

## For 2016, the Endowment awarded ten grants and scholarships totaling \$21,300

**The Outreach and Unrestricted Funds awarded a total of \$18,000 to the following organizations:**

**Austin Children's Shelter** – The Austin Children's Shelter campus provides services for children, young adults and families affected by abuse, exploitation and neglect. ACS is a safe space to begin to heal and learn to thrive. ACS' Foster and Adopt Program provides foster care, adoption, and kinship care training, recruitment, and support services for Central Texas parents who are committed to opening their homes to children in need and support services for the children searching for a safe, forever home. [www.safeaustin.org](http://www.safeaustin.org)



**Caritas** – Caritas is a Latin word meaning love/charity. Caritas of Austin provides a service continuum for those experiencing poverty that begins with a safety net and links them to resources to achieve self-sufficiency. Caritas believes in a “housing-first approach” in our efforts to end homelessness. People must first secure a stable living situation before they can address other areas of crisis in their lives. Once clients establish stable [housing](#), they can focus on opportunities for [employment](#), [education](#), [food](#), physical and mental health services and building a network of support. Caritas facilitates this comprehensive approach; which is evidence-based and effective in helping people achieve self-sufficiency. [www.caritasofaustin.org](http://www.caritasofaustin.org)



**CASA of Travis County** – CASA of Travis County exists to promote the best interests of children who have been abused or neglected, by training volunteers to advocate for them in courts and in our community to help them find safe, permanent, loving homes. Their Direct Assistance Program provides funds necessary to go to camp, participate in sports or cheerleading, have a birthday party with gifts, or buy new school clothes or shoes. [www.casatravis.org](http://www.casatravis.org)



**Florence's Comfort House** – Florence's Comfort House focuses on supplying kids essential needs, including food, clothing, school supplies and a safe place to study and play. Once the basics are provided, they provide the growth and education opportunities to enrich their lives, build a sense of community, and guide them as they discover their passion and shape their future goals. [www.florencescomforthouse.org](http://www.florencescomforthouse.org)



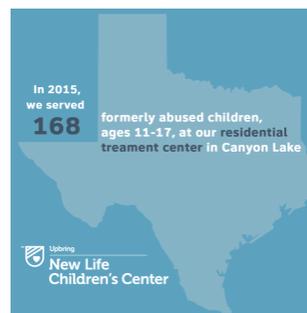
**Foster Angels of Central Texas** – Foster Angels of Central Texas mission is to improve the lives of children in foster care, ensuring that each child has his or her basic needs met, and to provide life-enriching and life-enhancing experiences. They provide immediate assistance in the form of basic needs (clothing, food, beds, education, transportation and medical expenses) and life-enhancing experiences (birthday parties, camp, sports, and the arts) so that children in foster care can be exposed to positive influences, activities and experiences that help shape their lives and their futures. [www.fosterangelsctx.org](http://www.fosterangelsctx.org)



**Meals on Wheels and More** – Meals on Wheels and More seeks to nourish and enrich the lives of the homebound and others in need through programs that promote dignity and independent living. Mike’s Place is a respite program for clients with Alzheimers Disease and other forms of dementia which serves low-income clients to have respite care. It provides caregivers a break from the exhausting and all-encompassing duties of looking after their care recipient. [www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org](http://www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org)



**Upbring, New Life Off-Campus Enrichment** – Upbring (the new Lutheran Social Services of the South) has a rich legacy of serving Texas’ vulnerable children, adults, and families. In April 2015 the agency unveiled a new identity and new mission as Upbring, underscoring the agency’s commitment to elevating expectations for what childhood should be for the almost 7 million children who live in Texas. The Off-Campus Enrichment Activity Program enables girls receiving treatment at New Life Treatment Center to engage in weekly off-site outings under the supervision of New Life staff. These activities provide opportunities for the girls to engage with the community and develop self-confidence and social skills as well as discover their individual interests which play a crucial role in their recovery process. [www.upbring.org](http://www.upbring.org)



**The Firnhaber Seminary Education and Unrestricted Funds awarded \$3,300 to the following seminary students:**

**Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago for benefit of Marissa Becklin**, a second-year student with a 4.0 GPA working on a Master of Divinity. Marissa plans to become an ordained minister.

<http://www.lstc.edu/>

**Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago for benefit of Shinhae Oh**, a first-year student who immigrated to the U.S. after escaping from North Korea. She became a Christian after her escape and has dedicated her life to Christ and the ministry.

<http://www.lstc.edu/>

**Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago for benefit of Morgan Gates**, a first-year student with education loans from her undergraduate education at Texas Lutheran. Morgan sees herself getting ordained and creating a ministry along the lines of New York City's Heidi Neumark. <http://www.lstc.edu/>