2011 Transfer of Wealth Study
Fact Sheet

- The Montana Community Foundation is releasing results of its 2011 Transfer of Wealth Update. The 2011 Study updates the original county-by-county analysis originally conducted in 2006.

- The Transfer of Wealth analysis produces likely scenarios of the inter-generational household wealth as it transitions from the current generation to the next upon death. Household wealth includes assets such as real estate, stocks and other investments, and family-owned businesses. Corporate, non-resident and public wealth is not part of the Transfer of Wealth analysis.

- Results of the 2011 Study indicate that over the next 50 years, $123 billion will transfer from one generation to the next in Montana. This represents a 95% increase over the amount estimated in the 2006 study.

- If 5% of that $123 billion were captured in permanent endowments that benefited Montana nonprofits, schools and communities the state would have a collective endowment worth $6.1 billion.

- That $6.1 billion endowment could generate $307 million per year to Montana’s charitable institutions using a standard 5% payout assumption.

- Montana has a long history of exporting its wealth. Many of the children who will inherit that $123 billion over the next 50 years no longer live in our state. Montana’s rural counties are experiencing their peak years of wealth transfer over the next ten years due to outmigration.

- Montana has a rapidly aging population. By 2030, 15-25% of Montana’s population will be 65 or older, placing Montana among the top five states with the most elderly populations. The aging population is driving the transfer of wealth opportunity and the urgency to begin preserving wealth now.
• There has never been a wealth transfer this large in all of human history. Montana’s unique circumstances – children moving out of state and a rapidly aging population – makes capturing some of this wealth transfer absolutely critical if our communities are to remain places where people want to live, work and raise children.

• The Montana Community Foundation works with more than 45 affiliated community foundation funds across the state to secure a portion of the intergenerational transfer of wealth for community reinvestment.

• The Transfer of Wealth analysis provides a picture of the incredible opportunity for Montana communities, but taking advantage of the opportunity is up to individuals. Here are five things you can do to get started:
  o Think about what makes Montana special to you, and commit to give to your passion.
  o Call the Montana Community Foundation, your local community foundation, or your favorite charity to learn about leaving a legacy for Montana’s future.
  o Create an estate plan, or adapt it to help a cause that is important to you.
  o Talk to others about the importance of remembering the community in their plans.
  o Give at least 5% to the causes that matter to you, now and for future generations.