

Dollars to change

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Four times a year, the Superior Board of Trustees dips into the contingency grant fund to help organizations get a start-up boost, or to fund projects that benefit the community. Earlier this month, trustees awarded two organizations funds, although four organizations applied. Each quarter, town leaders accept applications from community organization for funding and award money based on several criteria, such as direct benefit to the community and how long those benefits might last. Town officials rank each application, awarding points up to 15, based on those criteria. Applicants scoring seven points or higher are considered for the funds. This quarter, The Blue Heron Service unit of the local Girl Scout troops received \$250 to enable sponsorship of four events without having to charge admission. The unit is made up of 165 scouts, comprising 16 troops in Superior and Louisville schools. The goal of the events is to promote scouting and enabling opportunities for community service, according to the organization's application. The second award, which was not specified in materials provided by town staff, went to the Courage is Change organization, the brain-child of former Chamber of Commerce director Liz Oster and Brandy Mello, wife of trustee Eric Rosenfeld. The foundation's goal is to end the cycle of domestic violence by creating awareness. In May, Oster and Mello said they hoped to work their program into schools nationwide teaching about "taboo" relationship issues, Oster said at the time. The request asked for funding to help start-up the operation, and to fund two special projects. One project includes researching and creating a school curriculum that teaches non-violent solutions to problems, healthy relationship and coping skills. The second project, which is already started, is called the "Red Tent" and seeks to open the lines of communication between women. Oster and Mello aim to establish local Red Tent chapters where women can gather and discuss issues.