



The Diocese of Knoxville

Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee

MEDIA ADVISORY
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St. Mary's Legacy Foundation grants \$720,000 for 2016 Total giving surpasses \$3 million

KNOXVILLE-- The St. Mary's Legacy Foundation, and Bishop Richard F. Stika of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Knoxville, today announced grant distributions for 2016 totaling \$720,000 for local charities and nonprofit organizations serving Catholics and non-Catholics across East Tennessee.

Since its creation in 2011, The St. Mary's Legacy Foundation has now provided more than \$3 million to benefit charitable, education and health programs in our region.

"The St. Mary's Legacy Foundation continues to reach into all areas of East Tennessee with meaningful and vital services, not just for Catholics, but for people of all faith backgrounds," said Bishop Stika.

"This effort, which recently surpassed \$3 million in total giving, was initiated through the sale of the former St. Mary's Hospital, is supplemented by the work of the Diocese of Knoxville, and remains a vital part of the legacy of the Sisters of Mercy, who founded St. Mary's Hospital in 1930."

Organizations receiving grants include:

- **\$32,500 to the Ladies of Charity in Knoxville** to continue their mission providing food and nourishment to the disadvantaged. The Ladies of Charity provide approximately 234,000 meals for 26,000 hungry people annually.
- **\$40,800 to the St. Vincent DePaul Societies in Soddy Daisy, Newport and Townsend** to continue their mission to provide food/rent/utility assistance to those in need.
- **\$100,000 to Catholic Charities of East Tennessee** for transitional housing for the homeless, Pregnancy Help and Adoption Services, and for providing economic and social self-sufficiency for low-income immigrants.
- **\$34,575 to St. Mary's Legacy Clinic** to help provide a nurse manager for its mobile medical mission extending the healing ministry of Jesus to rural areas of East Tennessee.
- **\$25,000 to St. Mary's Church in Johnson City** to provide access to cost-effective counseling services in the Tri-Cities area.
- **\$200,000 to the Diocese of Knoxville Schools** for student tuition support.

"Our diocese covers a wide area, but we are unified in our common mission to serve and help others," Bishop Stika added. "These, and the other grants, reflect our commitment to that mission."

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