

GIANFORTE FAMILY FOUNDATION MARKS 20 YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY IN MONTANA

Foundation has contributed \$118 million, supported 660+ nonprofit partners working in Montana

BOZEMAN, MT—The Gianforte Family Foundation, founded in 2004 by Greg and Susan Gianforte, is celebrating 20 years of charitable giving in Montana this year. To date, the organization has provided 2,700 grants totaling more than \$118 million and serving more than 660 nonprofit partners, making it one of the top giving foundations in Montana.

“Helping Montanans thrive and prosper is the number one goal of the Gianforte Family Foundation,” according to Susan Gianforte, co-founder and trustee of the foundation. “We are abundantly blessed to be able to give back, and we are humbled by the work our nonprofit partners do to improve the lives of so many people across our state.”

BY THE NUMBERS (2004-2023)	
\$88,360,000	Contributions to Montana nonprofit work
661	Montana nonprofit partners supported
2,000+	Grants awarded to Montana nonprofit work
73%	Support to Montana nonprofit partners of total foundation giving

Over the last 20 years, more than 73 percent of the foundation’s giving goes to nonprofits working in Montana, and that proportion has increased to 90 percent annually in recent years, says Gianforte Family Foundation Executive Director Catherine Koenen. “Our main mission,” according to Koenen, “is supporting Montana organizations that, in turn, help people in need improve their lives in a sustainable way. We want to see our state flourish and that is possible only by individuals and families flourishing—not just economically but physically, mentally, and spiritually as well. It takes a holistic approach.”

The foundation focuses its philanthropy on initiatives that strengthen individuals and families, especially the state’s most vulnerable, and this is primarily done through relationships, says Koenen. “We emphasize projects that are not a one-and-done method, but rather develop crucial relationships that form the basis for true long-term change. And just as relationships are key between our nonprofit partners and those they serve, they are key between us and our partners. We couldn’t have any impact without the vital organizations we get to work with.”

This includes significant support across the state for organizations such as the Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, Child Bridge, Reach Higher Montana for academic scholarships, Youth Entrepreneurs, Special Olympics Montana, FFA, state universities, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, rescue missions, addiction recovery centers, veteran and first responder programs, drug treatment courts, pregnancy resource centers, human trafficking safe houses, Native American community development and enrichment organizations, independent schools, and churches implementing outreach programs designed to engage and improve communities.

The foundation also helps strengthen its nonprofit partners through an annual Board Development Program that provides in-depth training and coaching in areas including culture, governance, strategy, and sustainability. This year the Gianforte Family Foundation is also launching a leadership program for executive directors of its faith-based partner organizations. “Through these intensive programs,” Koenen says, “we seek to bolster the leadership of Montana nonprofits so that they will ultimately be more successful, self-sustaining, and better able to serve their communities.”

Detailed numbers on the foundation's giving history will be provided in the Gianforte Family Foundation 2023 Annual Giving Report, available in March. For more information about the foundation visit gianfortefoundation.org.

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