

Billings Community Foundation 2014 Fall Newsletter



Message from Our President



Greetings,

As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, I am reminded of the many blessings that come with living in

Montana, the biggest of these being the people. People working with nonprofit organizations are helping keep our community healthy and prosperous. Along with the celebration of harvest comes the act of sharing or giving and with that in mind, I would like to remind you that Billings Community Foundation has various tools that are beneficial to donors: donor advised funds; planned giving through charitable gift annuities qualifying for the Montana Endowment Tax Credit; endowment funds for local grant awards; endowment funds for matching grants to help organizations build endowments; and

Fall Open House

On Thursday, October 30, Billings Community Foundation hosted a Fall Open House at Prescott Hall on the campus of Rocky Mountain College.



BCF board members Obert Udem and Kathryn Maehl (far right) with Marsha Runge, Denise Armstrong, and Jo Lamey of Big Sky Senior Services

This was a lovely opportunity to celebrate the many accomplishments of our clients, donors, and sponsors. Thank you to all who attended!

endowment fund management for other 501(c)3 organizations.



Kathy Cross and Leslie Modrow of the Billings Public Library Foundation visit with BCF President Colleen Weast at BCF's Fall Open House celebration.

I enjoyed meeting and visiting with our friends, donors, and clients at BCF's first Fall Social-we had much to celebrate! BCF is happy to welcome several new endowment funds thus far in 2014. We have facilitated a land transfer for a future public park, a land purchase for a nonprofit school, and the fiscal sponsorship for the beautiful bison sculpture at Billings Logan International Airport. We also recently enjoyed a successful grant writing seminar with the US Census Bureau and Billings Clinic.

November and December will fly by so please don't hesitate to give us a call if we can help your organization or donor with year-end gifting.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

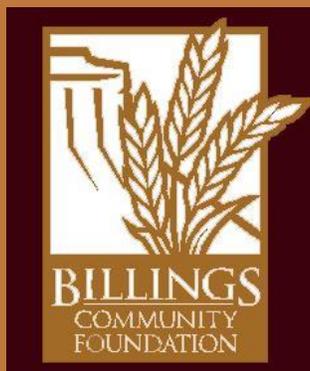
Colleen Weast



Stephanie Kirkpatrick and Mistie Mims of the YMCA



Cheryl Bentley and BCF board member Doug Osborne



Let your good work begin with us

BCF Community Sponsorships Promote Your Business

Billings Community Foundation is seeking community-minded individuals and organizations to support our efforts to provide grants to nonprofits in our region. We are specifically seeking support at the \$1,000 level through advertising funds, an outright gift, or donation of in-kind services

A Message from CASA:

At CASA of Yellowstone County, our mission is simple: provide a trained courtroom advocate to speak for abused and neglected children who have come into the foster care system through no fault of their own. CASA Advocates are a special group. Highly vetted and specially trained, the CASA Advocate works to become the expert on the child, the child's wants and needs, the child's health and progress in school, and ultimately the final outcome--a permanent and safe home for the child.



*Judge Ingrid Gustafson
and new CASA Advocate
Scott Peterson.*

It is not unusual for CASA Advocates to work on a case for two years before a child achieves permanency. Every month, our almost 100 CASA Advocates donate 5-15 hours a

piece meeting with the child, checking in with everyone on the child's case, advocating for the child's current needs, and helping facilitate progress for the child.

Last year, these efforts resulted in over 7,000 hours of donated time by CASA Advocates serving a record 283 children. Although our Advocates did the work, they were not alone. Supporting their efforts were friends like the Billings Community Foundation; these supporters are paramount to the continued growth of CASA, so we can one day serve the 264 children who DIDN'T have a CASA Advocate last year.

of that value. Your sponsorship turns into additional granting dollars for BCF!

Community Sponsors receive:

- Recognition as a Community Sponsor in all BCF Newsletters for one year
- Recognition as a Community Sponsor on the BCF website for one year
- Complimentary tickets to the BCF Annual Awards Dinner
- Recognition as a Community Sponsor at the BCF Annual Awards Dinner

This is a great opportunity for you or your business to be connected with BCF, a nonprofit, tax-exempt, innovative community fund. Your sponsorship would give BCF an increased ability to fund grants to more nonprofits, doing important work in our community. For more information, please call Suzanne at 839-3334.

**Send flowers anywhere.
Make an impact
right here in Billings.**

Take advantage of our

HELPING HANDS

program and we'll donate \$2 from each order to Billings Community Foundation.

Gainan's
FLOWERS. GARDEN. HOME.

245-6434
gainans.com

Board of Trustees

Colleen Weast
President

Kathryn Maehl
Vice President

Carolyn Yampradit
Treasurer

For years, BCF has supported the work of CASA. Continually recognizing the increasing need for child abuse advocacy in our community, BCF has helped us recruit and train numerous CASA Advocates in Yellowstone County. Again this year, BCF made a financial commitment to provide two new male Advocates to speak for children who still wait for a CASA to be their voice in court. BCF's commitment to our mission has been outstanding. We are so lucky to be able to say THANKS for helping us provide a voice for abused and neglected children in Yellowstone County.



Judge Ingrid Gustafson and new CASA Advocate Dave Nelson.



A New Endowment is Born

Billings Community

Foundation is honored to announce a SECOND endowment for Big Sky Senior Services! BCF is pleased to partner with such an important nonprofit organization serving senior citizens in Yellowstone and Stillwater County. In fact, Big Sky Senior Services is also a BCF grant recipient. With their 2014 grant, Big Sky Senior Services was able to purchase new uniform tops for Senior Helping Hands Caregivers.

REMINDER: End-of-Year Giving

At Billings Community Foundation, our mission is to help individuals and charitable organizations in the greater Billings region meet the needs of their communities. We do this in a number of ways:

Karin Lucas
Secretary

Ralph Spence
Immediate Past President

Obert Udem
Vice President, Planned Giving

Teresa Darnielle
Assistant Vice President, Planned Giving

Don Allen
Doris Barta
Sara Becker
Joy L. Culver
Jack Nickels
Doug Osborne
Don Roberts

Advisory Board

Bill Milton
Sarie Mackay
Lynda Moss
Lisa Reid Perry
Melanie Schwarz

Development Associate

Suzanne McKiernan
billingscommunityfoundation@gmail.com

Are you interested in more information?
Do you want to get involved with BCF?
Please contact us!

Billings Community
Foundation
P O Box 1255
Billings, MT 59103
406-839-3334

www.billingscommunityfoundation.org

Like us on Facebook 

How to Get Tax Credit and Help Our Community

The old adage tells us we can't have our cake and eat it too. The Montana

- **For individuals** - BCF facilitates tax advantaged giving and serves as your private foundation, managing the distribution of gifts in the manner you choose.
- **For charitable organizations** - BCF serves as a trustee and investment committee, overseeing assets for your organization.
- **For estates** - BCF accepts endowment bequests and facilitates the long-term distribution of gifts to charitable organizations.

Whether you are an individual, nonprofit organization, or corporation, there is a fund at BCF that will fit your needs as a donor. Donations of any amount--small or large, restricted or through a planned gift--can be made; all will have a positive impact on our community.

This is also a perfect opportunity to donate directly to BCF. The income from gifts to BCF's Endowment Fund helps ensure the important work of BCF remains viable throughout the six regions we serve in perpetuity by supporting BCF's grants program and planned giving services, as well as building the organization's endowment.

Let BCF help you with your charitable donations and planned giving. As the end of the year approaches, give us a call at 839-3334 to set up an appointment with one of BCF's planned giving officers.

Endowment Tax Credit, however, may just prove the saying wrong. Established in 1997 to encourage individuals, businesses, and organizations to make lasting investments in their communities, the Montana Endowment Tax Credit creates an incredible incentive for residents to give to endowments. We're lucky to live in one of very few states that offers such a credit.

The credit allows donors to pay less Montana state income tax when they make a qualifying planned gift to a qualified Montana charitable endowment. What exactly is a planned gift? Planned gifts are a way of giving that allows donors to maintain access to income during their lifetime, provide estate and tax planning tools, and build permanent wealth for Montana's charities, nonprofit organizations, and local community foundations. Gift annuities, charitable trusts, and estate gifts all fall into this category.

So just how much can you save? The incentive is 40 percent of the gift's federal charitable deduction, up to a \$10,000 tax credit, per year, per individual, and a credit of 20 percent of a direct gift by a qualified business, up to \$10,000 per year.

The bottom line is not only can you create tremendous tax savings for yourself or your business, you can also create a permanent way to benefit the community and the causes you and your family care so much about. If you would like to save money on your taxes and help your local community, contact Billings Community Foundation at 406-839-3334 to learn more.

2014 Community Sponsors



Obert Udem Community Vitality Endowment Fund

This spring, BCF established a special endowment to honor long-time community volunteer Obert Udem. The endowment celebrates Obert's 40 years of advocacy of community foundation development, specifically with BCF, the Montana Community Foundation, and the Arkansas Community Foundation.

This endowment is unique, as it is structured to honor and enhance Obert's work by offering a matching grant program

MOULTONBELLINGHAM^{PC}



PPL MONTANA

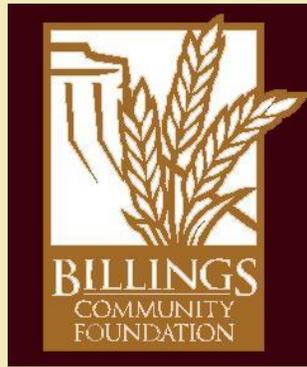


ROCKY MOUNTAIN
COLLEGE



About BCF

Billings
Community
Foundation is a
nonprofit, tax-



exempt community foundation governed
by local citizens promoting philanthropy
and charitable giving. Our mission is to
enhance the capacity of donors and
charitable organizations to meet the needs
of the greater Billings community.

to benefit organizations that have an established permanent endowment, or wish to set one up with BCF. Each year, during BCF's annual granting cycle, organizations will be encouraged to apply for a matching grant. If they are chosen as a recipient, they will have until the end of the year to raise matching funds to earn the grant on a 1:1 basis.

Donors to the Obert Udem Community Vitality Endowment Fund include:

- Rockwood Brown
- Lawrence Campodonico
- Birdeena F. Dapples
- First Interstate BancSystem Foundation
- Roger W. Gordon Rev Trust
- Kenneth G. Hoole & Tim M. Sagen
- Nellie Israel
- Kathryn A. Krohn-Gill
- Teresa Darnielle Morse
- Donald Munro
- Susan A. Oneill
- D.B. Orser/Ossie Abrams
- Amberly Pahut
- Robert & Corinne E. Patoff
- Patricia Rettig
- George H. & Patricia W. Selover
- Larry D. Shafer
- Spence Family Foundation
- Edwin Stickney
- Colleen Weast
- John & Kathryn M. West
- Carolyn & Tom Yampradit
- Jack Nickels

If you are interested in contributing to the Obert Udem Community Vitality Endowment Fund, you may send your tax-deductible gift to Billings Community Foundation at PO Box 1255, Billings, MT 59103. Please designate that your donation is for the Obert Udem Community Vitality Endowment Fund. Or, please contact BCF at 406-839-3334.