



Press Release
For Immediate Release
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A RACE TO THE TOP

Old Bill's Arrives at a Record-Breaking Total.

JACKSON, WY October 24, 2011 — This year's Old Bill's Awards Party marked the 15th anniversary of this unique, collaborative fundraising event. Hundreds of nonprofit representatives and other community members packed the lobby of the National Museum of Wildlife Art. The crowd waited anxiously to learn the results of the fundraiser that helps 200 groups provide critical programming in Jackson. Even though times are hard, nonprofits had a soft landing; more than half of the participants received more money than they did last year.

"If you didn't know Jackson Hole, you might be more astonished by these figures," observed Katharine Conover, President of the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole. "But this valley has a long tradition of neighbors sacrificing for each other. Our local nonprofits provide essential programs and a safety net for those in need, and we want to help any way we can. It's who we are."

This year, Mr. and Mrs. Old Bill, 43 Co-Challengers and the Friends of the Match contributed \$2,264,887, the highest match in the history of the event, to challenge the community. A total of 2,790 donors responded by giving an additional \$5,485,225 – \$335,000 more than in 2010 – in designated contributions for an incredible total of \$7,750,112, more than any other year in the history of the event. These results provided for a 54% matching grant to all eligible nonprofits.

According to the Nonprofit Research Collaborative's recent study of 800 nonprofits, 30 percent reported a drop in giving during the first half of this year, and another 25 percent said donations were flat. Luckily, Jackson's nonprofits saw a 6% increase in overall funding through Old Bill's. Over the lifetime of the event, Old Bill's Fun Run has raised more than \$82.5 million dollars to benefit local charities.

About Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities

The first event of its kind in the nation, the idea for Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities came from an anonymous couple that has so far provided \$7.5 million in matching funds over fifteen years to encourage local philanthropy. Through the event, produced annually by the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, the community has raised over \$82.5 million to benefit local charities. In 2011, Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities raised \$7.75 million for 200 local nonprofits with approximately 3,500 people running, walking or wheeling in the event.

About The Community Foundation of Jackson Hole

For over 20 years, the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole has worked with donors and nonprofits to enrich all aspects of our community. The Foundation enables donors to establish personal philanthropic funds including donor advised, endowment, field of interest and legacy funds to facilitate their giving.

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