



# BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

---

Enhancing Life and Community  
in Upper Merion Township

## RECOMMENDATION OF AWARDS

Board of Supervisors Meeting  
May 9, 2024

# BCA - Overview

- Established in 2013 through a partnership between Upper Merion Township and Valley Forge Casino Resort
- Advise the Board of Supervisors on providing assistance with monies received from the Valley Forge Casino Resort
  - Non-profit and 501(c) organizations propose projects which directly impact UM community residents
  - BCA Scholarships- High School Juniors and Seniors residing in UM Township and planning to attend college or other post-secondary educ are encouraged to apply.
- To date, the BCA has awarded over \$1,700,000 in grants

# BCA MEMBERS

## APPOINTED MEMBERS

**Brett Montich**

**Lydia Dan-Sardiñas**

**David Karen**

**Greg Waks**

**Supervisor Liaison**

## VFCR REPRESENTATIVES

**Ronald Bailey**

**Donna Hogan**

**Gerri Vattimo**

**Staff Liaison**

# NUMBER OF BCA APPLICATIONS 2024

**RECEIVED TOTAL: 62**

**Organizations: . . 39**

**Sports: . . . . . 3**

**Scholarships: . . . 20**

**AWARDED TOTAL: 61**

**Organizations: . . 38**

**Sports: . . . . . 3**

**Scholarships: . . 20**

**Total Funds Awarded in 2024: \$207,116.79**

**2024  
BCA RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR  
SPORTS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

# SPORTS

**UMASD UNIFIED BOCCE**

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS SPORTS . . . . . \$1,000**

**Unified Bocce inclusive sports program for special needs athletes and their buddies**

# SPORTS

<b>KING OF PRUSSIA SOCCER CLUB . . . . .</b>	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Portable Backstop System</b>	

# SPORTS

**UM BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION . . . . . \$4,000**

**Field Out Building Garage Door Replacement; Playing Field  
Safety Screens**



# ORGANIZATIONS

**UPPER MERION GIRL SCOUT TROOP #7208 . . . . . \$600**

**MLK Community Day of Service Event Stations with Multiple  
Local Volunteer Service Opportunities**

**UPPER MERION SPRING (S.N.A.P.). . . . . \$1,000**

**Offering Exercise, Sports Skills, for Special Needs Children**

**UM DR. MLK NATIONAL HOLIDAY COMMITTEE . . . . . \$1,000**

**UM Township Dr. MLK Jr. National Holiday Celebration**

# ORGANIZATIONS

**UM PARKS & RECREATION: Consortium of the Arts    \$1,000**

**Stickybones Artist Mannequin Educator's Bundle for Digital Art**

**UM SHADE TREE & BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

**Equipment for Volunteer Tree Maintenance. . . . . \$1,063.79**

**UMASD VIKING FIELD DAY. . . . . \$1,200**

**Adaptive Event Day Program for Special Needs Students and  
their Buddies across Elementary, Middle & High School**

# ORGANIZATIONS

**FRIENDS OF BLACK HISTORY . . . . . \$1,200**

**Black History Celebration Activities throughout February**

**LOVE WORKS RESOURCE CENTER . . . . . \$1,500**

**Maggie's Mission 'Love Boxes' with age appropriate gifts delivered to local hospital patients (infants through teens, adults battling serious illnesses)**

**AUTISM SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILA. . . . . \$1,500**

**Arts, Games, and Chit Chat Program for Adults with Special Needs**

# ORGANIZATIONS

**UM PARKS & RECREATION: TEEN SPORTS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY..... \$1,600**

**Develop Leadership Skills in Teens Transitioning into Sports/Camp Counselor**

**UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP LIBRARY..... \$1,870**

**Usability and Organization Upgrades for the Children’s Dept**

**UM ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (PARTNERSHIP W/ SHADE TREE COMM, UM FARMERS MARKET) ... \$2,000**

**Healthy Yards Kit Initiative Education w/ Native Plant Giveaway**

# ORGANIZATIONS

**UM PARKS & RECREATION: Consortium of the Arts     \$2,000**  
Graphic Art Software

**UMT TOWNSHIP OUTDOOR POOL     \$2,000**  
Red Cross Lifeguard Training Equipment (Oculus 2 Virtual Reality Headset Training Tool)

**FOSTERING HOPE     \$2,500**  
Foster Families Initiatives: practical support items for foster families and youth (works w/Montco Office Children/Youth)

# ORGANIZATIONS

**LITERACY COUNCIL OF NORRISTOWN . . . . . \$2,500**  
Adult Literacy Ed. Programs including Read/Write/Math, Work Skills, GED, ESL, Digital Navigation

**UMASD HIGH SCHOOL POSITIVE BEHAVIORIAL INTERVENTIONS (PBIS) . . . . . \$2,500**  
Horns Up: Foster Positive School Environment/Academics

**UMASD GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT . . . . . \$2,500**  
Snacks for Students in UMASD Elementary Schools

# ORGANIZATIONS

**UMASD SOCIAL WORK . . . . . \$2,500**

**Thanksgiving Dinner for Food Insecure School District Students' Families**

**ECONOMIC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMM, UM HISTORICAL COMM, HOPE IS THE WAY, LOVE IS THE ANSWER LLC. . . . . \$2,900**

**Nor-View Farm Mural Featuring Images Reflecting Its Dairy Farm Past; Infographic of the Farm's History**

# ORGANIZATIONS

- LOVE WORKS RESOURCE CENTER, INC. . . . . \$3,000**  
Creative Arts/Music Therapy Program- Instruments for  
Underserved Individuals and Families
- NEIGHBORHOOD MEALS ON WHEELS, KOP . . . . . \$3,000**  
Meal Program (5 Days/52 Weeks/Year) - Operation
- UMASD MUSIC BOOSTERS CLUB. . . . . \$3,000**  
Uniform Replacement to Serve the UMAHS Music Dept



# ORGANIZATIONS

**VICTIM SERVICES CENTER OF MONTGOMERY CO . . \$3,000**

**VSC Hotline: 24/7 Crisis Intervention Counseling**

**WASHINGTON MEMORIAL HERITAGE . . . . . \$3,320**

**Valley Forge Defender's Gate Restoration – Architectural Assessment for making the historic building accessible to public**

**THE NEILSTRONG FOUNDATION . . . . . \$3,500**

**Upgrades (Carpeting and Tile) to the Neil C. Patel Community Arts Room**

# ORGANIZATIONS

- UPPER MERION EMERGENCY AID . . . . . \$3,500**  
Back-to-School providing Shoes, Socks for In-Need Children
  
- UPPER MERION SENIOR SERVICE CENTER . . . . . \$3,500**  
Professional Instructor-led Exercise Program for Senior Wellness;  
Replacement Furniture for Library/ Multipurpose Rooms
  
- LAUREL HOUSE . . . . . \$4,000**  
Safe Haven Center for Emergency Shelter and Supportive  
Services for Victims of Domestic Abuse

# ORGANIZATIONS

**WEST END CIVIC ASSOCIATION (WECA) . . . . . \$4,250**  
Phase VII – WECA Community Center Restroom Upgrades

**UMASD Gulph Elementary School . . . . . \$4,500**  
Gulph Elementary School Garden: foster hands-on STEM learning

**MITZVAH CIRCLE FOUNDATION . . . . . \$5,613**  
Critical Needs for Families and Diaper Bank Program, Period Supply Programs

# ORGANIZATIONS

**KING OF PRUSSIA FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION . . . . \$6,000**

**E-Draulic Equipment – to upgrade rescue equipment for motor vehicles and small spaces**

**SWEDESBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY . . . . . \$6,000**

**Sensit Gold G2 “4” Gas Meters with TC Sensors – carbon monoxide detectors for public and firefighter safety**

**UMT FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE DEPT. . . \$6,000**

**Firefighter Personal Escape Systems**

# ORGANIZATIONS

## UM COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX

**ADVISORY BOARD . . . . . \$6,000**

Community Center Child Programming to enable increased parent/family engagement and participation

**UPPER MERION AREA COMMUNITY CUPBOARD . . . \$15,000**

UM Area Community Cupboard

**UMASD SOCIAL WORK . . . . . \$15,000**

UMASD Social Work Emergency Fund - Rental & Utility

Support for Families of UMASD School Students in acute need

**2024  
BCA RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR  
SCHOLARSHIPS**

**\$1,500 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**ANDREA SAVINI (Sr.)**

**\$2,000 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**NICHOLAI SMILEY (Sr.)**

**ADELE EATON (Sr.)**



# **\$2,000 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**AIDAN CABAHUG-ALMONTE (Sr.)**

**SAMANTHA FORSTER (Sr.)**

**\$2,000 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**KATE WELLINGTON**

**JUSTIN BESZ**

# **\$2,500 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**ALAN NICHOLS (Sr.)**

**MICHAEL BUGLER (Jr.)**

**\$3,000 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**SAMUEL BELMONTE (Jr.)**

**AIDAN MCDONNELL (Sr.)**

# **\$3,000 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**RODNEY “JADEN” HAYNIE (Jr.)**

**JOY LU (Sr.)**

**\$3,500 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**KATHLEEN PAYNE (Jr.)**

**COLETTE EGAN (Sr.)**

**\$4,500 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**SAMUEL MONTICH (Jr.)**

**RONALD G. WAGENMANN  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$5,000**

**NIA ALFRIEND (Jr.)**

**Undecided**



**RONALD G. WAGENMANN  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$5,000**

**BRYSON CHERRY (Sr.)**

**Undecided**

**RONALD G. WAGENMANN  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$5,000**

**JENNA XUE (Jr.)**

**Undecided**

**GENERAL VON STEUBEN  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**\$10,000**

**ALYSSA GANSKY (Sr.)**

**Louisiana State University**

# AWARDS RECEPTION



**The Venue**

**Wednesday, June 5, 2024**

**5:30PM to 7:30PM**



# BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

---

Enhancing Life and Community  
in Upper Merion Township

## THANK YOU