

Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Announces 2016 Community Investment Fund Grant Recipients

Silver City, N.M. (April 28, 2016) – The Freeport-McMoRan Foundation announced grant recipients of the 2016 Community Investment Fund. Nine nonprofit organizations were awarded a total of \$362,150 at an awards ceremony held on April 28, 2016 at the Western New Mexico University Student Memorial Building in Grant County.

The Grant County Community Investment Fund (CIF) was established in 2011 as part of Freeport-McMoRan's objective to support sustainable benefits for the communities in the areas where we operate and to assist them in appropriate ways to ensure their self-sufficiency beyond the presence of our operations. The CIF is governed by a committee consisting of seven community leaders from diverse organizations and two Freeport-McMoRan representatives from Grant County. The community representatives were selected by the Grant County Community Partnership Panel, a stakeholder engagement process established eight years ago to foster open and ongoing dialogue with the community that creates opportunities for the Company and the community to work together to develop thoughtful solutions that address priority issues.

The Community Investment Fund Committee cultivates and selects programs to receive financial support based on established criteria to address the priorities identified by the community and strives to assist in the success of recipient programs.

The 2016 grant recipients include:

Town of Hurley

Regional Water System – \$40,000

Funding will allow for completion of engineering and design of transmission line right-of-way permits for a public water supply system. The investment will assist the Town of Hurley in securing funding necessary for the construction of a transmission line that will incorporate the Town into the Regional Water System.

Village of Santa Clara

Splash Park – \$45,100

Funds will be used to partner with the Village to build a splash park. The addition of the 22,500 square foot park will attract visitors from the Grant County region and beyond. The park and improvements to surrounding vendor space will increase the economic viability of the community by serving as a community gathering place in the central corridor of the Village.

Silver Consolidated Schools

SADDLE Program – \$90,250

Grant funds will be used for implementation of “Students and Devices Defying Learning Expectations” (SADDLE) in the Cliff Schools ensuring that students of the Cliff-Gila valley have adequate equitable access to science, technology, engineering, and math resources. Additionally, funds will support the launch of a regional training hub around educational technology. The combined projects will provide educators with the technology and professional development necessary to enhance student learning.

Grant County

Helping Seniors Stay Healthy – \$20,000

Grant County will partner with Western New Mexico University (WNMU) School of Nursing to offer an array of basic healthcare services to the five Grant County operated Senior Centers. Services will be delivered by WNMU Nursing students; providing them with real world experience while serving a population in need of basic preventative health.

Silver City Mainstreet

Plaza/Farmer’s Market – \$15,000

Funds will be provided to assist Silver City Mainstreet with the development of a Master Plan to improve the Plaza/Farmer’s Market area using a multi-phase approach. The Master Plan will be used to assist in securing future funding for this project.

Opportunity High School

Vocational Education – \$83,500

The project provides high school aged students in Grant County the chance to pursue a vocational education. By aligning the offerings at Opportunity High School with local workforce need, trained young people are provided the option to remain in the community and businesses are provided a qualified local workforce.

The Imagination Library of Grant County, Inc.

Just Imagine! – \$15,000

Funding will be used to support purchasing books for preschool aged children and general program support. “Just Imagine!” continues to fulfill its mission to deliver books monthly to the homes of preschool children. Families that engage with their children through reading prepare them for school and support a culture of valuing education in the community.

Southwest Center for Health Innovation

MCAT+ DAT Summer Academy – \$26,000

The 6-week MCAT+ and DAT Summer Academy offers an opportunity for local college seniors or recent graduates to increase their chances of getting into medical or dental school, by helping students improve their MCAT+ and DAT test scores. As more local students qualify and attend medical and dental school, the goal is that they will return to the community to practice when their education is complete.

Southwest Christian Center

Project AIM 2016 – \$27,300

Funding will complete a project started in 2015 to build out an archery center in northern Grant County. The Center will provide recreational opportunities for families and youth; a need identified through the most recent Grant County Community Health Council survey. Additionally, the facility can serve as an economic development resource in the community through hosting archery events and competitions.

“The key to sustainable communities is the development of a strong set of diverse assets providing a varied source of economic revenue and jobs, quality schools that support local workforce development, preventative social and health services that reduce the higher cost of urgent hospital care and government services,” said Tracy Bame, President of the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation. “We appreciate and commend the efforts of the Grant County Community Investment Fund Committee as well as local nonprofits, academic institutions and citizens, to consider the kinds of community projects that will best support the needs of the area and the goal to achieve greater sustainability.”

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