

Kaiser Permanente awards \$175,000 in health care grants to 10 local organizations

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Kaiser Permanente has given nearly \$175,000 in grants to 10 local organizations improving residents' access to health care.

Twice each year Kaiser awards two rounds of **Thriving Communities Grants**. The recipients for 2012 are as follows:

Access Inc.: \$5,000 to address the physical and behavior health of women and children who enter the Akron agency's homeless shelter.

Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center: \$15,000 for the center's Regional Infant Hearing Program.

Countryside Conservancy: \$25,000 to support the Summit County agency's efforts to help local farms and food entrepreneurs as well as the Highland Square Farmer's Market.

Cuyahoga Community College Foundation: \$11,00 for Tri-C's Bridgeport Food Desert Survival Training Program, which provides seniors in Cleveland's Kinsman neighborhood with health screenings, nutrition education, exercise instruction and cooking lessons at the new Bridgeport Market, Caf & Community Kitchen.

Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland: \$15,000 towards the clinic's Chronic Care and Prevention Services Initiative.

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland: \$25,000 for the Legal Community Advocacy Program, a medical-legal partnership that places lawyers at MetroHealth Medical Center sites. They work with physicians to identify and address legal issues impacting health outcomes in patients.

Living Miracles Peer Empowerment Network: \$7,500 toward the group's Wellness Management & Recovery Program, an 11-week education and support program for people with mental illness.

May Dugan Center: \$25,000 to provide preventive health screenings and health education for uninsured

and underinsured residents of Cleveland's near west side.

North Coast Health Ministry: \$40,000 that will allow the agency to increase the number of clients; improve clinical quality; and provide patients with education and support.

Slavic Village Development: \$5,000 for the Broadway Farmers' Market, which offers residents and employees in Cleveland's Slavic Village neighborhood increased access to fresh fruits and vegetables from June through September.

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