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Photo credit: Festival at Sandpoint, Racheal Baker

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ***Grants Open to Support Arts, Culture, and Human Rights in Bonner County***

*Local nonprofits encouraged to apply for funding that strengthens community connection and belonging.*

**BONNER COUNTY** – Nonprofit organizations and public entities serving Bonner County have an opportunity to access grant funding that supports arts education, cultural vitality, and human rights initiatives through two locally focused funds administered by The Idaho Community Foundation: the **Bonner County Fund for Arts Enhancement** and the **Bonner County Endowment for Human Rights**.

Together, these funds invest in programs that bring people together, amplify diverse voices, and strengthen community well-being across Bonner County.

### **Bonner County Fund for Arts Enhancement**

The Bonner County Fund for Arts Enhancement supports projects that expand access to arts education and cultural experiences throughout the community, ensuring that artistic expression remains a vital part of Bonner County's culture. Grants generally range from \$3,000 to \$12,000 and are available to nonprofit organizations, public schools, and government entities.

A past recipient, **Festival at Sandpoint**, has used grant funding to help sustain and grow its annual music festival, bringing world-class performances to North Idaho while fostering a lifelong appreciation for the arts.

“Support from the Bonner County Fund for Arts Enhancement helps ensure the arts remain accessible and meaningful for our community,” said **Tess Howell**, Director of Finance & Development for the Festival at Sandpoint. “These investments strengthen not only our programming, but our shared sense of connection.”

### **Bonner County Endowment for Human Rights**

The Bonner County Endowment for Human Rights funds programs that promote inclusion, education, and advocacy with grants typically range from \$1,000 to \$2,500. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, public schools, and government entities working to advance human rights and celebrating diversity in Bonner County. In 2024, the **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) –Far North** received funding to launch Sand Creek Connections Clubhouse, a recover-focused program serving adults living with mental health conditions in Bonner and Boundary counties. The program provides welcoming space for participants to build skills, access resources, and reconnect with their community.

“This funding made it possible to create a place where people feel valued, supported, and connected,” said **Dawn Mehra** of NAMI Idaho – Far North. “Its impact reaches far beyond our walls, strengthening individuals and the community as a whole.”

### **Investing in Bonner County’s Future**

By supporting arts, culture, and human rights initiatives, these locally focused funds help ensure Bonner County remains a vibrant, inclusive place to live, learn, and belong.

The application deadline for both grant programs is May 1, 2026, with grant awards expected in June. Eligible organizations can apply through The Idaho Community Foundation’s online portal at [ICF Grant Opportunities](#).

For more information, contact [grants@idahocf.org](mailto:grants@idahocf.org) or call (208) 342-3535.

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## **About The Idaho Community Foundation**

For nearly 40 years, The Idaho Community Foundation has helped generous Idahoans invest in the people, places, and causes they care about. Through our statewide programs, including The Nonprofit Center, an Idaho Community Foundation program, we strengthen communities by growing philanthropy, elevating nonprofit impact, and connecting Idahoans to opportunities to give back. Learn more at [idahocf.org](http://idahocf.org) or contact us at [info@idahocf.org](mailto:info@idahocf.org).