



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Murdock Fund at WCF awards \$60,000 to Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services to kick-start collaborative pilot program

Wichita, Kan. – The Victor Murdock Fund at the Wichita Community Foundation (WCF) is awarding \$60,000 to Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services to create a 12-month pilot program targeting high-risk individuals frequently visiting Wichita emergency rooms.

“This project is about system change,” said Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services Executive Director Barbara Andres. “It will primarily impact high-risk adults who suffer from mental illness, and it will increase access to a variety of health and social services that promote wellness and a healthy future.”

Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services will form a partnership with Hunter Health and Substance Abuse Center of Kansas (SACK) to carry out the project. All three organizations are based within two blocks of each other.

“The collaboration aspect was impressive to the Advisory Board,” said WCF President and CEO Shelly Prichard. “These organizations coming together will only strengthen outcomes and further their impact in the community.”

The Murdock Fund was established in 2000 to honor Wichita Eagle founder and long-time Wichitan, Victor Murdock. Through a competitive grant process, nonprofits propose a creative, practical solution to a community problem. WCF received 37 applications and selected four finalists who were asked to provide additional details to the Advisory Board for consideration.

Other finalists selected:

- Alzheimer’s Association of Central and Western Kansas | Volunteer-Powered Program Delivery Initiative
 - Expand existing volunteer infrastructure
- Arts Partners | Generation STEAM
 - Establish a pilot program to increase access of under-resourced students to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) education
- Mark Arts | Art on the Lawn
 - Utilize outdoor space to create a series of outdoor events focused on community engagement



Founded in 1986, the Wichita Community Foundation’s mission is to be the catalyst that creates lasting legacies by partnering with people, families, and organizations to devote resources to causes that matter. The Foundation is a public nonprofit organization with nearly 300 charitable funds and agency endowments, representing \$81.2 million. For more information, visit wichitacf.org or call 316-264-4880.