

For Immediate Release:

**31 Grants Provide over \$303,000 for Community Projects Thanks to the
Wildhorse Foundation**

Pendleton, OR- The Wildhorse Foundation, a community benefit fund established by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) to support organizations in northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington, has announced their grant awards for the third quarter of 2017. A total of \$303,584 was awarded to 31 recipients, bringing the total for 2017 to over 771,000.

CTUIR has a long history of charitable giving. The Wildhorse Foundation was formed in 2001, however, changes in the compact Wildhorse Resort and Casino made with the State of Oregon expanded their footprint in 2009. Prior to then, the Foundation could disburse grants to Umatilla, Morrow, Union and Wallowa Counties; they can now also allocate funding to government bodies or charitable organizations in the Tribes ceded territory in Washington State (Benton, Walla Walla and Columbia Counties) as well as any Native American Tribal Government Agency or non-profit with its principal office and base of operation within the State of Oregon and any national or regional Indian Organization. More than 1850 local and regional non-profits have benefited from the \$10.8 million given by the Foundation since its inception.

The maximum grant given by the Wildhorse Foundation is \$20,000. Four organizations were given \$20,000 in the third quarter giving cycle. The Columbia Walla Walla Fire District #2 was granted \$20,000 toward communication enhancements in their service area. The Station currently receives calls for service through a neighboring repeater system above the City of Dayton which creates gaps of coverage for the City of Waitsburg where many volunteers reside, cause issues in notifying volunteers of service calls. The new repeater will enable Waitsburg, Starbuck and Dayton to increase communication capabilities within the southwestern portion of Columbia County.

The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siulslaw Indians were awarded the maximum grant for renovations to the North Tenmile Lake Youth Camp Facility. This is an Easter Seals Camp that the tribe is renovating as a site for a tribal youth camp. The 14-acre site includes 2,000 lineal feet of lake frontage, multi-slip boat houses, boat dock, hiking trails and numerous outdoor recreation gathering area.

The Hermiston Senior Center also received a \$20,000 grant to purchase new equipment for their kitchen. Having a commercial kitchen will provide essential meal for seniors and provide meals for the Meals on Wheels program.

The final \$20,000 grant was awarded to the Providence St. Mary’s Foundation for upgrades to the Family Birth Center Expansion. The \$3.2 million dollar expansion will include new labor/delivery/post-partum rooms, an expanded special care nursery and a new surgical suite and recovery area to the hospital.

The Wildhorse Foundation Board consider grants that cover the areas of public health, public safety, education, the arts, historic preservation, gambling addiction services, salmon restoration, environmental protection, and cultural activities.

Organizations funded in the third quarter for 2017 are:

Organization	Project Title	City	State	Grant Amount
Altrusa International, Inc., of Pendleton	Altrusa Youth-Focused Projects -- Feed the Child and Kids At Risk Empowered (KARE)	Pendleton	OR	\$10,000.00
Athena Elementary School	Blended learning through Chromebooks in the Classroom	Athena	OR	\$6,000.00
Athena's Gem, Inc.	Theatre addition exterior wall finish	Athena	OR	\$7,000.00
Blue Mountain Community College/Milton-Freewater Center	BMCC Milton-Freewater Center Student Lounge	Milton Freewater	OR	\$9,438.00
Boys and Girls Club of Dayton	auxiliary heating systems	Dayton	WA	\$18,346.00

Columbia Walla Walla Fire District No 2	West County Communications Enhancements	Waitsburg	WA	\$20,000.00
Community Counseling Solutions, Inc.	Healthy Smiles Dental Clinic	Heppner	OR	\$2,000.00
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siu law Indians	North Tenmile Lake Youth Camp Facility Renovations	Coos Bay	OR	\$20,000.00
Confluence Project	Confluence in the Classroom	Vancouver	WA	\$2,730.00
East Umatilla County Health District	LUCAS 2 Chest Compression System	Athena	OR	\$10,000.00
Eastern Oregon Livestock Show	EOLS 4-H and FFA Livestock Panels	Union	OR	\$15,000.00
F. Maxine and Thomas Cook Memorial Library	Teen Program	La Grande	OR	\$1,907.00
Fort Walla Walla Museum	Voices from the Past	Walla Walla	WA	\$7,092.00
Friends of the Elgin Opera House	Upgraded sound system for The Elgin Opera House.	Elgin	OR	\$7,500.00
Hells Canyon Preservation Council	Growing Forward!	La Grande	OR	\$1,000.00
Hermiston Senior Center	Hermiston Senior Center Kitchen Equipment	Hermiston	OR	\$20,000.00
Hurricane Creek Grange #608	Exterior Grange Hall Painting	Joseph	OR	\$5,500.00
Joseph Center for Arts and Culture	New Printmaking Studio	Joseph	OR	\$10,000.00
LaGrande High School	LaGrande High School Track Renovation and Improvement	LaGrande	OR	\$17,000.00
Liberty Theatre Foundation	Liberty Theatre Phase II Reconstruction	La Grande	OR	\$7,500.00
McKay Creek Elementary	McKay gymnasium renovation	Pendleton	OR	\$10,942.00
Oregon Elks Children's Preschool Vision Screening	Equip an eye exam lane at the Columbia River Community Health Center, Boardman, Oregon	Portland	OR	\$10,000.00
Providence St. Mary Foundation	Providence St. Mary Family Birth Center Expansion	Walla Walla	WA	\$20,000.00

Sherwood Heights Elementary	Cycling To The Next Level - Using exercise bikes to promote higher academic achievement in reading.	Pendleton	OR	\$7,500.00
Shriners Hospital for Children - Portland	Support for medical care provided to children treated by Shriners Hospital for Children - Portland from the Wildhorse Foundation Homeland area.	Portland	OR	\$10,000.00
SMART	SMART Programs in Umatilla County	Portland	OR	\$5,155.00
Umatilla County 4H	4-H "Attitudes for Success" - Preparing for the Future	Pendleton	OR	\$600.00
Umatilla Museum and Historical Foundation	Museum Energy Upgrade	Umatilla	OR	\$9,818.00
Union Rural Fire Protection District	Storage building for water tender.	Union	OR	\$16,000.00
Walla Walla Sheriff's Foundation	Walla Walla County Sheriff's Deputy Active Shooter Survival Kits	Walla Walla	WA	\$13,875.00
Weston-McEwen High School	Band Room Remodel Completion Project	Athena	OR	\$1,681.00
Total				\$303,584.00

The quarterly deadlines for applications to the Foundation are January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1. The January 1st deadline will be the first in which the Foundation will utilize their online application. Organizations interested in applying for a grant are encouraged to visit www.TheWildhorseFoundation.com to submit an application or hear more about the Foundations giving process. For assistance, Grantee Organizations may also call Tiah DeGrofft at 541-966-1628.

For More Information:

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