



Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative

Dr. Carla Cumblad, Executive Director

1304 Ronzheimer Avenue

St. Charles, IL 60174

Phone: 331-228-4873

Fax: 331-228-4874

MEMORANDUM

February 6, 2013

TO: Members of the Mid-Valley Executive Advisory Board

FROM: Carla Cumblad, Executive Director

RE: Approval of St. Charles Noon Rotary Grant for Adapted Bicycle

Excerpted/Modified from Rotary Press Release:

At their January 17th meeting, The Foundation Board of the St. Charles Noon Rotary Club unanimously approved a \$3,472.00 Award to the Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative for the purchase of adaptive bike for multi-needs high school students who attend Mid-Valley. These high school students have moderate to profound cognitive delays, neurodevelopment delays and/or significant physical disabilities who may benefit from a focus on occupational, vocational and speech therapies and some basic life skills. Currently there are 6 students in the class: four boys and 2 girls with two are ambulatory with supervision and some balance assistance and the other four are dependent for mobility in manual wheelchairs.

When classroom Teaching Assistant, Peg Frank, started to work with her current students, she believed that using an adapted bike could be a part of her students' therapy and learning experience. "These students had never been exposed previously to using a bike and after consulting with the elementary school physical therapist and the high school therapist, it was determined that all of our students would benefit from the use of a modified bike. The next step was to borrow an adapted bike to let the students try it out for a few days. The students really worked hard and loved the motion up and down the school's hallways." Peg's husband, Rotarian Craig Frank, showed his Noon Rotary Club several short videos of some his wife's students using the borrowed modified bike for the first time...the smiles and enjoyment from the students convinced the members that this was a request that we needed to support!

Mid-Valley Special Ed worked closely with Hal Honeyman of Creative Mobility at The Bike Rack in St. Charles who provided the bike. Mr. Honeyman has worked with Mid-Valley before and supports their efforts. This three-wheel modified bike has an added dimension of comfort and support for the mature rider. The handlebars, seats and crank mechanisms are adjustable and

the walk-through design and step on platform make getting on as easy as sitting down in a comfortable chair. For stopping safety, the bike has two rear brakes with controls that can be mounted on the handlebars. If the rider is unable to operate the hand lever, one can be positioned on the Rear-Steer Discreet Assistance handle for a companion to operate. The bike also comes with head and body pads to assist in maintaining stability of the rider's torso and head during the fun riding experience.

Thanks so much to Dr. Don Schlomann, Peg Frank and the St. Charles Noon Rotary Club for this terrific and generous donation!

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Advisory Board Approve the Donation of \$3,472 from the St. Charles Noon Rotary Club for the purchase of an adapted bicycle from Creative Mobility of the Bike Rack in St. Charles.