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Greenville Health Authority awards \$650K in new annual grants

An additional 19 groups will split \$100K as part of 'Healthy Greenville, Too' program

BY STEPHANIE MIRAH SMIRAH@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

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The Greenville Health Authority’s Board of Trustees convened on September 15, 2021, to approve nominees to be voted on at the state’s legislative delegation in October. The three nominees are anticipated to replace three retiring board members. Stephanie Mirah/staff

BY STEPHANIE MIRAH SMIRAH@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

GREENVILLE — Five local organizations working on healthcare-related projects will receive hundreds of thousands of dollars from the Greenville Health Authority’s annual grant program.

As part of Prisma Health’s lease — for which the GHA’s 15-member Board of Trustees acts as landlord — the system must provide \$4 million annually to the board to be administered in the form of Healthy Greenville Grants.

The grant system, which was established as a provision of the lease in 2016, aims to provide funding for organizations completing projects focused under one of the four areas: access to healthcare, social determinants of health, mental/behavioral health, and healthy eating and exercise.



GREENVILLE HEALTH

Greenville Health Authority nominates 3 to replace retiring board members

BY STEPHANIE MIRAH SMIRAH@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

The GHA had \$650,000 available to award this year and announced the five organizations to receive those funds during a board meeting on Sept. 15. The additional \$3.35 million has been committed to other ongoing multi-year projects.

A Child's Haven — a non-profit organization that treats preschoolers with developmental delays as a result of limited resources, abuse or neglect and their families — will receive a \$70,000 grant this year to fund therapeutic outdoor environments.

The state's largest school district, **Greenville County Schools**, will receive \$302,705 over three years, with \$109,733 being awarded this year, to expand its EMT Training Program. In partnership with Prisma Health and Greenville County EMS, the program will train 24 additional interested high schoolers from across the district.



GREENVILLE BUSINESS

Greenville chamber touts successes, hands out awards at Fluor Field during annual meeting

BY STEPHANIE MIRAH SMIRAH@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

Greenville Free Medical Clinic, which provides medical and dental care for low-income, uninsured Greenville County residents, will use the \$780,000 it will be awarded over three years, with \$230,000 coming this year, to increase health services, focusing mainly on messaging and preventive screenings.

Mill Community Ministries' FoodShare Greenville provides families with fresh fruit and vegetables through a box subscription program. More than 900 boxes are currently delivered bi-weekly. The food sharing program can expand its services with the \$458,655 it will receive over three years, with \$172,885 disbursed year. One example of how the funds will be used is to “equip healthcare and community partners with vouchers to prescribe healthy food boxes as preventative medicine to residents experiencing food insecurity.” The project will serve 1,500 primarily low-income families by the end of the grant.

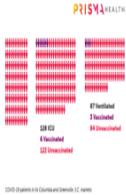
The eye care service nonprofit **Servants for Sight** will receive \$233,314 over three years, with \$67,382 being awarded this year, to provide almost 1,600 Greenville residents with comprehensive eye care, including glasses and varying surgeries.

The board received 41 letters of intent from organizations hoping to receive funding this year. Each application is screened and undergoes an outside peer review. Then the committee grades the applications. From the more than 40 letters of intent, 11 were invited by the committee to submit applications. Those applicants went through a similar review and grading process until five were selected for recommendation to the board.

The board also awarded 19 organizations a total of \$100,000 in funding for a variety of specific, year-long projects for its ‘Healthy Greenville, Too’ micro grants.

In addition, the board amended its process for requesting proposals for the micro grants. The funding range changed from \$25,000 being the maximum request to \$10,000. The intent and expectations were clarified so requesters know the project’s funding should not be dependent on receiving the grant. Organizations can’t request consecutive year funding or be currently funded by the macro grant process.

Also at the Sept. 15 meeting, **the board nominated three replacements for retiring board members.** The nominees will be voted on by the state delegation at its quarterly meeting in Columbia in October. The GHA is tasked with improving health care in the Upstate, administering health grant initiatives, and overseeing the facility lease agreement with Prisma Health.



GREENVILLE HEALTH

Prisma suspends Upstate elective surgeries with fears of a football season COVID surge

BY ERIC CONNOR ECONNOR@POSTANDCOURIER.COM



GREENVILLE HEALTH

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BY STEPHANIE MIRAH SMIRAH@POSTANDCOURIER.COM

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Stephanie Mirah is a reporter for The Post and Courier Greenville.