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STUDENTS AWARD MORE THAN \$115,000 TO LOCAL NONPROFITS THROUGH GIVE NEXT PROGRAM

FORT COLLINS, Colo., June 2, 2020 – Despite an unexpected transition to online learning due to COVID-19, 21 middle and high schools in Poudre and Thompson School Districts capped off the school year by awarding more than \$115,000 to 44 Larimer County nonprofits through the Give Next youth philanthropy program.

Give Next is a school-based youth philanthropy program designed to provide middle and high school students with experience in philanthropic giving. While schools transitioned to online learning amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, participating classes continued efforts to learn about and raise money for Larimer County nonprofits.

“We adapted to distance learning by meeting virtually every week using Google Meet,” said Krista Taylor, a Give Next teacher at Fort Collins High School, whose retirement at the end of this year concludes more than 30 years of teaching. “During this time, we met for twice as long as if we were still meeting face to face.”

Through the program, local businesses, foundations and individuals become classroom donors by providing each participating school with \$5,000 to award to Larimer County nonprofits. Many of the students from participating schools also complete their own fundraisers to add to the \$5,000 grant amount provided by donors. Throughout the year, students design and manage their own grantmaking programs. Students work together to identify community needs, choose a focus area, create their own mission statement, research nonprofits, volunteer, conduct site visits, review grant applications and make funding decisions. At the end of the school year, students award grants to selected nonprofits. Through the process, Give Next enables students to experience the power of teamwork, the impact they can have on their community and the rewards of giving time, talent and treasure.

“We see Give Next students lead and take responsibility for their community in new ways,” said Sara Maranowicz, Bohemian Foundation’s Community Programs director. “This spring, students demonstrated their commitment to the well-being of others and made sure grants were made to local nonprofits.”

Since the program’s inception in 2012, more than \$570,000 has been awarded to Larimer County nonprofits – \$495,000 of which was provided by classroom donors and nearly \$80,000 of which was raised by Give Next students. Every donor dollar goes directly to student grantmaking. For more information about becoming a Give Next classroom donor or about participating in the program, contact Jodie Riesenberger at 970-221-2636 or givenext@bohemianfoundation.org.

Full List of 2019-2020 Give Next Grant Recipients:

Students awarded a total of \$115,987 to 44 Larimer County nonprofit organizations, \$105,000 of which was provided by Give Next classroom donors and \$10,987 of which was raised by Give Next students to leverage the impact of donor dollars.

Poudre School District schools and their respective grant recipients are listed below.

Boltz Middle School donated to FoCo Café and Saturday Morning.

Cache La Poudre Middle IB World School donated to Boys and Girls Club of Larimer County and Healing Warrior Program.

Fort Collins High School donated to Family Housing Network of Fort Collins, Inc.; FoCo Café; Food Bank for Larimer County; Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity; Respite Care, Inc.; The Family Center/La Familia; and The Nappie Project.

Fossil Ridge High School donated to Crossroads Safehouse and Royal Family KIDS.

Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School donated to Fort Collins Museum of Discovery and LAUNCH: Community Through Skateboarding.

Leshar Middle IB World School donated to Center for Family Outreach; Harvest Farm; and Larimer County Partners, Inc.

Lincoln Middle IB World School donated to Family Housing Network of Fort Collins, Inc.; Homeward Alliance; Neighbor to Neighbor; and Saturday Morning.

Polaris Expeditionary Learning School donated to Colorado Youth Outdoors; Heart-J Center for Experiential Learning at Sylvan Dale Ranch; National Association for Interpretation; and Respite Care, Inc.

Poudre Community Academy donated to Alternatives to Violence, Inc.; Fort Collins Museum of Discovery; Larimer County 4-H Youth Foundation; LAUNCH: Community Through Skateboarding; Royal Family KIDS; and Sexual Assault Victim Advocate (SAVA) Center.

Poudre High School donated to CASA of Larimer County.

PSD Global Academy donated to Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity and One Community One Family.

Rocky Mountain High School donated to Ashley Doolittle Foundation; Crossroads Safehouse; and Light of the Rockies Christian Counseling Center.

Wellington Middle School donated to Disabled Resource Services; Foothills Gateway, Inc.; and Respite Care, Inc.

Thompson School District schools and their respective grant recipients are listed below.

Berthoud High School donated to 3Hopeful Hearts; Disabled Resource Services; Hearts & Horses; Light of the Rockies Christian Counseling Center; and Respite Care, Inc.

High Plains School donated to American Cancer Society; Make-A-Wish Foundation of Colorado, Inc.; and UCHealth Northern Colorado Foundation.

Loveland High School donated to Alternatives to Violence, Inc.; CASA of Larimer County;

and Voices Carry Child Advocacy Center.

Lucile Erwin Middle School donated to 3Hopeful Hearts and ChildSafe Colorado, Inc.

Mountain View High School donated to A Friend 4U; ChildSafe Colorado, Inc.; Disabled Resource Services; and Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.

Thompson Valley High School donated to ChildSafe Colorado, Inc. and Larimer County Partners, Inc.

Turner Middle School donated to Aspire 3D; Catholic Charities - The Mission; Family Housing Network of Fort Collins, Inc.; FoCo Café; and Homeward Alliance.

Walt Clark Middle School donated to Alliance for Suicide Prevention and Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program.

Bohemian Foundation is a private family foundation established in 2001. Based in Fort Collins, Colorado, Bohemian Foundation works to empower citizens and impact communities through its responsive grant making programs and special initiatives. Bohemian Foundation provides management support for Give Next.

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