

# WILLIAMSBURG Health FOUNDATION

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## **20 Local Programs that Make Greater Williamsburg Residents Healthier Receive Over 3.5-Million in Funds from the Williamsburg Health Foundation**

WILLIAMSBURG, VA –

On June 5, 2017, the Williamsburg Health Foundation’s Board of Trustees met and awarded just over 3.5 million dollars to programs in Greater Williamsburg.

The list of 20 grants includes funds for programs that provide access to health care, including behavioral health as well as access to medication. “We are proud to support our local clinics to provide high-quality health care and access to a wide variety of medication,” said Foundation President and CEO, Jeanne Zeidler.

This year’s grants for medication access expanded to include a pilot program to provide generic medication, which has become increasingly expensive, at affordable prices to those without health insurance. “If you’d asked any of us a few years ago if we would need to fund access to generic medication, we wouldn’t have believed it would be necessary, but it is,” said Zeidler.

The Foundation made a strategic decision a few years ago also to focus on providing opportunities for residents to lead healthier lives and to make healthier choices. “For that reason, we fund things like the provision of healthier foods in neighborhoods that are ‘food deserts.’ We also fund the School Health Initiative Project (SHIP) which engages Williamsburg James City County Public School (WJCCPS) students and families in healthy eating and active living,” explained Zeidler. Over 400 WJCCPS students, staff, and faculty participated in the recent Run the DOG 5K held each April on Duke of Gloucester Street.

“We are pleased to work with trusted partners to provide ongoing programs and services,” said Jim Golden, chair of the Williamsburg Health Foundation’s Board of Trustees who cited the Foundation’s longstanding support of programs at Child Development Resources (CDR). “We believe that CDR knows what works for the families they serve, and we believe that they have both the experience and data to prove it. We are pleased to provide continuity in funding for programs that consistently provide needed services and achieve outstanding results.”

“That said, we do encourage both bold innovation and strategic collaboration,” said Golden. A one-time equipment grant has been awarded this year to the James City County Fire Department for \$28,400 to assemble In-School Trauma Response Kits which will be placed in public schools throughout Williamsburg-James City County, York County, and the City of Poquoson. “This request was built on the collaboration between the localities, their emergency-response leadership, and their school systems. We will help with the purchase of the kits. Emergency responders will train school personnel in their use, and then schools will maintain and refresh the kits over time.”

The Williamsburg Health Foundation was incorporated in 1996 with proceeds from the partnership between Sentara Healthcare and what was the Williamsburg Community Hospital. Since its inception, the foundation has doubled its original corpus and granted over 74 million dollars.

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