

SEABROOK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION 4Q 2018 PRESS RELEASE
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SEABROOK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES FOURTH QUARTER 2018 GRANTS

The Seabrook Community Foundation board of directors awarded \$39,000 in grants at the final meeting for 2018. These grants will provide assistance for programs that benefit Aberdeen youth interested in arts and music, a cold weather shelter for Grays Harbor County residents, children facing difficult family situations, school kids who need a little extra something for the holidays and support for local theatre!

Helen Gilbert, board president stated: *"This has been an exciting and rewarding year for the Seabrook Community Foundation! Grants totaling \$225,194 as well as a record number of scholarships, have been awarded in 2018 fulfilling our mission of providing funds for food programs, shelter, mental health, welfare, safety, emergency preparedness, education, scholarships, youth programs, animal welfare, and the arts."*

Grants were awarded as follows:

Associated Arts of Ocean Shores: Engaging students in the arts presents an opportunity for an individual to enjoy going to school. Associated Arts of Ocean Shores provides this opportunity by bringing art programs to students in the county. This grant will provide funds to support their arts program focused on photography. Cameras, a lens specifically suited to sporting events and general supplies will be purchased. Associated Arts believes that providing students the opportunity to work with arts and find a personal interest will positively affect graduation rates for these kids.

Chaplains on the Harbor: It gets dark early and cold on the coast in winter. Chaplains on the Harbor works with the Episcopal church in Westport to provide a cold weather shelter for those in need. They provide meals and sleeping space for individuals who do not have a place to go for the night. Last year they served dinner to between 15-25 people every night, and had 8-12 stay overnight. The majority of people staying overnight were 18-25. Funds from this grant will help to fund this program.

Connections: Connections has served children and their families experiencing difficult situations for 19 years. Connections provides support for abused or neglected children, improves their home and family life and supports kids when dealing with social systems. They have become the primary regional center for abused children, helping with family preservation and abuse prevention. Connections programs include educating parents, assisting children in homes where drugs or alcohol are problems, assisting children to bond with parents or caregivers and their Courthouse Dog Project. These funds will help to support these efforts.

Driftwood Players: Since 1959 Driftwood Players has presented quality theatrical productions for the Twin Harbors community. This is done using a group of volunteers in their home theater they have used since 1982. For this 60th season they will present a combination of live stage

and movies! Even with enthusiastic volunteers, there are costs associated with running this show; rent, royalties and more. This grant will help fund these expenses.

Making a Difference for Grays Harbor Kids: This is an incredible small organization that makes a big difference to kids in Grays Harbor during the holidays. Anyone who has met Joe Cornell, who runs this program knows that he is a special person. Joe and his wife created this project to allow his family to be able to help the Grays Harbor kids at Christmas time. They engage the local community to donate funds, clothes, school supplies, anything that will be useful to kids in school. They seem to specialize in gloves and winter clothes, a worthy cause. These funds will assist Joe and family to again provide great assistance this year!

The Bridge Music Project: This is a unique and fascinating program that is designed to engage the youth of Grays Harbor County with an interest in music. With funds from multiple sources, and leadership from Bobby Williams, this 8 week program will work with The Garage in Aberdeen to provide participants the opportunity to write, produce, record and perform on stage original music. Bridge staff will reach out to local professional to help recruit at-risk youth by doing presentations at high schools, juvenile courts and other community organizations. Music is powerful; providing a venue for learning and personal development. The funds from this grant will help to support these efforts.

These grants and those throughout the year show an incredible degree of compassion and dedication to Grays Harbor community by so many individuals and groups. The individuals behind the organizations this Foundation has supported represent a group that considers the health and well being of the community to be of utmost importance. The board of directors look forward to continued amazement of the depth and breadth of support for the community. We thank all of those who are involved in these efforts!

The Seabrook Community Foundation accepts grant applications from charitable organizations throughout the year and processes applications at quarterly meetings. You can download a grant application at: <https://www.seabrookwa.com/seabrook-community-foundation>