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Wyoming Hunger Initiative allocates \$207,022 in infrastructure grants to anti-hunger nonprofits

CHEYENNE, WYO - First Lady Jennie Gordon's Wyoming Hunger Initiative allocated \$207,022 this summer thanks to a match from the Pace Family Foundation to anti-hunger organizations for infrastructure needs through the Initiative's sixth grant cycle since launching in October 2019. Wyoming Hunger Initiative grants are intended to support infrastructure and longevity of antihunger organizations as well as long-term, sustainable solutions to food insecurity across the state.

For the fourth year, Wyoming Hunger Initiative sold "Hearts for Hunger" during the month of February for \$5 each, proving that no matter the size of the donation, every dollar makes a difference. All funds raised were put towards infrastructure grants; as a result of the generosity exhibited this year, nearly \$12,000 was put to use to fund this infrastructure cycle. Grant funding also comes from the Wyoming Hunger Initiative Hunger Champions Circle, which is a team of dedicated ambassadors who serve as catalysts in the ongoing mission to end food insecurity in Wyoming.

"The mission of Wyoming Hunger Initiative is to support the existing work of anti-hunger organizations across the state," First Lady Jennie Gordon said. "It's important to us that we allocate resources where they will have the greatest impact, as quickly as possible."

Several organizations applied for Wyoming Hunger Initiative infrastructure grants and the Initiative is proud to announce that 57 applications were funded. The following organizations are 2024 recipients:

> Absaroka Head Start, Fremont Afton Food Pantry, Lincoln

Alcova Community Food Pantry, Natrona Alpine Food Bank, Lincoln Backpack Blessings of Powell, Park Boys & Girls Club of Cheyenne, Laramie Boys & Girls Club of Douglas, Converse Boys & Girls Club of Sweetwater County, Sweetwater Casper First Church of the Nazarene, Natrona Casper Youth for Christ, Natrona Cent\$ible Nutrition Program, Natrona City Park Church, Natrona Cody Council on Aging, Park COMEA, Inc., Laramie Eastern WYoming College Food Pantry, Goshen Edible Prairie Project, Campbell Element Church Food Pantry, Laramie Feed307, Natrona First Stop Help Center, Fremont Food Bank of Sweetwater County, Sweetwater Friday Food Bag Foundation, Laramie Gillette Salvation Army, Campbell Good Samaritan Community Meal, Fremont Good Samaritan Mission, Teton Helping Hands Community Services, Natrona Johnson County Friends Feeding Friends, Johnson Kind Grounds, Natrona Laramie Interfaith, Albany Laramie Connections, Albany Laramie Soup Kitchen, Albany LIE Totes of Hope, Big Horn Lovell United Methodist Church, Big Horn

Mannahouse Food Pantry, Park Needs, Inc., Laramie Niobrara County Senior Center, Niobrara One22 Resource Center, Teton People for People Backpack Program, Hot Springs People for People Community Meal, Hot Springs Pinedale Community Food Basket, Sublette Powell Senior Citizens, Park Pushroot Community Garden, Fremont Rooted in Wyoming, Sheridan Sheridan Salvation Army, Sheridan Senior Citizens Council, The Hub, Sheridan Shoshoni Senior Center, Fremont St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Johnson Thayne Community Food Bank, Lincoln The Community BakPak Program, Sublette The Food Group, Inc., Sheridan The Soldier's House, Fremont True Vine Community Church, Laramie Washakie County Conservation District, Washakie Washakie County Ministerial Association, Washakie Wind River Food Sovereignty Project, Wind River Reservation Wright Community Assistance, Campbell Wyoming Indian Elementary, Wind River Reservation Wyoming Food for Thought Project, Natrona

Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor's Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. All funds distributed through Wyoming Hunger Initiative are raised privately through donations. Thanks to a match from the Pace Family Foundation, Wyoming Hunger Initiative was able to fund an additional \$100,000 in grants statewide.

About Wyoming Hunger Initiative

Wyoming Hunger Initiative seeks to find and support Wyoming solutions to the challenge of food insecurity, which affects approximately 86,000 residents statewide. Launched in October 2019, Wyoming Hunger Initiative is the official initiative of Wyoming's First Lady Jennie Gordon and is governed by the Board of Directors of the Wyoming Governor's Residence Foundation, a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. For more information, visit <u>www.nohungerwyo.org</u>.

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