



MOONLIGHT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

# Annual Report



MOONLIGHT COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

We foster and support opportunities for education, youth development, conservancy and initiatives targeting underserved needs that benefit the Big Sky Community.

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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Hello friends and neighbors,*

As we look forward to another prosperous year thanks to the generous support of so many Moonlight Families, I'd like to start by looking back. The Moonlight Community Foundation began in 2011 by a small group of homeowners compelled to band together in the face of uncertain times. The first project was to establish interpretive signs on the Ulery's Lake Trail. Two years later we helped establish Camp Moonlight. Three years ago we started a biannual grant cycle to fund local non-profit initiatives. Today, the Foundation has grown to a board of nine and in annual giving into the six-figure range, focusing on education, conservation and youth development. Over the years, we have established two annual fundraising events - the Spring Social every March and the Ski Bridge Event each July in addition to an annual campaign. We have grown slowly and purposefully; we remain dedicated to bridging the Moonlight community with causes that matter in the Big Sky area.

These are exciting times in Southwest Montana and just as the Foundation and Moonlight has grown, so, too, has the entire Big Sky area. Our town is booming once again, which means more people enjoying our bluebird ski days, sharing our amazing trail system and looking to land their next catch in the area's blue ribbon rivers. It also means that many of the local organizations need more help than ever to provide and maintain many of their programs.

In 2017 the Moonlight Community Foundation saw tremendous growth in both our grant applications and money awarded. We had 32 grant requests over the two cycles, totaling almost \$350,000 and in turn gave \$205,474 to area non-profits. These ranged in scope from the Tree Houses at Kircher Park in the meadow, to Art education in Ophir Elementary school, from a food rescue program with the Big Sky Food Bank, to helping build out the area's only day-care facility for infants. We awarded 27 Camp Moonlight scholarships to Big Sky youth and subsidized the camp to bring down the total cost for local working families. All of this and so much more was made possible by our generous donors: you.

As someone who lives in Moonlight full time, I hope you join me in feeling proud at seeing your contributions at work in this Annual Report as well as around town. For those of you thinking of donating to the Foundation, thank you for your consideration and I hope you're compelled to give after seeing what we have accomplished. For those who have donated and continue to donate, thank you for making a difference for so many in Big Sky.

*With Gratitude,*

*Heather Morris*

**MCF BOARD PRESIDENT**



**THE 2017  
MOONLIGHT  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION  
BOARD**

- Heather Morris  
BOARD PRESIDENT
- Robin Sheehan  
VICE-PRESIDENT
- John Geisler  
SECRETARY
- Amy Smith  
TREASURER
- Kathy Dudley  
DIRECTOR
- Kevin Germain  
DIRECTOR
- Larry Landry  
DIRECTOR
- Jerry Hood  
DIRECTOR
- Ania Bulis  
DIRECTOR

**BRIDGING OUR  
COMMUNITY WITH  
CAUSES THAT MATTER**

*Your Donations at Work*

**Total Amount Gifted:  
\$360,736**

**\$205,474**  
2017

**\$123,381**  
2016

**\$31,811**  
2015

Heather Morris and family, MCF Board President

# 2017

## GIVING BY PROGRAM

2017 TOTAL  
**\$205,474**







## Save the Dates: 2018

### **Moonlight Spring Social**

March 11th, Moonlight Tavern

### **Camp Moonlight Registration**

May 1st

### **Moonlight Trail Day**

July 14th

### **Ski Bridges of Madison County Annual Fundraiser**

July 22nd

### **Camp Moonlight**

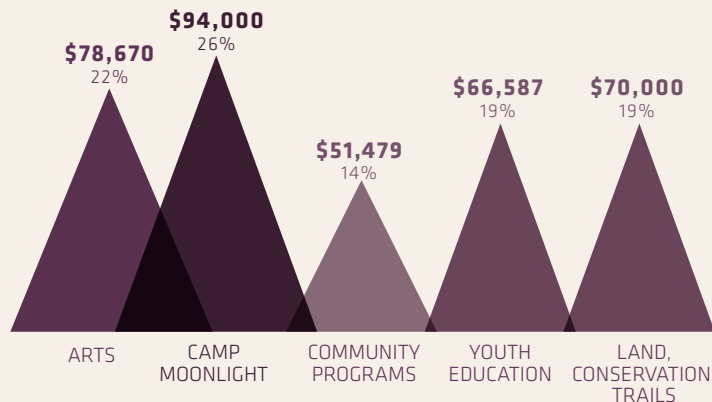
**Session 1:** July 23rd – 26th

**Session 2:** July 30th – Aug. 3rd

## 2015–2017

### MCF GRANTING BY CATEGORY

MCF HAS GRANTED OVER \$360,000 OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS



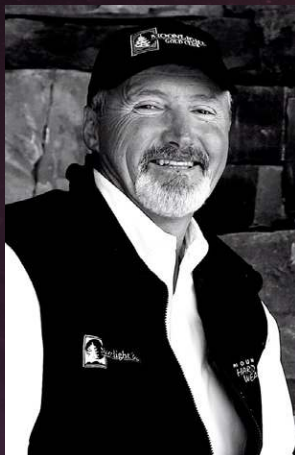
## MAKING A GRANT REQUEST EASY

MCF has a biannual grant cycle. Grant applications are due on May 15th and November 15th of each year. Grant applications are available on our website [MoonlightCommunityFoundation.org](http://MoonlightCommunityFoundation.org). The Grants tab on the website contains all the information required to submit a grant.



MOONLIGHT COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

## Honoring a Moonlight Icon



In 2016 the Moonlight Community Foundation created the Lee Poole Memorial Scholarship. Each year, a \$3000 grant is awarded to an outstanding graduating senior of Lone Peak High School. The MCF recommends that the recipient should demonstrate leadership ability, superior vision and a strong desire to pursue a degree in environmental studies or conservation. The 2017 recipient was Eddie Starz who enrolled at Carroll College last fall. The 2018 recipient will be awarded at the Friends of Big Sky Education LPHS Community Scholarship Awards on April 5, 2018.

*As community members we remain grateful to Lee for his vision of Moonlight Basin and his pioneering stewardship.*



Photo: Kene Sperry





## Camp Moonlight

Summers continue to get better and better in Moonlight Basin. No where is this more apparent than in the smiles on the faces of our happy campers. With each year, the camp grows, activities are added and the fun continues as one would expect when children come together from all parts of the world to enjoy plugging into the great outdoors.

This year again, two four-day sessions will have the campers ages 5-17 participating in activities ranging from paddle boarding to archery, hiking to horseback riding and so much more.

**Registration begins May 1st** and the camp usually fills up in the first few days. As in years past, full and partial scholarships will be awarded including the Harbor DeWaard Scholarship which honors camp attendees who exhibits a love of the outdoors by instilling qualities of conservation and preservation in their day to day lives. The 2017 recipients of this award were none other than Harper Morris and Dylan Manka.

Registration for 2017 Camp Moonlight will begin in **May 1st, 2018**. As always, the camp is open to all children ages 5-17.

If you have an interest in enrolling or sponsoring a child,  
***please email us at [info@moonlightcommunityfoundation.com](mailto:info@moonlightcommunityfoundation.com)***



## Helping our Youth Develop Stronger Connections to the Natural World

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One of our most exciting (and fun!) projects to sponsor in 2017 was the construction of the Kircher Discovery Park Tree Fort. Officially opened in October, this fantastic commercial grade engineered play structure was built within the 7-acre open space of Kircher Park. Located .2 miles down a natural surface trail off of Lone Mountain Trail, the park is a large forested meadow with the South Fork of the Gallatin meandering through the property. The impact on our Big Sky community is truly significant. This exceptional park has increased the publically accessible playgrounds in our community by 25%, developing underutilized land with a unique feature that will engage youth in creative play in their natural environment.

Best of all, it's free and open to residents and visitor of all ages, so round up the kids or grand kids and check it out!

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# 25%

*increase in the publically  
accessible playgrounds  
in our community*



Photo: Kene Sperry



## Moonlight and Arts in Big Sky

From Concerts in Town Center to Artsplot. ARTVenture to Performances at WMPAC, Moonlight Community Foundation proudly supports the arts across all ages in Big Sky. In 2017, MCF sponsored the only in-school arts program for children K-5; sent Lone Peak High Schoolers exploring Seattle museums and art installations; brought the community of Big Sky together for a summer evening concert and played a role in bringing "Concert for America" to the WMPAC stage, showcasing Vanessa Williams, Carrie Manolakos, Andrea McArdle, Abby Mueller, Jessie Mueller and more!



# 2017 MOONLIGHT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DONORS

## **\$15,000+**

Larry & Toni Landry  
Bryan & Katherine Bottarelli

## **\$10,000 - \$14,999**

John & Jean Geisler  
John & Adrienne Kirby  
Timothy & Robin Sheehan

## **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Martin & Kathy Dudley  
Bob & Patty Rhea  
Mark & Jenny Mummert  
Martin & Lori Weinstein  
Scott & Jennifer Gwilliam

## **\$2,500 - \$4,999**

Matt & Heather Morris  
Michael & Amy Allen  
Matt & Sheena Kidd  
Mark & Catherine Cone  
James & Amy Reger  
Curtis & Roxanne  
Trenkelbach

## **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

William L. Lauf  
Nicholas & Jill Page  
Bob Sauerberg  
Frank & Pam O'Connor  
Daniel & Nancy Fry  
Jerry & Deborah Hood  
Jonathan & Margaret Doyle  
Ania Bulis

Michael & Alicia Alford  
Tom & Kathy O'Connor  
Jeff & Marjorie Helms  
Daphne Chester & Kevin  
Crowe  
Kevin & Karin Germain  
Lee & Ruth Ann Seward  
Russell & Susannah  
Wolsfelt  
Scott & Amy Smith  
Dan & Anne Buchanan  
Thomas Olsen  
John & Harriet Lerch  
Ken & Tallie Lancey  
Loren & Jill Bough  
Shay & Elizabeth Williams

## **\$500 - \$999**

Brad & Melissa Levine  
Rajeev Garapati & Jyoti Patel  
John & Susan Kern  
John & Susan Papadopoulos  
Jason & Karin Mittelstaedt  
Rich & Leslie Jorgenson  
Steven Daily  
Alex & Julie Iskenderian  
Dave & Colleen Jones  
Jeff & Karen Strickler  
Clayton & Colleen McCaffery  
Stephen & Cynthia Reisman  
David & Jeanne Jones  
Hunter & Andrea Parks  
Ian & Karen Davis

Kenneth & Kimberly Johnson  
Christopher & Sara Pfaff  
Mike & Jen Wilczynski  
Rob & Susan White  
Shawna Winter & Charles  
Gaillard

## **\$0 - \$499**

James & Melinda Lewis  
Tracey Griffin & Lance  
Matthiesen  
George & Julie Peinado  
Tzaras Christon  
Bo Broyles  
Brad & Janet James  
Brett & Shelley Shanaman  
Rory & Mary Ann Finlay  
Ted & Kate Williams  
Kurt & Alison Kohlmeyer  
Wayne & Kendall Dimarco  
William Baer & Nancy  
Hendry  
William McLaughlin  
John & Sandy Fountain  
Bayard Dominick  
Bill & Koko Corbin  
Charles & Maryileen Cumbaa  
Guy & Ann Cook  
John & Jennifer Hamlin  
Maggie Good & Tom  
VonLehman  
Ron & Seiko Rykowski  
Thomas & Lynne Koontz

Tom & Gayle Parseghian  
Wayne & Cheryl  
Stromeyer  
John & Margaret Walden  
Lonnie & Mary Ball  
Rex Kleinsasser  
Ben Holst  
John & Elizabeth Schwing  
Semmes & Catherine  
Favrot  
Andy & Sonja Baertsch  
Anonymous

## **In Kind Services**

Lone Mountain Land Co  
Mindy Cummings

## **Auction Donors 2017**

Cross-Harbor Capitol  
Moonlight Club  
Yellowstone Club  
Natural Retreats  
Willies Distillery  
Trove  
Bozeman Spirits Distillery

## **Donations in Kind**

Matt & Heather Morris  
Ania Bulis  
Kathy & Martin Dudley  
Ron & Seiko Rykowski  
Timothy & Robin Sheehan



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# *Giving Feels Good*

THANK YOU TO THE  
88 COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO  
DONATED \$178,960 IN 2017.

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MOONLIGHT COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

PO Box 161013  
Big Sky, MT 59716

[moonlightcommunityfoundation.org](http://moonlightcommunityfoundation.org)