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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GAMING COMMISSION AWARDS OVER $1.9 MILLION IN ALLOCATIONS**

HAGERSTOWN, MD (July 25, 2017) - The Washington County Gaming Commission announced its gaming fund distribution to the Washington County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, as well as 75 local charitable organizations.

The Gaming Fund total of $1,938,257 for fiscal year 2017, which ended June 30, represents a decrease of $46,660 when compared to fiscal year 2016 revenues.

State law requires funds be divided equally between the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association and local charities, and in January the Washington County Fire and Rescue Association received $404,402. As of today, an additional $564,726 will be distributed, bringing the yearly total for Fire and Rescue to $969,128.

In May, the Washington County Gaming Commission received 99 separate applications from 85 charitable organizations requesting a total of $1,842,895. After a one-day workshop in June, and public hearings in July, the Commission was able to either partially or fully fund 86 of the 99 requests. Of the 99 applications received, 15 received full funding, 71 received partial funding, and 13 were denied funding. A total of $969,128 was allocated to 75 of the 85 charitable organizations applying.

The Community Free Clinic received the largest award of $165,000, followed by Safe Place Child Advocacy Center, $60,000 and R.E.A.C.H, $58,000.

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**2017 Gaming Fund Awards**

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| **ORGANIZATION** | **AWARD** |
| **Alsatia Club Foundation Inc.** | **$5,000.00** |
| **Alzheimer's Association** | **$10,000.00** |
| **American Red Cross** | **$2,500.00** |
| **ARC of Washington County** | **$13,000.00** |
| **Authentic Community Theatre** | **$1,500.00** |
| **Baby Basics of Greater Hagerstown** | **$3,500.00** |
| **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washington Co.** | **$14,000.00** |
| **Boys and Girls Club of Washington Co.** | **$40,000.00** |
| **Brave Heart Program, Inc.** | **$2,000.00** |
| **Breast Cancer Awareness of Cumberland Valley** | **$1,650.00** |
| **Brook Lane Health Services, Inc.** | **$50,000.00** |
| **C&O Canal Trust** | **$2,000.00** |
| **CASA Inc.** | **$5,000.00** |
| **Children in Need** | **$40,000.00** |
| **Children's Village of Washington County, Inc.** | **$10,000.00** |
| **Clear Spring Little League** | **$2,670.00** |
| **Community Free Clinic Inc.** | **$165,000.00** |
| **Conococheague Little League, Inc.** | **$2,500.00** |
| **Corporation for Assistive Technology** | **$2,400.00** |
| **Court Appointed Special Advocates Wash Co.** | **$8,000.00** |
| **Discovery Station at Hagerstown** | **$15,700.00** |
| **Doleman Black Heritage Museum, Inc.** | **$3,000.00** |
| **Easter Seals Greater Washington-Baltimore Rgn.** | **$5,000.00** |
| **English & More, Inc.** | **$1,000.00** |
| **Federal Little League, Inc.** | **$1,175.00** |
| **Fort Ritchie Community Center** | **$2,500.00** |
| **Girl's Inc. of Washington County** | **$35,000.00** |
| **Habitat for Humanity of Washington County** | **$5,000.00** |
| **Hagerstown Choral Arts** | **$2,000.00** |
| **Hagerstown Civil Air Patrol** | **$1,500.00** |
| **Hagerstown Colt League** | **$2,500.00** |
| **Hagerstown Day Nursery** | **$7,233.73** |
| **Hagerstown Fairground Softball Association** | **$2,000.00** |
| **Hagerstown Neighborhood Development Ptsp, Inc.** | **$2,000.00** |
| **Hagerstown Pony League** | **$3,000.00** |
| **Hancock Little League** | **$3,000.00** |
| **Hub City Volleyball Club, Inc.** | **$1,500.00** |
| **Humane Society of Washington County** | **$10,000.00** |
| **Interfaith Service Coalition** | **$15,000.00** |
| **Joint Veterans Council of W.C., MD, Inc.** | **$2,500.00** |
| **Ladders to Leaders** | **$2,000.00** |
| **Little Wonders Animal Rescue** | **$10,000.00** |
| **Maryland Food Bank-Western Branch** | **$10,000.00** |
| **Maryland Symphony Orchestra** | **$4,000.00** |
| **Maugansville Little League** | **$3,000.00** |
| **MIHI, Inc.** | **$3,000.00** |
| **North High Band Boosters, Inc.** | **$1,000.00** |
| **R.E.A.C.H.** | **$58,000.00** |
| **Robert W. Johnson Community Center** | **$44,000.00** |
| **Safe Place Child Advocacy Center** | **$60,000.00** |
| **Salvation Army** | **$38,000.00** |
| **Senior Living Alternatives** | **$15,000.00** |
| **Smithsburg Junior Leopards** | **$2,000.00** |
| **Smithsburg Little Sluggers League, Inc.** | **$3,000.00** |
| **South Mountain Little League, Inc.** | **$3,000.00** |
| **St. John's Shelter Inc.** | **$5,000.00** |
| **Star Community Inc.** | **$28,000.00** |
| **The Maryland Theatre** | **$2,500.00** |
| **W House** | **$5,000.00** |
| **Walnut St. Community Health Center Inc.** | **$30,000.00** |
| **Washington Co. Commission on Aging** | **$23,500.00** |
| **Washington Co. Community Action Council** | **$30,000.00** |
| **Washington Co. Free Library** | **$18,500.00** |
| **Washington County Girls Softball League** | **$3,000.00** |
| **Washington Co. Historical Society** | **$2,700.00** |
| **Washington Co. Human Development Council, Inc.** | **$10,000.00** |
| **Washington County Juniors Girls Volleyball, Inc.** | **$1,500.00** |
| **Washington Co. Museum of Fine Arts** | **$3,000.00** |
| **Washington County Show Kids, Inc.** | **$1,000.00** |
| **Wells House, Inc.** | **$10,000.00** |
| **Williamsport Wildcats Athletic Boosters Club, Inc** | **$2,000.00** |
| **Williamsport Youth Wrestling Club** | **$6,100.00** |
| **Women of Valor Ministries Inc** | **$15,000.00** |
| **Women's Club Foundation** | **$10,000.00** |
| **YMCA** | **$5,000.00** |

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| **Applications Received** | |
| **Total Funding Requested** | **$1,842,895.35** |
| **Total Applications Received** | **99** |
| **Number of Organizations Submitting Applications** | **85** |
| **Total Number of Applications Receiving Funding** | **86** |
| **Total Number of Applications Receiving Full Funding** | **15** |
| **Total Number of Applications Denied Funding** | **13** |
| **Total Number of Organizations Receiving Funding** | **75** |
| **Total Number of Organizations Denied Funding** | **10** |

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| **Awards of Funding by Program Type** | **Amount Awarded** | **% (Rounded)** |
| **Public Safety (Fire & Rescue Assoc. Included)** | **$969,128.72** | **50%** |
| **Adult Services** | **$294,400** | **15.2%** |
| **Youth Services** | **$207,733.73** | **10.7%** |
| **Health Services** | **$276,650** | **14.3%** |
| **Recreation** | **$94,445** | **4.9%** |
| **Cultural / Arts** | **$34,400** | **1.8%** |
| **Education** | **$30,500** | **1.6%** |
| **Civic** | **$11,000** | **.57%** |
| **Animal Welfare** | **$20,000** | **1%** |

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| **Awards by Amount** | **Number of Organizations**  **Receiving** |
| **$0 - $9,999** | **47** |
| **$10,000 - $29,999** | **17** |
| **$30,000 - $59,999** | **9** |
| **$60,000 and up** | **2** |

Contact Public Affairs Manager James Jenkins at 240-313-2384 for more information.

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**About Washington County Gaming Commission**

The Washington County Gaming Commission is a volunteer seven member board appointed by the County Delegation and County Commissioners. Established by the State Legislature in 1995, the Commission is responsible to ensure the revenue produced by Tip Jars played in the County’s clubs, taverns, liquor stores, and restaurants is equitably distributed. Since its inception, the Commission has provided over $60 million to charities and fire and rescue companies in Washington County.

**About Washington County, Maryland Government**

Washington County, Maryland Government strives to fulfill its duty to the citizens of Washington County with regard to operational efficiency, fiscal responsibility, and responsiveness to the needs of the community. This vision is used to ably assist the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County in achieving goals for moving the County forward as present needs and future plans are addressed.

According to the Maryland Department of Legislative Services, the Washington County General Fund has one of the lowest costs per capita for services provided of all 23 counties and Baltimore City. This is attributed to the efficiency, staffing levels, and cost containment exhibited in Washington County Government operations. Visit www.washco-md.net for more information.

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