Mini-Grants Give the Community a Boost

Giving older citizens a pet brings joy and companionship to all involved

“Loneliness can be devastating, particularly to our senior community members. Pet ownership offers a sense of purpose and responsibility with relatively little effort required on the owners’ part. Most cats just want food, litter, and a friendly lap! Selecting the perfect companion for our Silver Whiskers applicants is key.”

GVAWL places older, healthy animals that are generally more settled and are often overlooked for adoption because of their age. The application process is simple and GVAWL assists Silver Whiskers adopters with costs as needed, thanks in part to you!

For the second year in a row, your support made One Valley Prosperity Project (OVPP) mini-grants possible. Organizations with strong Community Grant applications were invited to apply for additional funding for projects connected to at least one OVPP priority – Community Health, Affordable Housing, Sustainable Tourism and Recreation, and Economic Resiliency.

In addition to GVAWL, keep an eye out for more extraordinary work and stories from Six Points, Hispanic Affairs Project, Habitat for Humanity, Gunnison Valley Mentors, Gunnison Country Food Pantry, Crested Butte Land Trust, Center for Adult and Family Education, Crested Butte Community School Enrichment Program, Gunnison Trails, Señorita Rita’s Book Bus, and the Crested Butte Wildflower Festival. You make it happen!

In 1995, Bill Trampe and Susan Lohr were in the beginning stages of conversations with the ranching community about what would eventually become Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy. Lifelong Gunnison resident, Walt Cranor, attended those meetings. He said he’d have to think about doing a conservation easement with his family ranch.

Over twenty years later, Walt visited the Legacy office. With a big smile, he told staff he’d been thinking about those meetings for a while. He and Margaret had waited until all five of their children were old enough to weigh in on the decision.

It turns out that the third generation of Cranors support conservation, and the same locally-led program Walt heard about in 1995 was able to help carry out their family’s wishes and give a gift to future generations of the Gunnison Valley.
Set up for Success
Imagination Library reaches Valley youngsters

Winston's dad is parenting solo. He works two jobs to afford to send Winston to preschool. Dad didn't learn to read until he went to kindergarten. He was already behind, and he wants to make sure that doesn't happen to Winston. Every night, Winston sits on dad's lap, learning colors, shapes and sounds.

Winston is one of over 330 kiddos enrolled in the local Imagination Library Program and he receives a book in the mail each month from CFGV.

Thanks to generous donors like you, these books arrive at no cost to Winston's dad. They are free of charge for any child in Gunnison or Hinsdale County under the age of five. Contact CFGV at 970/641-8837 for a registration form.

The Dynamic Math Fairy
Maren Eberly - 2018 Dan Tredway Memorial Excellence in Teaching Award

A one-of-a-kind human being, Maren, inspires creativity in her students at Gunnison Elementary School. She believes in superheroes and brings a sense of delight into her classrooms.

“It’s not just about math. If you’re having fun, so are the kids - and they’re learning. You’re helping your students grow into kind, compassionate adults.”

MAREN EBERLY

Blazing Trails
Valley youngsters have ambitious plans

From ranch to MIT . . . so goes the saga of Catherine Washburn. In her own words, “…aerospace engineering programs affected my college choice . . . [and] my work ethic enables me to develop solutions to challenging problems.” Catherine received two of CFGV’s scholarships this year – Gunnison Memorial and the Gunnison Kiwanis Scholarship.

Josie Bifano set her course to be a veterinarian when she was in the 6th grade. She’s chosen to begin at Northeastern Junior College and then transfer to CSU to earn the veterinary degree that’s in her plan. “Nine years in 4-H and four years in FFA have given me plenty of hands-on animal experience and leadership training through multiple projects”. Josie received one of the Memorial Scholarships to pursue her dreams.

For 2019 graduates, CFGV has a brand new fund with an innovative bent - the Maxwell MacAllister Scholarship. A Gunnison High School senior, who is the first in their family to pursue education after high school, will win the award that will help send them on their way. Begun by Kathy and Jim MacAllister, the scholarship will honor Jim's grandfather who was the first in his family to graduate from college.

Academic merit and involvement in the community are important attributes for the community committees that review applications – reviewers and applicants take both to heart. Learn more at www.cfgv.org.

“CGFV’s mission: to strengthen and enrich the community through engaged philanthropy, thoughtful grantmaking, strategic education and collaborative leadership.”
Bootcamp

Striving for organizational excellence

Behind the scenes, your support goes far beyond Community Grants. Strong and resilient organizations are critical to a healthy community. Regional and local workshops, offered at little to no cost, give your local nonprofits resources and guidance for continuous improvement.

Illene Roggensack with Third Sector Innovations spent a morning highlighting the elements of good governance, the ins and outs of effective resource development, and answering questions from a room full of local nonprofit staff and board members.

Additional workshops in 2018 included Uncommon Wisdom with Jason Berv, Mindfulness for Creative Disruption with Paul Duba, the Art of Storytelling with Alan Wartes and Twice the Work in Half the Time with Half the Stress with Michelle and Jeff Bivens.

It Takes a Village

Strengthening the nonprofit community

“I’m reaching out with a very heartfelt thank you. The STEP program, most recently, was such a gift to us. Mark did a great job facilitating our board gathering, and I have enjoyed learning new tools to help move our vision along. What a resource!

I attended the El Pomar training for Executive Leadership last spring. I cannot thank you enough for reaching out and giving me the nudge. That was exactly what I needed. I feel incredibly inspired, educated and ready to conquer what is necessary to keep our nonprofit community thriving. I am thrilled to play a part!”

2018 STEP SNAPSHOT

· # of STEPs initiated in 2018: 16
· # of STEPs completed in 2018 as of end of September: 10
· # of STEPS ongoing and still to be completed (some begun in 2017): 11
· # of 2018 hours donated by Advisors at end of September: 53

Welcome New Board Members & Advisors

Rose Tacke
BOARD
Cynthia Peatross
BOARD
Rob Hoiting
BOARD
Aaron Huckstep
BOARD
Jennifer Kermoda
ADVISOR
Bob McNamara
ADVISOR
Janet Reimman
ADVISOR
Carol Johnson
ADVISOR

The mission of CFGV: to strengthen and enrich the community through engaged philanthropy, thoughtful grantmaking, strategic education and collaborative leadership.
Advocating for those without a powerful voice

Remembering Martha Gentry

It’s been nearly a year since we lost a community treasure. Martha Gentry tirelessly worked for social justice, in Gunnison County and well beyond. She was especially skilled at bringing together coalitions of very diverse groups to organize educational programs and special services for groups within the community who lack an advocate. Martha was honored with a CFGV Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011. Just shy of age 91 when she passed, Martha’s love and dedication to the community will live on for at least another 91 years.

Asleep at the Wheel

Rockin’ the I Bar Ranch

Once again, The Wheel rocked the I Bar with over 600 guests in attendance. Sponsors, ticket holders and volunteers made it a night to remember. With Les Choy and Gypsy Jazz Social Club opening, the dance floor was rockin’ all night long.
Community Grant Awards

2018

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

BOOMERS AND BEYOND Gunnison Valley Oral Histories
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY GUNNISON VALLEY General Operating
HISPANIC AFFAIRS PROJECT Local Immigrant Integration

ENVIRONMENT

CRESTED BUTTE LAND TRUST General Operating
CRESTED BUTTE WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL General Operating
HIGH COUNTRY CONSERVATION ADVOCATES (HCCA) East River Watershed Management Planning

EDUCATION

CRESTED BUTTE COMMUNITY SCHOOL Enrichment Programs
GUNNISON COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT Center for Adult and Family Education (CAFE)
SEASONS SCHOOLHOUSE Tuition Assistance
GUNNISON SCHOOL DISTRICT Señorita Rita’s Rockin’ Reading Book Bus

ARTS AND CULTURE

CRESTED BUTTE CENTER FOR THE ARTS General Operating
CRESTED BUTTE MOUNTAIN THEATRE General Operating
CRESTED BUTTE DANCE COLLECTIVE Aerial Rigging

DOMESTIC ANIMAL WELFARE

GUNNISON VALLEY ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE (GVAWL) General Operating

ATHLETICS AND RECREATION

CRESTED BUTTE AVALANCHE CENTER General Operating
CRESTED BUTTE NORDIC Community Outreach
GUNNISON TRAILS Youth Trail Crew
WESTERN STATE COLORADO UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS Free Sports Clinics for Youth

Your Gifts in Action

Señorita Rita’s Rockin’ Reading Book Bus

Over 600 youngsters read more than 3500 books over the summer thanks to the Rockin’ Reading Book Bus. Maintaining or improving reading ability over the summer months sets students up for success in the fall.

Donors make it happen!
2018 One Valley Prosperity Project
Mini-Grants

CENTER FOR ADULT AND FAMILY EDUCATION (CAFE)
Build Relationships Between Local Law Enforcement and the Immigrant Community

CRESTED BUTTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
Link the Creede Repertory Theater’s Production of “Seed” to the Activities of the Kids’ Garden and Science Clubs

CRESTED BUTTE LAND TRUST
Create Use/Etiquette Signage at Access Points on the Upper Slate River

CRESTED BUTTE WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL
Create an Ongoing Internship for a Western Student to Design Curriculum and Engage Elementary School Children

CRESTED BUTTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM
Link the Creede Repertory Theater’s Production of “Seed” to the Activities of the Kids’ Garden and Science Clubs

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Create an Ongoing Internship for a Western Student to Design Curriculum and Engage Elementary School Children

GUNNISON COUNTRY FOOD PANTRY
Engage a Spanish-Language Outreach Coordinator

GUNNISON TRAILS
Expand Work Crews to Include WSCU Incoming Freshmen, the Youth Mustang Bike Club and Gunnison Mentors

GUNNISON VALLEY ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE
Expand the “Silver Whiskers” Program to Provide Older, Well-Behaved Pets, and Necessary Supplies to Seniors in Poverty, Including veterans.

GUNNISON TRAILS
Expand Work Crews to Include WSCU Incoming Freshmen, the Youth Mustang Bike Club and Gunnison Mentors

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HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
Offer Workshops on Inexpensive Solar Energy Design and Installation

HISPANIC AFFAIRS PROJECT
Help Build a Corps of Interpreters to Assist the Multicultural Resource Center

SEÑORITA RITA’S ROCKIN’ READING BOOK BUS
Create Little Free Libraries (Book Nooks) with Books in Spanish and English in Three Neighborhoods

SIX POINTS EVALUATION AND TRAINING
Train Staff to Expand Services for Individuals with a Traumatic Brain Injury

Donors Rule!

Your Gifts in Action

Dine and Discuss

Sharing a meal together sets the stage for productive conversation, understanding, mutual respect and building trust in the Gunnison Valley. An ongoing partnership among the Gunnison County Libraries, Hispanic Affairs Project, Gunnison County Sheriff’s Department, Gunnison Police Department and the County’s Multicultural Resource Services office creates safe and informal settings for the Valley’s immigrants to learn their rights and the law from trusted law enforcement representatives.

For a list of grantees from other years, please visit cfgv.org/grantees