



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Judith Basin County Free Library Receives \$200,090 Anonymous Grant for Expansion Efforts

**Helena, Mont.**, April 6, 2016 – The Judith Basin County Free Library received a grant yesterday of \$200,090 from the Montana Community Foundation (MCF). This amount represents the combined total of three matching grants by MCF from an anonymous donor.

The Judith Basin County Free Library is located in Stanford, Montana, and has been fundraising for two years to finance a building project. With this grant, they have now raised just over \$500,000 and can begin library expansions and updates. The library was established in 1945 with 1,500 books after receiving tremendous support from residents across the entire county of Judith Basin. The library's current building was constructed in 1960, with the last addition occurring in 1979.

The library plans to expand space and services for a children's room and new technology area. "Some Judith Basin County residents have little or no access to technology and the library serves as an incredibly valuable resource for them," said Jeanne Lillegard, the library's director. "The library is used by people of all ages; it is such an important part of our community. We want to offer our heartfelt thanks to the anonymous donor who made this generous gift. It is truly remarkable."

"We are so fortunate and thankful to be a part of this gift and story of generosity," said Mary Rutherford, MCF President and CEO. "The Judith Basin County Free Library was opened more than 70 years ago because of powerful and widespread support from the community. It provides much needed and greatly appreciated services to Judith Basin County residents. Like the donor who made this wonderful gift, philanthropists across the state are partnering with us each day and their generosity is making an important impact on communities throughout Montana."

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### About Montana Community Foundation

Montana Community Foundation's 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 \$37 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](#).