



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Contact:

Riley Meredith, (406) 443-8313  
Marketing and Communications Director  
[riley@mtcf.org](mailto:riley@mtcf.org)

## Recognizing the Impact of Community Foundations November 12-18, 2015

### *Montana Community Foundation Participates in National Effort to Highlight Local Impact of Philanthropy*

**Helena, Mont.**, November 11, 2015 – During the week of November 12-18, 2015, Montana Community Foundation (MCF) will join more than 750 community foundations across America celebrating *Community Foundation Week*. For more than 25 years, the effort has raised awareness about the increasingly important role of these philanthropic organizations in fostering local collaboration and innovation to address persistent civic and economic challenges.

“Community foundations are vital to the well-being of our state and the communities that call Montana home,” said Mary Craigle, MCF Board Chair. “There is a massive intergenerational transfer of wealth occurring here; it’s estimated approximately \$12 billion dollars will transfer from one generation to the next between 2010 and 2020. As a community foundation, our goal is to capture a small portion of that inheritance and place it in permanently endowed funds, ensuring local nonprofit organizations and the communities they serve will have a stable source of funding for generations to come.”

Community foundations are independent, public entities that steward philanthropic resources from institutional and individual donors to local nonprofits that are the heart of strong, vibrant communities. Since 1988, MCF has reinvested more than \$35 million in Montana through grants and scholarships. MCF has also been integral in the establishment and development of local community foundations across the state with the firm belief that local communities are the best suited to understand and address their local needs.

Community foundations represent one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy. Every state in the United States is home to at least one community foundation—large and small, urban and rural—working to advance solutions on a wide range of issues. Montana is now home to approximately 75 community foundations.

“For more than 27 years now, the Montana Community Foundation has been working tirelessly to create permanent philanthropy and build stronger communities in our state,” said Mary Rutherford, MCF President and Chief Executive Officer. “We consider ourselves the agent of the philanthropist and take a proactive approach to charitable giving. We identify charitable opportunities that not only meet donors’ philanthropic and financial goals, but also make the greatest impact.”

-More-

Community Foundation Week, created in 1989 by former president George H.W. Bush, recognizes the work of community foundations throughout America and their collaborative approach to working with the public, private and nonprofit sectors to address community problems.

###

### **About Montana Community Foundation**

Montana Community Foundation's (MCF) mission is to cultivate a culture of giving so Montana communities can flourish. Founded in 1988, MCF manages more than \$80 million in assets and administers more than 900 philanthropic funds and planned gifts. Since 1988, MCF has reinvested more than \$35 million in Montana through grants to charitable organizations and causes across the state. MCF 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](http://www.mtcf.org) or call (406) 443-8313. Find us on [Facebook](#).