

montana sharesreport

Newsletter from Montana Shares, a partnership of Montana-based nonprofit groups devoted to improving the quality of life in communities throughout Montana

Summer 2015

Montana Shares 21st Annual Raffle!

Ticket sheet included—don't miss out on these awesome prizes!

Last year's raffle brought in over \$22,000 for Montana Shares core budget! What would it take to bring in \$30,000? A recent survey said that 49% of givers would have given more if they had been asked to increase their giving. If you are one of those givers, we are asking you to get two sheets of tickets rather than one.

This year's raffle continues the 21 year tradition of fine prizes sure to please their winners. There are experiential trips and dinners as well as art, food baskets and outdoor gear. The Grand Prizes include a stay at Helena's Great Northern Hotel, a Cabela's Rod and Reel combo, Town Pump and VISA gift cards, plus more. Check out the 36 incredible prizes of terrific items donated by generous businesses and friends in



support of our work and our members.

Donations collected from the raffle help Montana Shares' program services budget, which in turn, helps us support our members in the ongoing work to invest in Montana's human, animal, cultural and natural resources.

Mail in your raffle tickets with your donation to get a chance at some of these prize packages and help support Montana Shares.

The drawing will be held Saturday, September 12, 2015. You need not be present to win. Winners will be notified by mail and will be posted within two weeks on our web site, www.montanashares.org.



Landscapes of the Mind

Eight New Members!

We had eight new nonprofits join Montana Shares this year. Here is a quick introduction to each of them.

Bike Walk Montana - Strives to make Montana a safer, friendlier state for walking and bicycling through education, encouragement, advocacy, improved facilities and improved policies and laws.



Camp Mak-A-Dream - Provides medically-supervised, cost free Montana experiences, in an intimate community setting for children, teens, young adults, women and families affected by cancer.

Humanities Montana - Creates opportunities for Montanans to learn and reflect together through programs and

Humanities MONTANA

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Asking More of You!

In the nonprofit world, you can never be afraid to make an “ask.” My section of this newsletter is dedicated to two asks.

The first ask is simple. Our Council, board of directors, is short one person. I would like to fill that seat. If you are interested, please contact me.

The second ask is a little longer. Montana Shares has great donors, but we want more of them. The same study mentioned in the raffle article on page 1 said that 49% of donors would give more if asked to support a specific program or initiative.

Here is that initiative. I want to increase the number of people who know about Montana Shares and our member groups through aggressive paid advertising on Facebook. A \$100 donation specifically earmarked for Facebook advertising could reach between 6,800 and 18,000 people who would be a good fit as a Montana Shares donor.

“A \$100 donation specifically earmarked for Facebook advertising could reach between 6,800 and 18,000 people”



There are about 70,000 people in the target demographic. Consequently, we could use about \$500 for this goal. Would 5 of you be interested in giving an additional \$100?

Thank you for all that you give,
Bill Crane,
Executive Director
Montana Shares

Eight New Members (continued from page 1)

grants for communities, schools and our state’s cultural institutions.

Montana Innocence Project - The Montana Innocence Project serves indigent Montana prisoners who are factually innocent by providing pro bono legal aid, DNA testing assistance and investigation.



Missoula Community Access Television - Missoula is a city full of culture, art, music, and political hot topics with approximately 66,000 people living within its borders. MCAT provides Missoula residents, nonprofit organizations, and civic and student groups with the equipment, training, and channel time to produce TV programs based on their interests and concerns.



Montana Legal Services - Financial barriers to the legal system erode the promise of equal justice for all created by our founding fathers. MLSA helps ensure access to justice for low-income



Montanans by providing free civil legal aid for people with incomes at or below the 125% of the federal poverty rate.

Montana Supporting Soldiers - Many deployed troops, wounded warriors, and veterans do not receive support for needed items. We send approximately 10,000 pounds of goods to over 1,000 deployed troops each year. We also actively support our Montana wounded warriors and veterans in various ways whenever a need arises.



Montana Trout Unlimited - Montana Trout Unlimited conserves and protects Montana’s coldwater fisheries, which helps wild and native trout. The presence of abundant, healthy trout produces a positive environmental and economic benefit for humans too. Native trout impact entire ecosystems, from grizzly bears to eagles. Montana Trout Unlimited is protecting our treasured rivers and streams for the next generation, of grizzly bears and anglers.



Thanks To These Montana Employers

The following employers included Montana Shares in their giving campaigns last year for their employees and/or were special event sponsors. We appreciate their willingness to give expanded choices in giving to their employees. Employees appreciate the convenience of payroll deduction for their charitable donations and the convenience of learning about a wide array of nonprofits at their office. Our campaign isn't complete without the huge generosity of individuals outside of workplaces who also donate through Montana Shares to our members. Those individuals, employees and the employers who generously match the individual contributions have helped Montana Shares during our 2014/2015 campaign. We were thrilled to be able to provide funds supporting our members totaling over \$283,000. If your workplace is not on this list and you want the convenience of "giving at the office" don't hesitate to contact the Shares office or any of the members to discuss how we can make that a reality this fall.

1st Liberty Federal Credit Union, Great Falls
 ACLU of MT Foundation, Helena
 Billings Public Schools
 Bison Engineering, Inc., Helena
 Blue Cross Blue Shield, Statewide
 Bozeman Deaconess Hospital
 Bozeman Public Schools
 Boyle, Deveny & Meyer, Missoula
 Bridgercare, Bozeman
 Butte Public Schools
 Butte/Silver Bow County
 City of Billings
 City of Bozeman
 City of Helena
 City of Missoula
 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)-Nationwide
 Community Food Co-op, Bozeman
 DA Davidson Companies, Statewide
 Disabilities Rights Montana, Helena
 First Interstate Bank, Helena
 Four C's, Butte
 Galusha, Higgins & Galusha, Helena
 Great Falls Orthopedic Associates
 Great Falls School District No. 1
 Guthals, Hunnes & Reuss, P.C., Billings
 Helena Community Credit Union
 Helena School District No. 1
 Hi-Line Home Programs - Havre
 Jefferson County
 Jefferson County Public Schools
 Lewis & Clark County
 Lewis & Clark Humane Society, Helena
 Lewis & Clark Library, Helena

MEA-MFT, Statewide
 Missoula County
 Missoula Public Schools
 Montana Audubon, Helena
 Montana Credit Union Network, Helena
 Montana Interactive, Helena
 Montana Shares, Helena
 Montana State University-Billings
 Montana State University-Bozeman
 Montana State University - Great Falls
 Montana Wilderness Association, Statewide
 National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT), Butte
 National Institute on Money in State Politics, Helena
 NeighborWorks, Great Falls
 Northrop Grumman, Helena
 NorthWestern Energy, Butte
 Off the Beaten Path, Bozeman
 Opportunity Bank of Montana, Helena
 Pioneer Technical Services, Helena & Butte
 Real Food Market & Deli, Helena
 Rocky Mountain Development Council, Helena
 Rural Employment Opportunities (REO), Statewide
 Saturn Resource Management, Helena
 Shodair Children's Hospital, Helena
 Siemens, Bozeman
 St. Peter's Hospital & Clinics, Helena
 State Bar of Montana, Helena
 State Employees' Charitable Giving Campaign (SECGC), Statewide
 Student Assistance Foundation of MT,

Statewide
 University of Montana - Helena
 University of Montana - Montana Tech, Butte
 University of Montana, Missoula
 University of Montana, Western
 University of Montana Foundation, Missoula
 Valley Bank of Helena
 Van's County Market, Bozeman
 Van's Thriftway, Helena

Plus the many individuals throughout the state who are giving outside a workplace and businesses that support Shares and our members through special events including our annual raffle. All are appreciated and welcome.



Montana Shares is a partnership of Montana-based nonprofit groups devoted to improving the quality of life in communities throughout the state. Our members promote, protect and preserve our state's human, animal, cultural and natural resources. They work on issues concerning women, children, families and seniors, health and hunger, the environment, arts and culture, education, domestic and wild animals, social justice and human rights. The purpose of Shares is to work with and on behalf of our members to promote and support their programs, provide training, technical assistance, consultation and financial support on a year-round basis and, thereby, to help them expand and diversify their programs that serve Montanans. Contributions received at Montana Shares further serve to accomplish these purposes.

Council Officers - 2014-2016

President- Maureen Rude
 Vice President- Stephanie McDowell
 Secretary- Dave Chadwick
 Treasurer- Dave Cooper
 Past President- Mary Wright

Montana Shares at-large members and term ends Working on behalf of all members of Shares:

Dave Cooper, Helena, 5/17
 Jan Donaldson, Helena, 4/16
 Lisa Perry, Billings, 5/17
 Dori Skrukud, Butte, 9/16
 Mary Wright, Helena, 5/17

Council members Individual (representation) (term ends)

Nikki Andersen (ExplorationWorks) (9/15)
 Dave Chadwick (MT Wildlife Federation) (5/17)
 Dave Cooper (At-large member) (5/17)
 Jan Donaldson (At-large member) (9/15)
 Nancy Lee (Komen Idaho Montana) (9/15)
 Stephanie McDowell (Bridgercare) (5/17)
 Betsy Mulligan-Dague (Jeannette Rankin Peace Center) (9/15)
 Lisa Perry (At-large member) (5/17)
 Maureen Rude (NeighborWorks MT) (9/16)
 Dori Skrukud (At-large member) (9/15)
 Mary Wright (At-large member) (5/17)



Montana Shares Staff
 Bill Crane, Executive Director
 Kristi Paulsen, Office Manager
 Heidi Heiser, Accounts Manager

Member of:
 Community Shares USA
communitysharesusa.org



Montana Nonprofit Association
mtnonprofit.org



Montana Nonprofit Association

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sharesreport
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 from Montana Shares, a
 partnership of Montana-based
 nonprofit groups devoted to improving
 the quality of life in communities
 throughout Montana
www.montanashares.org

*Please open because
 Your Montana Shares
 Raffle ticket sheet is
 enclosed.*

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RETURN SERVICE
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Thanks to our funders 😊

This newsletter is made possible in part thanks to printing from **Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana**. **Real Food Store** gives customers the choice of getting ten cents for reusing a bag or donating it to Montana Shares. Since its inception this program has generated **\$26,451.30** in donations to Shares. Thanks to Laughing Water, all the staff and all the customers who re-use their bags and donate the savings to Montana Shares. This is a creative way for small change to make big change – in many ways. This efforts has kept hundreds of thousands of plastic bags from being used!!!

40 member groups serving the people of Montana

- | | |
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| Alternative Energy Resources Organization (AERO) | Montana 4-H Foundation |
| AniMeals | Montana Association for the Blind |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters of Montana | Montana Audubon |
| Bike Walk Montana | Montana Child Care Resource & Referral Network |
| Bridgercare | Montana Food Bank Network |
| Camp Mak-A-Dream | Montana Innocence Project |
| Cancer Support Community Montana | Montana Legal Services Association |
| Disability Rights Montana | Montana Meth Project |
| ExplorationWorks | Montana Spay/Neuter Task Force |
| Great Falls Community Food Bank, Inc. | Montana Supporting Soldiers |
| Heart of the Valley, Inc. | Montana Trout Unlimited |
| Helena Area Habitat for Humanity | Montana Watershed Coordination Council |
| Holter Museum of Art | Montana Wilderness Association |
| Humanities Montana | Montana Wildlife Federation |
| Jeannette Rankin Peace Resource Center | NARAL Pro-Choice Montana Foundation |
| Komen Idaho Montana | NeighborWorks Montana |
| Last Chance Community Pow Wow | Queen City Ballet Company |
| Lewis & Clark Humane Society | Rural Employment Opportunities, Inc. (REO) |
| Mai Wah Society | Student Assistance Foundation of Montana |
| Missoula Community Access Television, Inc. | Youth Connections Coalition |