +22%

Referral Services—MHA counselors assist clients in their needs for related services, working with 900 local and state agencies.
Eric D. Zimmerman

Delaplaine Foundation Awards

Over $2.5m to Nonprofits in 2020

Frederick County nonprofit organization 2020 recipients of grant funding from Delaplaine Foundation, Inc. in emergency relief funding or annual grant cycle include: Advocates for Homeless Families, Inc., African-American Resources Cultural Heritage Society (AARCH), Asian American Center of Frederick, AIC of Frederick County, Advisory in Aging, Berkeley Springs, Big & Girls Club of Frederick County, Brunswick Safe & Sound, Brunswick Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue, Catholic Farmhouse Historical Society, Inc., Catoctin Mountain Wildlife Preserve/Global Wildlife Trust, Centro Hispano de Frederick, Children of Incarcerated Parents, Cheval Arts Society of Frederick, City Youth Mentor, The Community Foundation of Frederick County, Crossed Bridges, Inc., Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center, Downtown Frederick Partnership, Frederick Gazette, Inc., Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ, Faith House, Family Law Community Organization, Federated Lions of Frederick, Four C Facilitators, Inc., Frederick-Johnston Support, Frederick Arts Council, Frederick Catoctines, Frederick Children's Choir, Frederick Community College Foundation, Frederick Fire & Rescue Museum, Frederick County Human Society, Frederick County Landmarks Foundation, Frederick Health Hospital, Frederick Museum, Frederick Recess Resource, Free Range Humans, Friends Meeting School, Global 2 Recording Project, Goodwill Industries of Monocacy Valley, Grace Church, Habitat for Humanity of Frederick County, Heartly House, Heritage Frederick, Historic Rock Springs Chapel, Inc., Hood College, Hospice Health of Frederick County, Housing Authority of the City of Frederick, Housing Frederick, I Believe in Me, Inc., Interfaith Housing Alliance, Life Horse, Inc., Liturgy Council of Frederick County, Maryland Ensemble Theatre, Mental Health Association of Frederick County, Mission of Mercy, Mother Seton School, Mount St. Mary's University, National Museum of Civil War Medicine, National Road Heritage Foundation, National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Rainbow Coalition for Emergency Human Needs, Salvation Army, Second Chance Garage, Seton Center, Spanish Speaking Coalition of Frederick, Frederick-Sherrard, A.R., St. John's Catholic Prep, St. John's Regional Catholic School, STEM Enable, Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership, The Catoctin Center, The Ranch, United Way of Frederick County, Winlow Center for the Arts, Woman To Woman Mentoring, and the YMCA of Frederick County.

Marlene Young. "Between emergency relief grants that we were compelled to make in response to the local impact of COVID-19 in addition to grants made during our annual grant cycle, we awarded a record 215 grants totaling $2,534,000.”

Young said that 86% of the total grant dollars remained within Frederick County. “Our emergency relief grants enabled us to remind area individuals and families in need that they were not alone in the health crisis. By joining forces and resources with other local philanthropic funders in shared purpose, we could help transform problems into opportunities to bring hope in times of great need.”

George B. Delaplaine, Jr., Chairperson of Delaplaine Foundation stated "In reflection on our Foundation’s grantmaking, especially in this year of the health crisis, I’m reminded of my grandfather who brought aid to those in need during the severe blizzard of 1895. Although his selfless efforts resulted in him contracting pneumonia that led to his death at age 35, his actions for others in their time of need is a guiding philosophy and example for all of us and to present and future generations alike,” Delaplaine said.

Among the grants awarded during the annual grant cycle included: $80,000 grant to The AARCH (African-American Resources Cultural and Heritage Society) of Frederick. Delaplaine Foundation was pleased to make this award as part of its focus on historic preservation. AARCH President David Key stated “The AARCH Society of Frederick is very excited and grateful for the generous grant provided by Delaplaine Foundation. It is truly an honor to serve as president of AARCH and to be a small part of bringing Mr. William O. Lee’s dream of an African American Heritage Center to a reality. What a tribute to his vision and dedication to the community.”

Two examples she cited included grants awarded to Maryland Academy of Science/Maryland Science Center, and the National Aquarium—both located in Baltimore. “Delaplaine Foundation grant dollars will provide for free admission for Frederick County students and their teachers to experience these educational facilities.”

From the President

A new year has dawned marking a milestone for us here at Delaplaine Foundation. 2021 is our 20th year of serving our mission of impactful philanthropy for a greater good by supporting programs and services that enrich communities, families, individuals and quality of life for all. Spanning the past two decades, we’ve had widespread opportunity to meet, partner with, and support incredibly dedicated nonprofit organizations whose missions closely align with ours. What a privilege to walk alongside the community through some challenging terrain at times, especially within the past year.

The genesis of Delaplaine Foundation comes from the March 2001 sale of the family’s major newspaper and cable television / telecommunications businesses. The Delaplaine family chose to take a portion of the proceeds to establish Delaplaine Foundation, Inc. The businesses, under the leadership of George B. Delaplaine, Jr. had a long history of being good corporate citizens, giving back to the community. The Foundation’s creation was also born out of an intent to perpetuate that giving and to operate in perpetuity.

Now entering our 20th year, we pledge to re-examine our grantmaking objectives and current strategy vis-à-vis the six core areas of our focus (arts, education, health, human services, historic preservation and spiritual enlightenment). As we acknowledge the best of our past, we recommit to working with community partners to advance positive and transformative change in addressing the diverse, ever-evolving needs around us while holding fast to our passion for preserving time honored history. With focused discretion we’ve awarded $20,215,000 in grants since our inception, with an average of 75% of those grant dollars supporting Frederick County, here where our roots are deep. We welcome the new year and recommit to building on the Foundation’s vibrant story—a story that belongs to all of us.

Maya Angelou,"If you’re always trying to be normal you will never know how amazing you can be."