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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***The Power of Collective Giving:
Idaho Gives Strengthens Southwest Idaho Nonprofits***

IDAHO - Every year, Idaho Gives brings together communities to support the nonprofit organizations that sustain and enrich life in Idaho. Hosted by the Idaho Nonprofit Center, a branch of The Idaho Community Foundation, with support from Idaho Central Credit Union, this statewide event provides an opportunity for Idahoans to invest in causes that make a difference. As the state's population grows, so does the need for philanthropic support to meet the increasing demand for critical nonprofit services.

In Southwest Idaho, the impact of Idaho Gives is clear. Nonprofits in Caldwell, Idaho City, Meridian, Payette, and beyond rely on this annual event to continue their essential work. By harnessing the power of collective giving, these organizations can address urgent community needs and enhance the quality of life for thousands of Idahoans.

Promoting Safety and Awareness Through Be Safe and Sober

Be Safe and Sober was founded in 2016 to reduce the devastating effects of impaired driving and substance abuse through prevention, education, and community outreach. "Idaho Gives allows us to reach thousands of students and community members with life-saving messages about the dangers of impaired driving," says founder Natalie Marti. "We share real stories, encourage safer choices, and provide tangible resources that help prevent tragedies before they happen."

With support from Idaho Gives, Be Safe and Sober has reached over 50,000 individuals through school programs, victim impact panels, and public awareness campaigns. This year, funds will help launch the Kyanne's Corner Project, a memorial dedicated to raising awareness about pedestrian safety and honoring the lives lost to traffic accidents.

Fighting Hunger with the Boise Basin Hunger Project

The Boise Basin Hunger Project (BBHP) provides nutritious food to families and individuals facing food insecurity throughout the Boise Basin. "Rising food costs have made it increasingly difficult for families to put meals on the table, and we have seen a growing demand for our services," says BBHP President Sheldon Bryan "Idaho Gives helps us deliver thousands of meals to those who need them most."

Last year alone, BBHP provided more than 5,000 meals to individuals and families in need. Through partnerships with the Basin School District and the Boise County Sheriff's Department, BBHP ensures that children, seniors, and families have access to consistent, nutritious food year-round. Idaho Gives contributions will help the organization expand its summer-break food program and increase support for rural communities.

Delivering Essential Meals to Seniors with Caldwell Meals on Wheels

For nearly 50 years, Caldwell Meals on Wheels has provided nutritious meals to homebound seniors, ensuring they receive both food and social interaction. "Some seniors can no longer afford to donate toward the cost of their meals due to rising inflation, but we will never refuse service based on their ability to donate," says Executive Director Julie Warwick. "Through fundraising efforts like Idaho Gives, we can continue providing meals to those who need them most."

Caldwell Meals on Wheels delivers over 42,000 meals annually to seniors throughout the region. This year, Idaho Gives donations will help fund different giving levels to support seniors for one week, two weeks, or a full month of meals, ensuring that no senior goes without a hot, nutritious meal due to financial hardship.

Building Stronger Communities Through Four Rivers Healthy Community

Four Rivers Healthy Community works to improve the health, safety, and economic vitality of Payette and Washington counties, as well as Malheur County, Oregon. "We believe that when families are supported, entire communities thrive," says Cathy Yasuda, Four Rivers Board Member. "Idaho Gives allows us to expand literacy programs, promote health initiatives, and provide resources that strengthen families."

One of the organization's signature programs is Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which provides free books to children from birth to age five, ensuring that early literacy is a priority for families in the region. With the support of Idaho Gives donors, Four Rivers Healthy Community can continue expanding access to books and other educational resources, setting children up for long-term success.

A Statewide Movement with Local Impact

Idaho Gives is more than just a fundraiser—it's a movement that amplifies the work of nonprofits across the state. Last year, Idahoans raised over \$4 million for nearly 600 organizations. As Idaho continues to grow, so does the need for increased philanthropic investment in local communities.

"Nonprofits are the foundation of strong communities," says Kevin Bailey, Vice President of Impact & the Idaho Nonprofit Center. "They provide essential services, uplift those in need, and help shape the future of Idaho. Idaho Gives is an opportunity for everyone to be part of something bigger—to give where they live and make an impact."

As April 28 – May 1 approaches, nonprofit organizations are encouraged to register to participate in Idaho Gives before the March 18th early deadline. To learn more or sign up to participate, visit IdahoGives.org.

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About The Idaho Nonprofit Center + Idaho Community Foundation

The Idaho Nonprofit Center merged into The Idaho Community Foundation in 2024, combining resources to strengthen communities through philanthropy and nonprofit capacity. Both organizations have been trusted partners in communities across the state, collaborating with thousands of community-minded residents to invest in the people, places, and causes that enrich the Idaho way of life.

Together, we are better equipped than ever to support Idaho's nonprofits and create lasting, positive impact. To learn how you can join the movement to foster a culture of philanthropy, email us at info@idahocf.org or visit www.idahocf.org.