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### **Associate-Led Giving at Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Grants More Than \$400,000 to Montana Area Nonprofits**

Emigrant, MT, June 1, 2017 –The Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund (the Fund), an associate-led affiliated fund of [The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation](#), issued more than \$400,000 in direct and in-kind grants to Montana-based nonprofit organizations earlier this week. Grants are focused on the most significant needs and opportunities in rural communities around youth empowerment and early childhood development. The organizations and projects receiving grants were selected by associates of Mountain Sky Guest Ranch living and working in the community.

“When I got to Mountain Sky, I already knew that it was going to be more than a job, said Julie Tate, Wrangler and 6<sup>th</sup> Year Committee Member. “To have community giving be a part of what my life here is about is incredibly enriching.”

To support the work being done by organizations fostering quality opportunities and overall development of early childhood in Montana, the Fund has awarded the Montana Community Foundation \$30,000 towards Funders for Montana's Children early childhood campaign, along with \$20,000 to Greater Gallatin United Way for the Gallatin Early Childhood Community Council.

Commitments to organizations such as Park County 4-H, Ecology Project International, Livingston Food Resource Center, and Gallatin Valley Land Trust champions the efforts being taken to empower youth through a variety of ways including service learning experiences at Yellowstone National Park and farm to school gardening.

“The Livingston Food Resource Center is a collection of assets that came about by identifying needs in our community and getting those we serve back into the community, and we’ve had a lot of support from area organizations to do that, particularly the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund,” noted Michael McCormick, Executive Director, Livingston Food Resource Center. They’ve been a huge supporter and very important in bringing about this facility.”

An equally important role of the Fund is to honor the core value of Giving Back by finding ways to use the resources and capacity of Mountain Sky to positively impact the surrounding communities. This

year, direct in-kind support includes donated use and auction items of the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch property and Rising Sun Golf Course.

To learn more about the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund, watch [here](#).

The full list of community grants includes:

**Early Childhood:**

Montana Community Foundation	\$30,000
Greater Gallatin United Way	\$20,000

**Nonprofit Infrastructure:**

Park County Community Foundation	\$12,000
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**Youth Development:**

Big Brothers and Big Sisters	\$5,000
CASA of Park and Sweet Grass Counties	\$2,500
Ecology Project International	\$12,900
Gallatin County CASA/GAL Program	\$2,500
Gallatin Valley YMCA	\$20,000
Livingston Education Foundation	\$20,000
Livingston Food Pantry of Park County	\$20,000
Livingston Softball and Baseball Association	\$17,500
Montana Council of Economic Education	\$2,500
Montana FFA Foundation	\$10,000
Montana Outdoor Science School	\$10,000
Montana Raptor Conservation Center	\$5,000
Montana Restaurant Education Foundation	\$7,500
Park County 4-H Council	\$80,000
Red Ants Pants Foundation	\$4,000
RISE	\$10,000
The Shane Lalani Center for the Arts	\$5,000
Thrive	\$5,000
Windhorse Equine Learning	\$3,600
Yellowstone Forever	\$7,500

**Veteran Support:**

Heroes and Horses	\$60,000
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**About the Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund**

The Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund is an affiliated fund of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. The Mountain Sky Guest Ranch Fund has contributed more than \$4 million to local nonprofits since Arthur M. Blank, co-founder of The Home Depot, owner of the Atlanta Falcons, Atlanta United, AMB West and chairman of PGA TOUR Superstore, acquired the ranch in 2001.

**About Mountain Sky Guest Ranch**

For more than 80 years, Mountain Sky has offered its guests Montana's majestic natural setting and the opportunity to connect with the land – and each other. Mountain Sky consistently tops the list of the nation's upscale guest ranch resorts, providing rustically-elegant lodging, fine food, unlimited riding and hiking opportunities, an imaginative kids program and superior service.