

Delaplaine Foundation Awards over \$3.3 M to Nonprofits in 2025

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Coalition for a Healthier Frederick County staff visit Delaplaine Foundation to celebrate the Coalition's grant award and receive the donation. Pictured, from left, are Coalition for a Healthier Frederick County local health improvement plan program manager Summer McClellan, Coalition for a Healthier Frederick County local health improvement plan workgroup coordinator Marci Corea, Coalition for a Healthier Frederick County Executive Director Malcolm Furgol, Delaplaine Foundation Executive Director Michele Corr and Delaplaine Foundation board of trustees President Marlene Young.

Delaplaine Foundation reached a new milestone, awarding the largest single-year distribution in the foundation's 24-year history.

Board of trustees President Marlene Young stated: “Delaplaine Foundation’s record high monetary grant awards totaling \$3,226,600 for the 2025-2026 grant cycle reflects 176 grants approved by the board after an extensive vetting process and further advances our commitment to the enrichment of Frederick County through support to our nonprofit impact partners. This major investment underscores our ongoing dedication to gauging community needs through assessment and analysis of pertinent data, staying connected to the pulse of community need and initiatives through conversation and evaluation with applicants, fellow funders within our philanthropic network, and grantees, input from our valued Community Advisory Council members, and conducting grantee site visits. This year's grant awards were also impacted by a number of nonprofit organizations whose operating budgets were negatively impacted by a loss of funding resulting from federal funding cuts to programs and services that in large part serve ALICE (Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed) families. Delaplaine Foundation's commitment to help meet the needs of the most vulnerable within the community remains a core aspect of our mission. In addition to continuing our support of long-term grantees, we are excited to have approved 18 first time grantees in the competitive applicant submissions, including being proud to award a 3-year \$100,000 grant in support of the 12-to-24 Initiative, investing alongside other community funders who have established the framework for this youth-led movement to power opportunities in working with nonprofit services partners to yield collective impact for the future of Frederick County by investing in its youth.”

Through the support of six strategic funding sectors, Delaplaine Foundation is directing more than 92% of its resources back into Frederick County, empowering organizations that serve the community directly:

- Arts \$629,100 (20%)
- Education: \$356,300 (11%)
- Health: \$383,700 (12%)
- Historic Preservation: \$383,500 (12%)
- Human Services: \$1,266,500 (39%)
- Spiritual Enlightenment: \$207,500 (6%)

Board members engaged in reviewing grant applications seek additional guidance and insights from Delaplaine Foundation's Community Advisory Council members. CAC members provide additional community voices and perspectives helping ensure that funding decisions reflect the most pressing needs of the community. Through this collaborative process, the foundation is

able to direct resources to nonprofits making a meaningful difference in the lives of Frederick County residents.

Ted Delaplaine, board of trustees vice president, remarked: "It has been an honor to have spent over two decades on Delaplaine Foundation's board of trustees, and I am proud to have been chosen to lead the foundation's new Board's Grants Committee this year, which was responsible for reviewing nearly 200 grant applications. This year's grant cycle, the community needs are greater than ever, and Delaplaine Foundation has, I believe, risen to the challenge."

Delaplaine Foundation Executive Director Michele Corr, commented: "Experiencing the grant process for the first time has been both fascinating and rewarding, providing a deeper understanding of the complexity, research and care involved in making difficult funding decisions. I've loved watching the foundation's vision for giving come to life! Reading each grant application has given me an even greater appreciation for the organizations, their missions and the impact these grants have on the community."

Since its founding in 2001, Delaplaine Foundation has awarded over \$33 million in grants to extraordinary nonprofits in Frederick County and beyond, truly embodying its motto, "Philanthropy for a Greater Good." For a full listing of grant award recipients, to submit an application, or to learn more about Delaplaine Foundation, go to delaplainefoundation.org. Applications for the 2026 grant cycle will be accepted until Oct. 1, 2026.