

FOR RELEASE
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**The Erie Community Foundation Announces over
 \$2.7 Million in Grants During Third Quarter**

Nonprofits	Project Title	ECF Grant	ECF Donor Funds	What's Being Funded
Achieva	Inclusivity for All: Enhancing Erie's Support and Advocacy --strengthen access to services and long-term success for people with disabilities in Erie County.	\$30,000		Expanding inclusive education, independent living, and workforce opportunities for people with disabilities. Providing advocacy, training, and family engagement. Offering workshops and resources for parents/professionals/schools and community partners.
Bayfront NATO, Inc.	MLK Center Facilities Renovations - Phase 3 Address critical building repairs at the community center serving Our West Bayfront.	\$30,000		With aging infrastructure causing roof leaks, electrical issues, and HVAC failures, the project will focus on essential renovations to preserve safe spaces for childcare, recreation, and community programs. Upgrades will ensure the center is a vital resource for disadvantaged individuals and families.
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie, Inc.	Emergency Shelter Assistance Emergency Shelter for Erie	\$25,000		Provides hotel stays for residents who can't access local shelter beds. Priority to families with children, women, and individuals with disabilities.

	County residents—filling gap from federal funds.			
DiVitorrio Center for Autism	Exploration Station Includes a Sensory Play Learn Program, LEGO Club scholarships and autism-friendly training for caregivers.	\$8,000	\$3,000 Hovis Fund	To expand access to sensory and social learning opportunities for children with autism in the Corry area. These initiatives will provide hands-on tools and support that improve daily living skills and reduce barriers for families.
Family Services NWPA	Decreasing Barriers to Increase Volunteers for Big Brother Big Sister of Family Services of NW PA	\$20,000		The project covers training costs, clearances, and insurance-related expenses and launches a targeted marketing campaign to boost awareness. New volunteers will help dozens of children on the wait list.
Harborcreek Youth Services	Safe Campus/ Safe Kids Installation of fencing along Iroquois Ave due to busy road and railway are near campus.	\$26,300		To addresses safety concerns for psychiatrically distressed youth while improving the the campus. Activities include fence installation, landscaping, and coordination with local officials to establish a designated School Zone.
JFK Center	Kids Cafe Infrastructure Improvements in after school program space for the community	\$30,000		To enhance safety and comfort for children and families. Painting, bathroom renovations, and an HVAC unit to cool the basement.
Mercy Center for Women	Digital Infrastructure Improvements to increase		\$24,163 Human Services Fund	To expand access to technology for women and children experiencing housing instability. Clients, staff, and

	technology through wifi improvements across three buildings			volunteers of the food pantry will benefit from reliable internet to pursue education, employment, telehealth, and other essential services.
St. Patrick's Haven	New Foundations: Building Dignity- Safe Shelter	\$17,429		To replace damaged flooring throughout the emergency shelter for men experiencing homelessness. Addresses safety, sanitation, and accessibility concerns.
TREC Foundation	For 2026 to engage and educate visitors and school groups	\$10,000		To produce a new orientation film to educate and engage the nearly 100,000 annual visitors to PI State Park/TREC. The film will highlight the park's fragile ecosystems, the significance of Lake Erie/Great Lakes, and conservation plans.
BirthRoot Community Doula (United Neighborhood Facilities Health Care Corporation)	The BirthSTOP- BirthRoot Community's Transportation Access Initiative to address critical barriers to prenatal care for Black Birthing families and underserved.		\$50,000 Human Services Fund	<i>BirthSTOP</i> , will provide rides to clients for prenatal visits, postpartum care, and community resources. By improving reliable access to care and programs, the project aims to advance birth equity, increase attendance at services, and improve maternal and infant outcomes.
Variety Children's Charity	Program for kids with disabilities. Bikes/strollers provide joy, independence & inclusion.		\$15,000 Hovis Fund	The project will directly transform the daily lives of children and their families, while advancing awareness and accessibility for this often invisible population.
YMCA of Greater Erie	Fire Alarm System Upgrade	\$25,000		To ensure the safety of members, staff, and visitors.

TOTALS		\$221,729	\$92,163	
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The Erie Community Foundation's mission is to inspire, engage and empower donors and communities across the region, today and tomorrow. We envision a united, vibrant, and thriving region for all.

To learn more visit www.ErieCommunityFoundation.org.