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Freeport-McMoRan Announces 2018 Climax Area Community Investment Fund Grant Recipients

Leadville, CO, May 30, 2018 — On behalf of Climax Molybdenum, the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation has announced that the 2018 Climax Area Community Investment Fund (CIF) grant recipients have been selected.

A total of \$300,000 was awarded to eight nonprofit organizations from three counties – Lake, Summit and Eagle. Recipients received their monetary awards on May 30, and will be recognized by members of the Community Investment Committee (CIC) during visits to each recipient organization beginning on May 31.

The Climax Area CIF was established in 2011 to focus on programs and projects that help create sustainability and reduce dependency on any single industry. Eligible programs and projects include those in the areas of education, community and economic development, environmental stewardship and health and wellness. A committee comprised of community leaders representing diverse organizations and two Freeport-McMoRan representatives governs the Fund. The community leaders were selected by members of the Climax Area Community Partnership Panel, a stakeholder engagement process established by Freeport-McMoRan in 2008 to foster open and ongoing dialogue with the community, allowing the company and the community to work together to develop thoughtful solutions that address community issues.

The 2018 grant recipients include:

Advocates of Lake County – \$40,000

Play Space and Safe Parking for the Advocates of Lake County Safehouse

Creating a secure parking lot and play space, the investment will remove deterrents that have prevented individuals from utilizing the Safehouse as a resource to leave an abusive situation in the past. This is the second phase of the project following the purchase of the adjacent lots behind the Safehouse with Freeport-McMoRan Community Investment Funds in 2017.

Central Colorado Conservancy – \$38,000

Arkansas River Preserve – Southern Lake County

Funding allows for the preservation and protection of nine parcels of land along the Arkansas River in southern Lake County. The parcels will be managed in cooperation with the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (CO State Parks) and open to public fishing, hiking and nature study with the historic Leadville Stage Road passing through many of the properties.

Friends of Twin Lakes – \$50,000

Southern Lake County Fire Station

A second fire station in southern Lake County will decrease emergency response times by 40%, providing better countywide protection and less reliance on mutual aid from nearby counties. Additionally, it will support development in the County while protecting historic properties, forests, water quality and power needs. Funding for the project will support match requirements for a Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Grant application.

National Forest Foundation – \$15,000

Collaborative Stewardship on Mt. Elbert

Funding will support the completion of a two-year realignment, reconstruction and restoration project on the East Ridge route of Mount Elbert. The project will increase usability and conditions of the Elbert trail system by constructing 5,000 linear feet of sustainable multi-use trail and restoring 20,000 square feet of fragile habitat while engaging the Lake County community through volunteer stewardship opportunities.

Summit Public Radio & TV – \$45,000

Power the Towers for Another 60 Years

Summit Public Radio and TV (SPRTV) is expanding its infrastructure to ensure continued access to Over-the-Air (OTA) TV and FM radio in Summit County. The two-mile long line that powers equipment to delivers radio and TV programming has to be replaced. Funding supports the replacement of the power line and installation of conduit for fiber optic cable, ensuring that residents and visitors have continued access to essential news and cultural media while enabling the site to function as part of wireless networks, emergency communications and other technological enhancements.

Summit School District – \$50,000

Site Makerspaces

Funding aligns the district’s strategic plan to embed STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) experiences into all schools and grades. The makerspaces will engage students in real-world problem-solving activities in all four STEM domains preparing graduates for college and career through experiential learning opportunities.

Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado – \$12,000

Climax Area Outdoor Recreation Enhancements

In partnership with the Leadville Colorado Mountain College campus, Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado will increase local volunteer leadership capacity by training volunteers in a *Crew Leadership for Trails* course, netting significant capacity for residents to directly manage stewardship projects. Funding supports long-term and sustainable volunteer stewardship of recreation and habitats within the four counties of the Climax operational area.

Youth Foundation – \$50,000

Magic Bus Capital Campaign

YouthPower365 will increase access to quality early childhood education for low-income children and their families through two new customized Magic Buses. YouthPower365’s Magic Bus is a licensed, mobile preschool serving low-income children removing multiple barriers to a strong, early-learning foundation, a proven precursor for future academic success and economic mobility.

“We believe one of our key responsibilities is to assist communities in envisioning and planning for their own sustainable future at such time that our mines are no longer viable. Sustainable Development is a very long term activity, so it’s critical that we work with communities now and on an ongoing basis to create, identify and invest in the opportunities and projects that will diversify the local economy, create a stronger economic foundation for the future, and contribute to their lasting social well-being,” said Tracy Bame, President, Freeport-McMoRan Foundation. “Partnership with local government, civil society, nonprofit organizations and citizens is absolutely essential, and we congratulate the organizations receiving 2018 grant awards.”

Information about Freeport-McMoRan community investments and programs may be obtained by visiting FreeportInMyCommunity.com.

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