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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Idaho Community Foundation grants \$294K for education

The Idaho Community Foundation has awarded \$294,000 to 23 education projects in Idaho through the Idaho Future Fund.

The Idaho Future Fund was established at the community foundation in 2015 by a couple from Blaine County. Grants from the fund are intended to create, sustain or reinvigorate impactful educational programs throughout the state in the areas of preschool scholarships, charter schools, public schools/public school libraries and supplemental educational programs.

“Our preschool is the heart of our center, and this grant makes all the difference in the world,” said Dawn Brinker, chair of the board of Memorial Community Center in Hope, which received a grant for preschool scholarships.

“Many of our students would not be able to attend if we didn’t offer these scholarships. Our teachers are so talented and dedicated and they provide a quality educational experience. The difference we see in these preschoolers from the first day to the last day of school is impressive and heartwarming.”

Grant recipients are:

EAST IDAHO

Challis Public Library (Custer) – \$10,000 to offer an afterschool Skills Lab program 2-3 days a week for grades K-12.

Island Park Charter School (Fremont) – \$20,000 to provide high-quality preschool and pre-kindergarten and provide an after-school program for students in pre-K through 5th grade.

North Gem Education Foundation (Caribou) – \$15,000 to update the K-5 science program with hands-on learning kits that will enhance the curriculum.

Oneida County Library (Oneida) – \$10,000 to provide a Summer Reading Program for youth ages 0-18 that aims to prevent “summer slide” with free books and a reward party.

Salmon Pioneer Elementary School (Lemhi) – \$8,000 to buy and install playground equipment for the school and purchase a set of soccer standards.

Teton Valley Education Foundation (Teton) – \$15,000 to provide in-school Spanish language instruction for students in K-3, teacher grants and support programs and resources for families of children ages 0-8.

United Way of Southeastern Idaho (Power) – \$20,000 to provide preschool scholarships.

NORTH IDAHO

Lapwai School District No. 341 (Nez Perce) – \$12,000 to continue the reading interventions that have led to improvements for Lapwai Elementary students.

Memorial Community Center, Inc. (Bonner) – \$20,000 to continue offering preschool for the 2022/23 school year.

North Idaho STEM Charter Academy (Kootenai) – \$20,000 to purchase a dynamic, interactive, inflatable planetarium.

Panhandle Alliance for Education, Inc. (Bonner) – \$5,000 to help to support READY! for Kindergarten early childhood literacy for parents program.

Priest Lake Community Education Foundation, Inc. (Bonner) – \$10,000 to provide free preschool and READY! for Kindergarten classes support to early learners.

St. Maries Joint School District #41 (Benewah) – \$20,000 to provide kindergarten readiness and preparation in the community.

United Way of North Idaho (Kootenai) – \$11,000 to provide early childhood care scholarships.

SOUTH CENTRAL

Minidoka County Joint School District #331 (Minidoka) – \$5,000 for the library to replace outdated non-fiction books and add STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and Spanish titles.

SOUTHWEST

Breaking Chains Academy of Development (Canyon) – \$10,000 to support and provide GED/high school equivalency programs and offer afterschool and recreational activities.

Cascade Public Library (Valley) \$3,000 – to replace children’s library items damaged by smoke and water from a fire at an adjacent building.

Cascade School District #422 (Valley) – \$15,000 to provide afterschool STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) enrichment for low-income K-6 students and two weeks of summer camp.

Giraffe Laugh, Inc. (Ada) – \$15,000 to expand the Garden City preschool into a full-day program.

Homedale Joint School District #370 (Owyhee) – \$15,000 to provide curriculum and classroom furnishings for the new public pre-K option.

Onerefugee (Ada) – \$15,000 to provide college readiness support to high school seniors from refugee backgrounds.

Shepherd’s Home, Inc. (Valley) – \$5,000 to bridge learning disparities by bringing tutors, WIFI access, school supplies, snacks and engaging STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) activities to five lower income neighborhoods each week.

Valley County Economic Development Council (Valley) – \$15,000 for scholarships for early childhood education opportunities and educational resources for providers.

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The Idaho Community Foundation connects Idahoans to a generous statewide network through the power of collective giving. Our grantmaking, community impact work and

charitable advising services have strengthened nonprofits, schools and communities in every Idaho county for more than 30 years. We believe that shared philanthropy is more powerful than giving alone. For more information, visit: www.idahocf.org.