

\$6.8 million in grants announced

By **ANNYSJA JOHNSON**
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A program that has generated more than \$34 million in tax refunds for the working poor since 2003 will get a boost when the Greater Milwaukee Foundation announces \$6.8 million in grants for its third quarter today.

The grants include two that support the earned income tax credit "super sites" program, which offers free tax-preparation services to low-income workers, making sure they take advantage of that tax credit and others.

The Social Development Commission will receive a \$160,000 grant to support four "super sites" and the Ways to Work car loan program. La Casa de Esperanza will receive \$100,000 for two or three "super sites" and a Ways to Work program in Waukesha County.

Other major grants include:

■ \$150,000 over three years for the Urban Ecology Center, to launch its new satellite site at Washington

Aid includes tax services for low-income workers

Park. The new site operates out of the park's boathouse and provides science and environmental educational programming to area schools.

■ \$100,000 over two years for Wisconsin Community Services to fund its Making It Work program, which provides job training and placement services to inmates while in jail and helps them find and keep jobs after they return to the community.

■ \$50,000 over two years for Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers for efforts to protect more than 800 acres of green space along the Milwaukee River.

■ \$45,000 to the Agape Community Center to expand its Thurston Woods Neighborhood Investment Initiative into three other areas. The initiative promotes homeownership, addresses problem properties, engages community residents and encourages home improvement activities through loans and grants.

■ \$35,000 to the Jewish Youth

Foundation to add a full-time director for its Friendship Circle program so it can serve more teens and children with special needs. Through the program, teen volunteers spend time with special-needs children through weekly home visits and other activities.

■ \$35,000 for Pearls for Teen Girls to hire another adult program coordinator so it can expand to reach 500 at-risk girls in 2007.

■ \$30,000 for Prevent Blindness Wisconsin to launch e-Sight, an electronic vision screening program, in Milwaukee Public Schools for the 2007-'08 school year.

■ \$30,000 for Social Rehabilitation and Residential Resources to furnish 10 apartments for 20 clients in its Supported Apartment Program. The program teaches people with mental illness how to live independently.

■ \$25,000 for ARC Milwaukee so it can hire a full-time employee for its

Community Trust for Persons with Developmental Disabilities program, distribute marketing materials and develop an outreach plan.

■ \$25,000 to Creative SHARP Presentations to expand its Eight Building Blocks of SHARP Literacy Program at Milwaukee's West Side Academy. The program helps second- through fifth-grade teachers in the Milwaukee area to incorporate the visual arts into science and social studies curricula.

■ \$20,000 to Advocates of Ozaukee for second-year support of staffing for its hotline and counseling services for sexual assault victims.

■ \$20,000 for the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association to continue providing educational support and services to minority populations in Milwaukee County affected by Alzheimer's and dementia through its Multicultural Outreach Project.

■ \$20,000 for the Interfaith Con-

ference of Greater Milwaukee to support its Institute for Racial Justice, which addresses issues of racism and racial disparity in the area.

■ \$20,000 for the Milwaukee Children's Choir to strengthen and expand its Project Represent program aimed at children typically underserved by the arts.

■ \$20,000 for the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center to hire a part-time communications and development specialist.

■ \$20,000 for Walnut Way Conservation Corp. to expand its Gardens2Markets program, which encourages residents to produce locally grown foods.

■ \$20,000 for the Washington County Historical Society for second-year support of its director of marketing and development position.

■ \$15,000 for the Milwaukee Ballet Company to offer its ResiDANCE education program in three additional central city schools, extend its matinee series to four performances and serve 25,000 students.




From page 1

SHOPS

S. 27th St. shops don't like DOT's ramp plan

The tangle at 27th St.

Some business owners, school administrators and government officials are raising concerns about a proposal by the state Department of Transportation that would reduce access to S. 27th St. for northbound drivers on I-94.

-  Existing ramps that would close
-  Proposed off ramps
-  Proposed on ramps



State sues man for hazardous disposal

By **MARIE ROHDE**
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The Wisconsin Department of Justice has filed a civil lawsuit against a retired West Allis chemist, attempting to recover the more than \$16,000 it cost to dispose of hazardous substanc-