



## News from Michael Schuller's Rumphius Foundation

### 2018 Grants Bring Smiles to Young Faces & New Life to Youth Detention Center

The **Rumphius Foundation**, a non-profit organization held at a national public charity, seeks to brighten the lives of a diverse range of people through projects that enrich groups and organizations across America, and simultaneously educate young people about sustainability and healthy living.

We are proud to announce that in 2018 grants have been awarded to **Lawrence County Community Action Partnership** (Pennsylvania) and **Nevada Health Centers**.

The Rumphius Foundation grant given to **Lawrence County Community Action Partnership** (LCCAP), a Pennsylvania-based organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in the region by eliminating and preventing the causes and effects of poverty, will support the transformation of an abandoned youth detention center. LCCAP is renovating the property that has been closed since 2013 to create a recreational and educational destination for the community, the first of its kind for the region. The new campus will include an education center for STE(A)M and training center for children with disabilities, an emergency disaster house, sports facilities, a greenhouse and an organic farm to create crops that will be sold and utilized within the programs on campus.

"One of our initial goals is to change the appearance of the property. Removing the barbed wire and chain link fencing," said LCCAP Director of Community Development Cynthia Gormley. "To transform the property from a detention center to a welcoming community center, it is critical to create an open and beautiful entrance and surroundings. The Rumphius Foundation is making our beautification project possible. We are working with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on a plan that will create a beautiful landscape for people and wildlife. With the Rumphius grant we will plant trees along the entranceway, create gardens and eventually have a trail circling around the campus, welcoming the community in."

The second 2018 Rumphius Foundation grant will help fund **Nevada Health Centers'**

(NVHC) dental care program for children who are homeless or live in low income, uninsured households. NVHC's mission is to provide access to quality healthcare services throughout the state. In some cases, NVHC's rural and frontier health centers are the only places for people to get healthcare without having to travel hundreds of miles. The

Rumphius grant will help provide preventive and restorative oral care as well as oral health education to children via their mobile dental program.

"With this generous grant, we will be able to provide children access to dental care and education through our Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, said Beverly Coleman, Nevada Health Foundation Executive Director. The Rumphius Foundation's support will be used to provide Random Acts of Kindness grants to children like the 9-year-old boy recently seen by our mobile dental van in rural Nevada. When his mother brought him in, it was obvious that he needed to see a dentist immediately as one of his front teeth was broken. She was upset and crying, concerned about cost as they had very little money. Because grant funding was available, NVHC was able to provide the needed care to the child. The dentist determined that he would be able to save the tooth and make it look like nothing had ever happened. Once the procedure was completed, our young patient was so amazed how good his teeth looked he could not stop smiling and touching his teeth!"

**Thank you!! None of these grants would be possible if it weren't for you.**

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