



Billings Community Foundation

January 2018 Newsletter

Ralph Spence Board President, 2018

First, I want to thank Teresa Darnielle-Morse for her leadership over the past two years. After leading the Billings Community Foundation in its first five years, she took the helm again to lead BCF into the next phase of service to the Billings Community.



During her time as President, Grant Awards to local nonprofits grew from \$19,600 in 2015 to \$42,607 in 2017, providing support for 27 area nonprofits programming and services. BCF also hosted the Yellowstone Valley Gives online "Giving Day" community awareness event that helped participating nonprofits raise over \$85,000 in unrestricted funds last year. Over the past two years, with Teresa serving as one of our Planned Giving Officers, BCF has received Planned Gift Annuities totaling \$574,000 for the benefit of our nonprofit partners. Finally, with the help of a generous grant from the Murdock Foundation, BCF has hired our first Executive Director, Lauren Wright. Thank you, Teresa, for your leadership and your great work in the community!

We are very thankful for the generous support from the MJ Murdock Charitable Trust and we've already raised half of the \$44,000 in matching funds required to sustain this grant in year two. ***Please consider supporting the Billings Community Foundation as a Community Sponsor or by contributing directly to the Murdock Matching Funds.*** Our ability to continue expanding services and increasing positive community impact in Billings and the surrounding region depends completely on the requirement to raise \$22,000 in matching funds this year!

In 2018, the Billings Community Foundation is focused on developing partnerships to further respond to local and regional needs.

- We are currently partnering with the Big Sky Institute for Nonprofit Excellence to introduce a "Capacity Building" grants program that will match local nonprofits with consultants to assess areas for organizational growth and advancement.

- We have also recently joined with Rocky Mountain College and the Chamber NextGEN Inspire Group in developing a mentoring program for 1st and 2nd year college students. This “Billings Leadership Network” hopes to assist students with career choices and networking to improve college retention and enhance our local workforce.

BCF has come a long way in ten years through the efforts of a dedicated volunteer board and part time staff. With the addition of the YVGiving Day fundraising event for nonprofits and the increase in grants awarded at our Annual Grant Award Dinner, BCF is working to increase our assistance to regional nonprofits. Not only do we provide Endowment funds, Donor Advised Funds and tools for utilizing the Montana Tax Credit, BCF promotes charitable giving to the next generation and encourages collaboration with regional nonprofits. A new grant category introduced this year will provide a \$2,500 grant where two or more nonprofits collaborate on the same project. With over 600 nonprofits in Yellowstone County, BCF wants to encourage nonprofits to work together to combine resources where possible.

Please let us know how we can help you or a nonprofit you support in 2018. We want to be your local partner in capturing our regions wealth for the future of Billing and South Eastern Montana.



GRANT APPLICATION

ONLY 3 DAYS

to DEADLINE

It's the FINAL COUNT DOWN!!!

Only 3 more days to submit to the

Billings Community Foundation 2018 Grant Cycle!

Get your applications in TODAY!

<https://billingscommunityfoundation.submittable.com/submit>

YELLOWSTONE
VALLEY GIVES

by

BILLINGS
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Yellowstone Valley Gives 2018

#YVGives2018 by the Billings Community Foundation will start at 12PM on Thursday, May 3rd and end at 6PM on Friday, May 4th, 2018.

The Billings Community Foundation Yellowstone Valley Giving Day initiative is a powerful 24+ hour online and on-site Live Celebration of Giving focused on connecting Community Members with area Nonprofits - Reinforcing the value of Philanthropic Giving, Community Engagement, and Collaborative Impact for the benefit of the Greater Yellowstone Valley Region of Montana!

Annually, the Billings Community Foundation engages in the GIVE LOCAL initiative taking place simultaneously in communities across the country by hosting this 'giving day' in our community.

Over the last three years, Yellowstone Valley Gives has had a phenomenal impact for local Nonprofits, as well as the business community!

Last year, our community came together to raise over \$85,000 for area Nonprofits and provided the necessary funding to help our Nonprofit partners meet their missions and support critical programming in the Greater Yellowstone Valley! **Our goal in 2018 is to DOUBLE that amount by raising \$160,000 for more than 125 participating nonprofits!**

The potential of Yellowstone Valley Gives 2018 is tremendous and the Billings Community Foundation is thrilled to be leading this project in our community - with our collaborative efforts and your continued support, we will work together to raise more money and awareness for Nonprofits in the Greater Yellowstone Valley! We have BIG GOALS for 2018 and together we will make EVEN BIGGER IMPACTS!

Let your brand inspire generosity and excitement On

May 3 & 4, 2018 with a partnership level that's right for you!

<https://www.yellowstonegives.org/info/sponsorship-opportunities>

{Special}

THANKS

to the Billings Community Foundation's

**2017 OPERATIONS
DONORS**

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Lauren & John Wright

* Contributed through Yellowstone Valley Gives 2017

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You are receiving this email because you have expressed interest in the Billings Community Foundation, a Program or Initiative we support, or a BCF Director thought you'd be interested in hearing from us!

Let us know what you think?

Our mailing address is:

Billings Community Foundation
100 N 27th Street, Suite 305
Billings, MT 59101

