

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**For further information  
Contact: Tom Woods  
(402) 436-5971  
[twoods@woodscharitable.org](mailto:twoods@woodscharitable.org)**

**May 16, 2016**

**WOODS CHARITABLE FUND APPROVES \$551,700 IN GRANTS  
AT MAY MEETING**

Woods Charitable Fund's Board of Directors approved grants totaling \$551,700 to 23 tax-exempt organizations during its May meeting.

The largest percentage of the granted funding – 38 percent – will support Human Services agencies serving Lincoln. Additionally, 36 percent of the granted funding benefits Civic and Community organizations while 16 percent funds Education programs. About 10 percent will aid Arts and Culture organizations.

*Woods Charitable Fund makes grants twice a year to tax-exempt organizations seeking funding for Lincoln-focused programs in the areas of Human Services, Civic & Community, Education and Arts & Culture. For more information on funding guidelines, call (402) 436-5971, visit the Fund's website at [www.woodscharitable.org](http://www.woodscharitable.org) or write to Kathy Steinauer Smith, Tom Woods or Angie Zmarzly at 1248 O St. Suite 1130, Lincoln, NE 68508, or at [info@woodscharitable.org](mailto:info@woodscharitable.org).*

**Approved for Funding by Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., May 2016**

***ACLU Nebraska Foundation, Inc. (\$5,000)*** – To support a promotional project marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this organization supporting civil rights and liberties in Nebraska

***Cedars Youth Services, Inc. (\$30,000)*** – To benefit Bridges Transitional Living Program, which provides supervised apartment living for youth ages 16-21

***Center on Children, Families and the Law at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (\$24,000)*** – Two-year support to conduct and study meetings intended to improve communication between birth parents and caretakers of children in temporary custody

***Colonel Mustard Amateur Attic Theatre Company (\$5,000)*** – For general-operating support of this performing-arts group based in the Near South neighborhood of Lincoln

***Educare of Lincoln, Inc. (\$20,000)*** – To support before- and after-school care for students at this year-round, research-based childcare and preschool program

***Fiesta Mexicana of the Heartland (\$5,700)*** – In support of general operations, strategic planning and leadership development for this Mexican ballet folklorico dance troupe

***Flatwater Shakespeare Company (\$25,000)*** – A two-year grant to support operational expenses as the performing-arts organization completes strategic planning

***Girl Scouts – Spirit of Nebraska (\$20,000)*** – For outreach programs serving girls in Lincoln and Lancaster County

***Hear Nebraska (\$20,000)*** – Third-year general-operating support for this organization supporting live music and culture in Lincoln and across Nebraska

***Legal Aid of Nebraska (\$25,000)*** – General-operating support for civil legal services provided in Lincoln

***Lincoln Bike Kitchen (\$8,000)*** – For general-operating and leadership support for this organization providing bikes and bike repair for adults and children

***Lincoln Children’s Museum (\$2,000)*** – A two-year grant in support of staffing to provide clubs at four Lincoln elementary-school community-learning centers

***Lincoln Housing Charities (\$4,500)*** – Third-year support of Expanding Horizons, a summer enrichment program for children in Lincoln’s Air Park neighborhood

***Lincoln Literacy (\$60,000)*** – A two-year grant to support general operations of this organization that teaches English language and literacy skills

***Lincoln YWCA (\$25,000)*** – A general-operating grant to assist this organization working to eliminate racism and empower women

***Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc. (\$45,000)*** – A two-year grant to create two Mental-Health Therapist positions to help children at the new Health 360 Integrated Care Clinic in Lincoln

***Mourning Hope (\$15,000)*** – To support outreach services for grieving children in Lincoln and Lancaster County

***Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest (\$90,000)*** – Three-year support for startup expenses for the Nebraska Civic Engagement Table, a nonpartisan organization working to build an electorate representative of all Nebraskans

***Nebraska Brass, Inc. (\$2,500)*** – To support Brass Goes to School, an educational outreach program for Lincoln schools

***Neighborhoods, Inc. (NeighborWorks Lincoln) (\$60,000)*** – A two-year grant to support community-building staffing and projects benefiting Lincoln’s neighborhoods

***Planned Parenthood of the Heartland, Inc. (\$20,000)*** – In support of advocacy staffing in Lincoln

***VolunteerLinc (Volunteer Partners) (\$20,000)*** – General-operating support of this organization promoting and supporting voluntarism at Lincoln’s nonprofit agencies

***Wellbeing Initiative (\$20,000)*** – In support of staffing at the Orchard, a peer-run drop-in center for adults with mental-health challenges