



Press Release
For Immediate Release
December 30, 2010

Community Foundation Awards \$246,879 to Local Projects.

JACKSON, WY December 30, 2010 – Earlier this month, the 25 volunteer members of the Community Foundation grants committee poured over 40 grant requests from 38 local organizations. After countless hours reading, analyzing and discussing each proposal, the committee awarded almost \$250,000 in grant funding to 26 nonprofits.

The Competitive Grants program, funded by Old Bill's Co-Challengers and private donors, will provide approximately \$600,000 to area nonprofits in 2011. The December meeting was the first of two for the year. As a result, a wide spectrum of local programs, from arts trainings for our youth to services for senior citizens, will enjoy \$246,879 in support beginning on January 1st.

“Organizations presented very compelling requests in this grant cycle,” said Katharine Conover, President of the Community Foundation. “As always, the committee had a difficult task. The programs they’ve voted to fund show considerable impact, innovation and collaboration. A great example of the type of work we’re supporting is Craighead Beringia South’s effort to bring the immense amount of scientific expertise in the valley to local classrooms.”

Craighead Beringia South will receive \$15,000 for its Integrated Wildlife Research Program. While there is a world-renowned scientific community in Jackson, there is no established method for sharing this expertise in classrooms. This project will incorporate ongoing wildlife research into the existing high school curriculum through interactive technologies and field work, and students will gain professional and life skills through their work with an instructor and wildlife biologists. One hundred sixty students will track migratory paths of bald eagles through live satellite location data, analyze toxicology results from captured eagles and design community activities that inform the public about what they have learned. The organization will also collaborate with other nonprofits to engage younger students.

A sampling of other grants includes funding for an air quality monitoring station in Grand Teton National Park, rehearsal room equipment to be shared by a variety of community music groups and Teton Adaptive Sports’ winter sports program for disabled students. A complete list of grants can be found on the attachment.

The second round of grant applications will be accepted April 1-29. At that time, the grants committee will review the proposals and distribute the remaining funds. Historically, the Community Foundation

receives more applications in the second cycle than the first. Anyone interested in contributing to the Foundation's grant program should contact our office.

About the Community Foundation's Competitive Grants

Thanks to the generosity of Old Bill's Fun Run Co-Challengers and donors to the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, the Foundation is able to provide funding to deserving local projects through our Competitive Grants program. Applications are accepted twice a year from nonprofits, and our Grants Committee of diverse community volunteers recommends the resulting awards based upon impact, innovation and collaboration. In 2010 the Community Foundation granted over \$560,000 to fulfill community wishes.

About the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole

For over 20 years, the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole has worked with donors and nonprofits to enrich all aspects of our community. The Foundation enables donors to establish personal philanthropic funds including donor advised, endowment, field of interest and legacy funds to facilitate their giving. Annually, the Foundation organizes Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities, which has raised nearly \$75 million in the past fourteen years for local nonprofits.

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