

Billings Community Foundation 2015 Spring Newsletter



Message from Our President



Greetings,

Spring has sprung in the greater Billings area, and we are blessed with green trees, green fields, and new growth. It is a beautiful time of year that brings a sense of wonder and renewed hope. This is also a very eventful time of the

year for the Billings Community Foundation as

Annual Awards Dinner

This is the most exciting time of the year for area nonprofits and Billings Community Foundation. It's time for our Annual Awards Dinner, honoring the nonprofits that are receiving grants from BCF!

The event will be held on Wednesday, June 3, 2015, at Prescott Hall on the campus of Rocky Mountain College. The dinner is from 5:30 pm to 8 pm. Tickets to the dinner at \$30 and are available by calling BCF at 839-3334.

we look forward to our annual awards dinner on June 3rd, at 5:30 pm at the beautiful Prescott Hall at Rocky Mountain College. We encourage all of you to come to this delightful event. Give Suzanne a call at 406-839-3334 to reserve your ticket today. We also still have event sponsorship opportunities at \$250 and \$500. Sponsoring this event is a great way for you to support the contribution to our community that our nonprofit organizations provide.

This year, we are once again giving grants to a number of nonprofit organizations in our Region that promote a wide variety of charitable purposes. We received 39 grant applications from very worthy causes. We will give 16 grants for a total of \$19,600 this year. Over the past several years, we have disbursed more than \$150,000 to worthy causes through the grants distribution program of our Foundation. The grants distribution program is just one of the many ways we live our mission, which is to enhance the capacity of donors and charitable organizations to meet the needs of the greater Billings community.

We hope you will find the time to join us as we recognize and support the great work being done by nonprofits in the Region served by BCF. If you are planning your estate, and you want to give to a number of charitable interests through a planned gift, you may want to consider giving to BCF. It is a great way to create a lasting legacy for worthy causes you support.

We look forward to a wonderful evening, and to seeing you there!

Doris Barta

Grant Writing Seminars: A 3-Part Series

Mark your calendars! In the coming months, Billings Community Foundation will be presenting a three-part grant writing seminar.

This year, BCF is honored to support 16 area nonprofits with grants totaling \$19,600. The grant recipients serve areas from Huntley to Roberts, supporting senior citizens, children, veterans, families, and dog and cats. Each program strives to serve their client's needs with a limited budget, yet in a manner that is caring and thoughtful.

A total of 12 grant recipients will receive their funding from the Matthews-Dousman Memorial Endowment Fund held by Montana Community Foundation on behalf of Billings Community Foundation. Those recipients are: [Big Horn County Library](#), [Big Sky Senior Services](#), Community Hope, Inc., [Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley](#), [Housing Authority of Billings](#), [Huntley Project Museum](#), [Joliet Community Center](#), [Living Water Bike Clinic](#), Roberts Parents of Performing Arts, [Wise Wonders](#), [Yellowstone CASA](#), and [Young Families Early Head Start, Inc.](#)



Grant recipients receiving funding from the Steve Wahrlich's Clocktower Animal Fund of the Billings Community Foundation are [Rimrock Humane Society](#) and [Yellowstone Valley Animal Shelter](#). Grantees receiving capital funding from the Tom and Amo Wilkins Endowment Fund of Billings Community Foundation are [Montana Audubon Center](#) and [Volunteers of America Northern Rockies](#).

This dinner promises to be an exciting opportunity to recognize the important work being done by nonprofits in the communities we support. Join us for an evening of celebration! Reservations are required; please call Suzanne at 839-3334 to purchase your ticket today!

The series will kick off before BCF's Annual Awards Dinner on June 3, 2015 from 4 - 5 pm at the Morledge-Kimball Building (near Prescott Hall) on the campus of Rocky Mountain College. The first seminar, titled "Quick Tips for Grant Writing," will be presented by Doris Barta, Director of TeleHealth for St. Vincent Healthcare (and BCF President!), and Nova Pauls, Grants Coordinator for St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation. Admission is free of charge; reservations are required and can be made by calling Suzanne at 839-3334.



The series will continue in July with the second seminar focusing on the "dos and don'ts" of successful grant writing. The third and final seminar, to be held in August, will feature a panel of local grantors discussing what they look for as they consider funding grants. This panel will be interactive and will include time for questions and answers from the audience.

The dates, times, and locations of the second and third seminars will be announced in June. Now is a great time to sharpen those grant writing skills. For further information and to make reservations, please call Suzanne at 839-3334.

Billings Community Foundation is pleased to be able to offer this important series for nonprofits in our region.

Be Part of Our Annual Awards Dinner

BCF considers it a privilege to be able to award 16 grants to well-deserving nonprofits. The work being done by the dedicated staff and volunteers of these organizations is amazing. Our awards dinner is a remarkable opportunity to hear each grant recipient share their story.

BCF would like to extend the opportunity for you to celebrate the terrific work of our grant recipients. By being an Event Sponsor, you will demonstrate your support of the many good works being done in our communities.

There are two sponsorship levels available for this event:

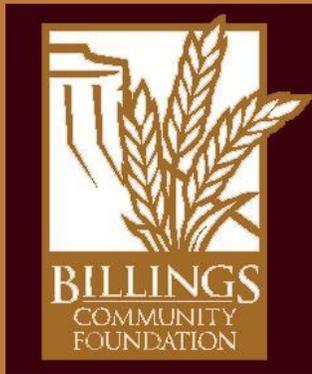
- Gold - \$500 (includes 4 complimentary tickets to the event)
- Silver - \$250 (includes 2 complimentary tickets to the event)

Sponsors will also be included in the event program and will be recognized from the podium.

Through grants from the Billings Community Foundation, nonprofit organizations are making a difference in the lives of many in our community. Please consider sponsoring this celebration. For more information, please call Suzanne at 839-3334.

Welcome New Endowment and Planned Giving Partners

We're proud to welcome [Yellowstone Valley Audubon Society](#), [Central Montana Foundation, Inc.](#), and [Billings Christian School Education Foundation](#) to the BCF family. These organizations have recently entrusted us to either manage an



Let your good work begin with us

Building the Future of BCF

As we visit with prospective client partners at Billings Community Foundation, we often stress the importance of planning for the future. For an organization to thrive and grow, the notion of long-term financial security is critical.

And so it is with Billings Community Foundation.

As we continue to serve our community's philanthropic needs, the BCF Endowment must continue to grow. We are very proud of the services we



provide to client partners, the funds we grant to such worthy organizations, and the expertise and assistance we lend to a number of organizations throughout our service area. However, we want to do even more!

With your help, we can do more. A donation to the BCF Endowment makes our outreach and future growth possible. Please consider helping us grow our endowment so that we may continue to be a philanthropic center for our region. For more information about a gift to the BCF

endowment, help them accept planned gifts from their valued donors (which created new endowments), or a combination of both. BCF is honored to partner with over 45 organizations and individuals in our area to build strong financial foundations through endowments.

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Endowment, please call our office at 839-3334 or email us.

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right here in Billings.

Take advantage of our
HELPING HANDS
program and we'll donate \$2 from
each order to Billings Community
Foundation.

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2015 Community Sponsors



CPAs & BUSINESS ADVISORS

Suzanne McKiernan

billingscommunityfoundation@gmail.com

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

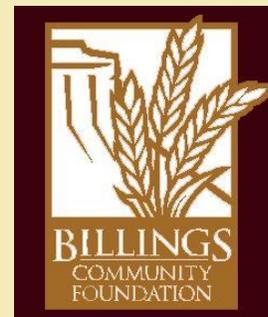
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www.billingscommunityfoundation.org

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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. Visit our [website](#) to learn more.



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



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
COLLEGE



gift, or donation of in-kind services 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.

Spread the News!

Billings Community Foundation would love to see all of you...and your friends...at our Awards Dinner on June 3rd. Please FORWARD this newsletter to others you think would be interested in our grants, Awards Dinner, and other philanthropic projects. Thank you!