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For information, contact:
Jennifer Sampson
208-343-4923

Idaho Women’s Charitable Foundation Awards More than $215k to Southwest Idaho Communities

(BOISE) – Idaho Women’s Charitable Foundation (IWCF) is thrilled to announce that they will award grants totaling $215,816 to local nonprofits this spring. The grantees provide services in Ada, Adams, Elmore, Canyon, Gem and Valley counties. In addition to the seven winners, each of IWCF’s ballot runner-ups will receive a $1,000 contribution to their organization.

Through the power of collective giving, IWCF has distributed $2,496,472 in pooled-fund grants to nonprofits in southwestern Idaho and $2,338,125 to our members’ individually designated nonprofits since 2001. This is a total of $4,834,597.

The grants are awarded under IWCF’s specific interest areas: Cultural Arts, Education, Environment, Financial Stability, Health, and Rural Communities.

- McCall Music Society: $26,000 to expand and develop the High Mountain Strings Rural Youth Orchestra. The funds will be used for the purchase of additional instruments and to underwrite strings instruction for local youth.

- Wassmuth Center for Human Rights: $30,000 to develop a “Be An Upstander” Toolkit. The toolkit is designed to provide 5th-10th grade students with the “prompts” to be an upstander - the person who knows what’s happening is wrong and does something to make things right. The funds will be used to develop a film and curriculum to be distributed to students.

- Idaho Botanical Garden: $20,335 for a Water Conservation Stewardship Initiative to upgrade the irrigation systems at the Idaho Botanical Garden so they can better conserve water and serve as an example of best watering practices for residents and business owners in Idaho’s Treasure Valley.

- Boise Bicycle Project: $27,500 for Project Kickstand which will complete a comprehensive satellite bike shop at the Idaho Department of Corrections men’s facility and create and implement a certified bicycle mechanic training program for inmates. The bicycles serviced at the IDOC will be distributed to...
teens and the program will provide vocational training and potential job placement for inmates.

- **LEAP Charities**: $25,000 to expand the Home Ownership for All Program which works with vulnerable populations to access stable and affordable homes. The funds from this program will be used for program expenses including interpreters for education classes and lender meetings, moving boxes, and truck rentals.

- **Cascade Medical Center**: $30,000 to improve Rural Health Outcomes through Behavioral Health Care Integration. Funds will be used to pay for a physician’s assistant specializing in behavioral healthcare.

- **Idaho Association for the Education of Young People**: $51,981 to expand the READY! for Kindergarten initiative that offers parent education workshops to families with children ages birth through five. Funds will be used to expand the program to Marsing, Notus, Melba, Mountain Home, and Emmett.

IWCF fosters educated philanthropy through collaboration, pooled resources and individual giving to positively affect the community. Following the “giving circle” model, each member annually contributes $500 to the Foundation’s pooled-grant fund, as well as a matching amount for their individually-directed donations. After extensive review of applicants in six areas of community need, all members vote to determine the pooled-grant recipients. IWCF has more than 400 members. If you are interested in becoming a member of IWCF please visit www.IWCFBoise.org

IWCF’s 2020-2021 grant cycle will begin in September. Please check the IWCF website for more specific information about next year’s process. More information is available by calling 208-343-IWCF or at www.IWCFBoise.org.

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