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**Montanans Partner with Montana Community Foundation
for \$5.2 Million in Community Impact**

Helena, Mont., (January 28, 2015) – In 2014, Montanan's charitable giving was a clear testament to their commitment to the state's future. Dedicated to cultivating a culture of giving so Montana's communities can flourish, the Montana Community Foundation (MCF) helped donors achieve their philanthropic goals in 2014 in a big way. More than \$5.2 million dollars was donated in 2014 including more than \$1.7 million in planned gifts. Donations in 2014 also included more than 600 new donors whose charitable giving totaled more than \$1.8 million.

"It was a banner year for Montana," said MCF President and CEO Mary Rutherford. "In 2014, we had record-high years for both planned gifts and overall charitable giving. We are humbled by the generosity. This money will help support nonprofit organizations and worthy causes in our state for years to come."

The donors making a difference this year were many and their stories unique. One endowment was created by a donor to provide backpacks of food for kids to eat on the weekends when many don't have access to enough. This endowment will benefit Montana counties near and dear to the donor's heart. Another donor couple had a very successful year and wanted to share the wealth with a local school. Thanks to their planned gift, an endowment has been established to help the school forever. The largest gift of the year came as a \$1 million donation in December to greatly impact a rural community in Montana. The donor is thrilled because not only do they get to benefit the town they love, but also with tax deductions, credits and reducing their estate for estate tax purposes, their gift actually cost them just \$40,000.

The list of donor stories and the impact their charitable giving will have on Montana goes on, as will their gifts in perpetuity. This is so important because of the enormous transfer of wealth occurring in our state each and every day. In a study commissioned by MCF in 2006 and updated in 2012, an estimated \$123 billion will pass from generation to generation in Montana in the coming five decades. If just five percent – approximately \$6 billion – of this transfer of wealth was captured in permanently endowed funds, a potential \$307 million a year would be available for grants to support charitable causes, nonprofits and ultimately Montana's future.

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About Montana Community Foundation



MONTANA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
all about Montana's future

Montana Community Foundation's mission is to cultivate a culture of giving so Montana communities can flourish. Founded in 1988, the Foundation manages more than \$74 million in assets and administers more than 800 philanthropic funds that make grants to charitable organizations and causes across the state. The Foundation serves as a center for philanthropy in Montana, working with donors, charitable organizations and communities to provide simple and effective ways to give back to Montana. For more information and to learn how you can support Montana communities, visit www.mtcf.org or call (406) 443-8313. Find us on [Facebook](#).