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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sandpoint High School Students Award \$5,000 in Grants to Support Local Nonprofits Through Idaho Youth in Philanthropy Project

Sandpoint, Idaho — Students from the Interact Club at Sandpoint High School are turning their passion for community into action through The Idaho Community Foundation’s (ICF) Idaho Youth in Philanthropy Project (YIPP). After weeks of thoughtful learning, discussion, and collaboration, the students awarded \$5,000 in grants to five local nonprofits making a difference in Sandpoint and Bonner County.

The following grants were awarded:

- **Food For Our Children** – \$1,000
- **Community Cancer Services** – \$1,000
- **Sandpoint Teen Center** – \$2,000
- **Helping Hands Healing Hearts** – \$500
- **Bonner Homeless Transitions** – \$500

“Participating in the Idaho Youth in Philanthropy Project was an amazing experience for our Interact Club students,” said Erica Haynes, Sandpoint High School teacher and club advisor. “They gained a deeper understanding of the challenges facing our community and learned how philanthropy can be a powerful tool for change. Watching them work together to make these grant decisions was inspiring.”

Students will present grant certificates to each nonprofit recipient during a special awards luncheon on **May 7**, celebrating both the grantees' vital work and the students' achievement in completing the YIPP program.

The Idaho Youth in Philanthropy Project was created in partnership with Serve Idaho and the Idaho Nonprofit Center to empower students in rural Idaho with leadership, critical thinking, and grantmaking skills. Students learn about the role of nonprofits in building strong communities and experience firsthand the importance of giving back.

"This project is about more than just funding," said Tim Adams, Idaho Community Foundation Board Member and YIPP consultant. "It's about investing in young people and giving them the tools to lead with compassion and purpose. The students at Sandpoint High School have shown incredible insight and generosity."

The Idaho Youth in Philanthropy Project is generously supported by Serve Idaho and the Allstate Foundation, whose contributions helped make this opportunity possible for students and nonprofits alike.

For more information, visit IdahoCF.org or contact The Idaho Community Foundation at grants@idahocf.org or 208-342-3535.

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About The Idaho Community Foundation

For more than 36 years, The Idaho Community Foundation has been Idaho's trusted partner in philanthropy, collaborating with thousands of community-minded residents to invest in the people, places, and causes that enrich our way of life. Following our recent merger with the Idaho Nonprofit Center, we are better equipped than ever to support Idaho's nonprofits and create lasting, positive change. 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.