

Being able to help those around us helps us better serve our community and shine the light of Christ to all

Adding a Sense of Security to a Community: Results of the 2021 Hands and Feet Grant

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Background

- Springfield, Ohio and the Clark County area suffers from a high level of poverty and homelessness. In November of 2020, the city of Springfield declared a homelessness emergency in the city, partially as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Cedarville University CPFI Chapter has an ongoing collaborative relationship with the Springfield Soup Kitchen along with the university's SNPhA (Student National Pharmaceutical Association) chapter.
 - At least once monthly, both organizations recruit students and pharmacists to assist with screenings and education within the soup kitchen.
- Several of the kitchen staff are former nurses and health care practitioners

Methods

- In order to assist the soup kitchen with their needs, our chapter planned to use the funding from the Hands and Feet grant this year to sponsor the purchase of an automated external defibrillator (AED) for the emergency use of any soup kitchen staff
- In order to supplement additional cost in addition to the grant funding, our chapter utilized letter-writing, merchandise sales, and personal campaigning in order to raise the full cost of the AED



Results

- Using the funding, the Cedarville University CPFI chapter will be able to provide the kitchen with necessary tools to prevent life-threatening cardiac events and also to continue to educate the staff on the importance of healthcare, which can then be spread down to the patients who are at a baseline fairly distrustful of medical professionals.
- The merch sale gave us a net profit of over \$100 towards the funds received from the Hands and Feet grant.
- Our chapter executive board also worked on sending a fundraising letter to the faculty of the school as well as chapter alumni. Through that, we had a matching fund goal of \$600 to raise the rest of the necessary funds.
- Using the funds received, we purchased the AED for the soup kitchen and are currently waiting for it to arrive via a local partnership with CedarCare Village pharmacy.
- Once the AED unit arrives, we look to presenting it to the kitchen as well as scheduling a time to show them how to properly use the unit. Given that there are former nurses that volunteer at the kitchen, this will give the kitchen a greater chance to serve the community they are passionate about.

Conclusions

- Our chapter is grateful for the chance to support our local community partner in this way, and the team hopes to continue to use these opportunities to serve our patients and make lasting and sustainable impacts within the community.
- We look forward to the continued partnership with the Springfield Soup Kitchen. This has been a great opportunity for our members to be able to serve a community that they may not have much experience with before the health screenings.