



Greater Gallatin United Way Highlights of Our Work in 2016

Please enjoy the highlights from GGUW's 2016 work in the following initiatives:

- Community Impact Fund
- Gallatin Early Childhood Community Council (ECCC) / MT Project Launch
- GGUW kidsLINK Afterschool
- MT Afterschool Alliance
- VolunteerMT.org

Community Investment/Impact Fund

GGUW's 2016 Community Investment Fund supported over 80 local programs that address health, education and income (financial stability) for Gallatin, Madison, Meagher and Park Counties. The impact of our work and our funded partners resulted in the following:

- 3,775 seniors received nutritious congregate or delivered meals in Belgrade, Manhattan, Bozeman, Three Forks and West Yellowstone.
- 3,976 children and adults received essential dental care, an essential component of comprehensive health care (early childhood tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease.)
- 1,611 children participated every day in GGUW kidsLINK Afterschool Program across 29 locations.
- 13,083 crisis response calls relating to suicidal intent, sexual assault, mental illness and other needs were answered by Help Center/2-1-1.
- 1,603 victims/survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault received emergency shelter, legal advocacy, counseling and other services in Gallatin and Park Counties.
- 23,752 persons received emergency food boxes, breakfast or lunch, weekend snack packs or other food security services in Gallatin, Madison, Park and Sweet Grass Counties.
- 70 children in Bozeman and Belgrade gained academic literacy through a summer reading program.
- 70 children in Gallatin County removed from their homes because of neglect and/or abuse were given a Court Appointed Special Advocate in the Eighteenth Judicial Court System.
- 750 individuals received temporary housing, case management services and/or short-term financial assistance to keep them in their homes.
- 9,352 individuals accessed family support education, services and/or programs to help ensure children's success at home, school and in life.
- 154 seniors received light in-home assistance or were matched with a friend reduce isolation and foster well-being and independence.
- 13,083 crisis line calls were answered and persons received collaborative emergency/crisis response services.

Annual Community Impact/Investment Fundraising Campaign

In September we kicked off our annual fundraising campaign with the theme, "What makes a great community? People!" We premiered our new GGUW video and kidsLINK video, which can be found at www.greatergallatinunitedway.org. We are working hard to reach our annual fundraising goal of \$575,000. We are halfway there.

In addition to our community fundraising campaign, we were awarded \$100K from The **Gilhausen Family Foundation**, designated for operating expenses. We are frequently asked about this grant when we are meeting with donors, attending fundraising events and kicking off workplace charitable giving campaigns. GFF's support reassures our donors that more of their hard-earned dollars are invested in the local programs and services they care about.

As we make our way into 2017, we will begin our 2017 Community Investment Fund grant process - - investing community dollars into local programs and services that address education, health and income. We will need volunteers to help with the allocation process. It's a wonderful experience and provides the opportunity to learn more about community needs and our funded partners. Contact Marjorie at 406.587.2194 if you are interested.

Throughout 2017, we will highlight various donors, supporters and partners in newsletters and other communications. To start...

Billion Auto Group has donated over \$1 Million to GGUW. We received another \$50,000 this year. Billion Auto is committed to investing in the PEOPLE that live and work in this region of Montana. Their corporate gift and annual employee campaign positively impact the quality of life we all enjoy here!

First Security Bank Foundation awarded kidsLINK Afterschool Program \$15,000 to support kidsLINK Afterschool partner sites in Belgrade, Three Forks, Big Sky, and West Yellowstone. Funding will help sustain quality out-of-school time programming that focuses on healthy nutrition, physical activity, academic support, and engaging enrichment activities.

First Security Bank also contributed \$10,000 to the Community Investment Fund. Their giving philosophy of "success together starts in our backyard" is apparent in their generous community support.

Colombo's Pizza & Pasta is one of GGUW's top business supporters. Colombo's has donated a significant amount annually for over 15 years! They have a tradition of caring for people and giving back to the community. Give a big thank you to Joe, Janet, Cassie and their team!

CRH Trident donated \$6,940. They also ran an employee campaign with a 200% matching gift. CRH invests in their community by promoting charitable giving and volunteerism. Their team continually gives back throughout the valley.

Many individual donors increased their gift this year knowing that a dollar doesn't go as far as it once did and understanding that as our community grows, so do the needs. Thank you!

Thank you to the many businesses that ran Workplace Charitable Giving Campaigns. Thank you to the employees for donating a bit out of each paycheck to help their neighbors, friends, families, co-workers...

2016 Workplace Employee Giving Campaigns

Advanced Performance & Rehab	Delta Airlines	Rocky Mountain Bank
Amatics CPA Group	Eli Lilly	Rudd & Company
Anderson ZurMuehlen	ERA Landmark Real Estate	Sanderson Stewart
AT&T	Federal Express	Security Title
Bank of Bozeman	First Interstate Bank	Shopko Hometown
Belgrade School District	First Security Bank	Smith's Food & Drug
Big Sky Western Bank	First West Insurance	Stahly Engineering
Billion Auto Group	Greater Gallatin United Way	State Farm
BioScience Labs	J & H Office Equipment	Stifel Nicolaus
Blackfoot Communications	JC Penney	Stockman Bank
Bozeman Health	KBZK/CBS	Target
Bozeman Public Schools	Lowe's	T D & H Engineering
Bridger Biomed	Macy's	Takeda
Cashman Nursery	Manhattan Bank	Thrive
CenturyLink	Mesa Labs	UPS
Child Care Connections	Microbion Corp.	Universal Athletics
Cigna	Monforton School	US Bank
City of Bozeman	Montana State University	Vista Outdoor/Blackhawk/ATK
City of Three Forks	MSU Book Store	Walmart
Coffman Engineers	Nationwide Insurance	Workiva/Webfilings
Costco	Northwest Farm Credit	Wells Fargo
CRH/Trident	NorthWestern Energy	WIPFLI
DA Davidson	Opportunity Bank	

GGUW receives many in-kind donations from businesses such as **J & H Office Equipment, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, ABC/FOX Television, KBZK/CBS, TownSquare Media, Eagle Radio** and others. In-kind gifts help reduce fundraising and management expenses.

GGUW strives for sustainability. We continue to research and apply for grants to support our programmatic work. We were successful in receiving \$454,000 in grant awards this past year. A BIG THANK YOU to the foundations that care about the people in this region of Montana and support GGUW!

Gallatin Early Childhood Community Council (ECCC)

GGUW convenes and leads community stakeholders in collective impact-driven work. We believe that real long-term change is best generated by working together through a common agenda. We serve as the convener and fiscal agent for ECCC, which is a community-wide collaborative with the goal of creating an efficient, effective and comprehensive system of early childhood services in the Greater Gallatin area to ensure that every child has a healthy and enriched beginning.

In 2016, the ECCC Leadership Council expanded its membership from 12 to 20 members including two new parent representatives. The ECCC focused on social-emotional support for young children and their families by promoting accessible high-quality early care and education to help prevent child abuse and neglect, supporting successful Kindergarten transition, and fostering personal resilience in youth and families.

ECCC reached over 1,100 community members in 2016 through a variety of events and activities including the

Resilience Conference which drew more than 165 attendees, multiple community screenings of the Paper Tigers documentary, Bozeman Preschool Fair and Parade of Preschools, Belgrade Community Library Family Nights, and the Week of the Young Child Carnival. Many ECCC partners were also able to receive training on topics such as Collective Impact, Trauma-Informed Care, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), prevention of secondary trauma/empathy fatigue/self-care, and facilitated leadership.

ECCC also distributed over 1,000 new and gently used books through kidsLINK Afterschool and to partner organizations serving children and families in southwest Montana. Partners include AWARE, Thrive, Gallatin City-County Health Departments, Livingston elementary schools, Belgrade Middle School, Family Promise of Gallatin Valley, and the Meagher County Library in White Sulphur Springs.

This December, GGUW had the unique opportunity to partner with Slumberland Furniture 40-Winks Foundation for a “Making Homes for Holidays” event. ECCC and the kidsLINK Afterschool Program took the lead on planning and executing the event. 21 low-income families received 32 new children’s bed sets. The families, many of whom are kidsLINK Afterschool Program scholarship recipients, received beds and expressed their gratitude at an afternoon celebration at Slumberland. Families in need of beds for their children also included ECCC program partners such as Family Promise and area school counselors. GGUW volunteers and staff delivered the beds using trucks donated from U-Haul of Bozeman. We plan to continue this partnership with Slumberland in 2017.

Montana Project Launch

Montana Project LAUNCH is a collaboration of local, state, and federal partners working to improve early childhood services so that children have the opportunity to develop, learn and realize their full potential. In Gallatin and Park counties, Project LAUNCH is building systems to provide parents and caregivers access to high-quality prevention and wellness services and resources, with a focus on social-emotional development and early childhood mental health. This means building connections and partnerships that empower medical clinics, child care centers, schools and parents to work together to prevent, identify and address social and emotional concerns early in a child's life.

A few examples of the impact of MT Project LAUNCH so far include: funded the hire of a labor and delivery nurse at Gallatin City-County Health Department to do one-time needs assessments with expectant moms and engage warm hand-off practices for more successful referrals to community resources. They partnered with OB/GYN providers who agreed to refer all first-time or teen expectant mothers who use tobacco products, and/or have a history of mental health concerns to the Project LAUNCH staff for home visiting support. All home visitors are now being cross-trained on mental health topics including suicidal ideation, perinatal mood disorders, and early childhood mental health and medication. Home visitors also have regular access to a clinician who provides mental health consultation on cases.

This past year the GCCHD nurse home visitor, Jess Wagner, R.N., was referred an 18-year-old first-time mother with a history of sexual abuse at 15 weeks pregnant. The referral came out of her interactions and education on the benefits of early referrals with the Women’s Specialists clinic out of Bozeman Health. The mother was struggling with preeclampsia early in her pregnancy, so Jess prioritized blood pressure management, which was a part of every home visit. Jess also facilitated the baby’s father’s re-engagement with the pregnant mother, and he attended every home visit. Jess also helped the mother get on pregnancy Medicaid, and continues to provide support to navigate that system. The mother has also benefited from connections to other food and living support options that can be overwhelming, especially to a new mom.

The care team for this family believes that the Project LAUNCH collaboration between the Health Department and OB/GYN was critical in supporting the mother in preventive strategies so as to avoid pre-term delivery, health concerns for mom and baby, and emotional crisis that could have resulted from her mental health concerns. The mother was able to carry the baby to term with very little medical intervention at birth. And even though she was hesitant to breast feed due to her abuse history, Jess's education and support through that process has resulted in successful breastfeeding, even one month after the baby's birth. Jess collaborated with a Health Department lactation consultant in case additional support was needed.

The "early referral" collaboration has resulted in some referrals that would have been missed or referred at the point of such crisis, that simple and inexpensive interventions, such as the ones outlined in this story. GGUW's role in coordinating the MT Project LAUNCH Initiative in Gallatin and Park counties has led to improvements in social emotional supports for youth in childcare settings as well!

GGUW kidsLINK Afterschool Program

kidsLINK Afterschool continues to be an essential program for hundreds of families and employers in this area. During the 2015-16 school year, kidsLINK Afterschool operated in 29 school-based/linked locations and served 1,611 children daily with 3,436 enrolled. kidsLINK serves the communities of: Amsterdam, Belgrade, Big Sky, Big Timber, Bozeman, Gardiner, Livingston, Manhattan, Pray, Three Forks, West Yellowstone, and White Sulphur Springs.

GGUW made significant investments in kidsLINK Afterschool Programs in Belgrade - particularly the program at the Belgrade Middle School. New Program Coordinators and staff from Gallatin County 4-H Extension came on board to redesign the program. These dedicated coordinators work hard to establish youth-driven projects, as well as deliver inventive enrichment activities to capture the interest of teenagers. Activities include a visit from the Montana Raptor Conservation Center, art and craft projects, STEM activities, outdoor games, and cooking and nutrition education. An added bonus to this program came through funding from a new private donor, which allowed us to create a more inviting and workable space for the students. New shelves, furniture, lighting, a sink for art and cooking projects, and storage for student's backpacks and jackets were installed. The kids are excited about the transformation. We expect to complete the updates by February.

The continued growth of the kidsLINK Afterschool programs means regularly hiring new staff. The kidsLINK Afterschool Program Director is committed to providing new and current staff with valuable professional development opportunities, especially curriculum that focuses on improving social/emotional outcomes. The following sessions were offered this fall:

- Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI): Full day training offered to Bozeman and Belgrade staff on how to de-escalate high intensity situations, and if unable to de-escalate, training on how to safely restrain agitated students. The training was provided through Southwest Montana School Services.
- Nutrition Education Training: Half day training on various nutrition education topics, including how to implement the Walmart Foundation Grant and distribution of nutrition supply and resource bins. The training was offered by Katie Bark of Montana TEAM Nutrition and hosted by GGUW.
- The Importance of Child Attachment: Half day training about child attachment. Offered by Southwest Montana School Services.
- Renew! How to Combat Compassion Fatigue in Giving Professions: Half day workshop offered to kidsLINK Afterschool front-line staff who were unable to participate in the same session at the Aug 2015

Afterschool & Beyond training, or the May 2016 Resilience Conference. Workshop was taught by Lynette Rodi of Renew! and hosted by GGUW.

GGUW tackled a sizeable in-house project this past summer. kidsLINK Afterschool migrated to Jackrabbit Care, a new web-based attendance package selection, attendance tracking, communication and billing system for programs in Bozeman and Belgrade. The system is providing more efficient means of communicating with kidsLINK families, improved attendance records, and a better overview of kidsLINK revenues.

As you are aware, changes to the MOST, Montana Out-of-School Time Fund, last spring meant that GGUW could no longer apply for and receive \$95,000/year in funding. Our Board of Directors was concerned about the ability to level-fund the existing 29 kidsLINK Afterschool partners this school year. We are working hard to reach \$100,000 in new funding through targeted fundraising efforts and expanding our grant research efforts so that all 29 programs will receive the funding they need to be fully operational. We are thankful to have Gilhousen Family Foundation support renewed this summer for the kidsLINK program which included your Gilhousen match gift as an incentive for donors. We expect to reach our match requirement soon.

Montana Afterschool Alliance (MTAA)

GGUW just headed into its third year of being the fiscal sponsor for MTAA and was instrumental in supporting the second statewide professional development "Afterschool & Beyond Conference" this summer 2016. GGUW has been supporting MTAA in reaching significant goals such as conducting a statewide out-of-school-time needs assessment, reaching MTAA's grant funding match requirements of \$225,000 over the past three years, and most recently, moving the MTAA Network Lead staffing position to Helena, MT where we can have greater impact across the state particularly in the public policy arena.

GGUW/MTAA recently released an RFI seeking to secure a new fiscal sponsor for the next three years (Years 4-6) which will start in October 2017. GGUW has been instrumental in the founding and growth of this fledgling entity and we hope to see MTAA provide an increase of support for our kidsLINK Afterschool Program and for all out-of-school-time programs across the state.

VolunteerMT.org

GGUW staff has been working closely with non-profit and governmental agencies in Park County to strengthen the volunteer capacity in those communities. Many groups have mobilized to create a collective effort to support mental wellness and prevent suicide in the Livingston area. There has been an increase in outreach and awareness events requiring volunteer support. GGUW has provided our VolunteerMT.org platform, training for agencies on using and marketing this volunteer recruitment and management system.

GGUW partnered with the American Red Cross of Montana for a Day of Caring event. We installed smoke alarms in high-fire-risk homes in Bozeman and Belgrade on October 1st 2016. We helped recruit and support 26 volunteers install 54 smoke alarms for mostly seniors living in mobile homes. It was a wonderful fall day for volunteering - but it was our warm reception into people's homes and their appreciation for the new alarms that made it feel truly like a "Day of Caring." We are exploring the possibility of expanding this volunteer installation program into other communities such as Three Forks and Manhattan in 2017.

We Couldn't Do All This Without YOU! Thank you for your commitment to improving lives in this region of Montana. As we see the needs in our community rise, your investments into GGUW and others in this area is deeply heartening.