



**Press Release  
For Immediate Release  
December 30, 2011**

### **Community Foundation Awards \$288,000 to Local Nonprofits.**

**JACKSON, WY** December 23, 2011 – Early this winter, 45 local organizations submitted 47 grant requests to the Community Foundation’s Competitive Grants program. Community volunteers serving on the grants committee read each proposal and conducted dozens of site visits. The countless hours of work by both the committee and the applicants resulted in nearly \$288,000 in funding for 31 Jackson nonprofits. The recently awarded \$75,000 in Economic Response Initiative funding for food programs also benefitted an additional 5 organizations.

The December meeting was the first of two for 2012. The Competitive Grants program, funded by Old Bill’s Co-Challengers and private donors, will provide approximately \$550,000 to local organizations in the coming year.

“All of our local nonprofits are doing more with less,” observed Katharine Conover, President of the Community Foundation. “At a time when organizations are struggling with diminished resources, it is difficult to allocate funding effectively. The 25 Grants Committee members have the tough job of deciding from among 40 to 50 compelling projects how best to support programs with widespread and varied community impact.”

Jackson Community Recycling, one of the grant recipients, will be awarded \$5,173 for its spring clean-up Yard Waste Collection Program. Plastic bags used to dispose of yard waste make it hard to identify the compostable materials. When dumped in the landfill, yard waste produces methane, a greenhouse gas 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide. In addition to the creation of this gas, sending organic waste to the landfill is costly for our community. With funding from the Community Foundation, Jackson Community Recycling will distribute 5,760 compostable paper bags to hold yard waste at the 2012 Town Clean-up as well as educating the public about the value of proper disposal. Town of Jackson Public Works and Terra Firma Organics will collect the bags for composting, diverting as much as 370,000 pounds of organic waste from the landfill.

Other grants include funding for infrastructure needs at Teton Youth and Family Services, the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum’s Voices of the Valley oral history program series, the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation’s program to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions and scholarships to enable more kids to experience the Snake River through Jackson Hole Kayak Club programming. A complete list of grants can be found on the attachment.

The second round of grant applications will be accepted in April, and the Grants Committee will distribute the remaining funds. Historically, the Community Foundation receives more proposals in the second cycle than the first.

**About the Community Foundation's Competitive Grants**

Thanks to the generosity of Old Bill's Fun Run Co-Challengers and donors to the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, the Foundation is able to provide funding to important local projects through its Competitive Grants program. Applications are accepted twice a year from nonprofits, and the volunteer Grants Committee recommends funding based upon impact, innovation and collaboration. In 2011 the Community Foundation invested over \$700,000 in community programs.

**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. Annually, the Foundation organizes Old Bill's Fun Run for Charities, which has raised \$82.5 million in the past fifteen years for local nonprofits.

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