

Date: December 23, 2014

To: Deschutes County Board of Commissioners

From: Judith Ure, Management Analyst

Subject: Community Grant Award Recommendations

Changes to Community Grant Program

In April 2014, while prioritizing the use of video lottery funds, the Board of Commissioners made the following changes to the Deschutes County Community Grant program:

1. Allocated funds in the amount of \$21,960 each to the Health, Mental Health, and Addictions and the Other Essential Services categories and \$4,880 to the Arts and Culture category. These amounts reflect an overall reduction of \$14,367 from fiscal year 2013-14.
2. Continued the practice of transferring funds to United Way to administer in conjunction with the Emergency, Food and Shelter program. The amount allocated for this purpose was reduced by \$10,000 from fiscal year 2013-14 for a total of \$65,000 in fiscal year 2014-15.
3. In a subsequent discussion, established a set number of two awards of \$11,000 each to be made in the Health, Mental Health, and Addictions and Other Essential Services categories and two awards of \$2,400 each in the Arts and Culture category.

These changes were reflected in the solicitation notice, funding guidelines, and application and ratings forms.

Applications Submitted

Deschutes County received 25 applications in response to the 2014-15 Community Grant solicitation as follows:

Arts and Culture

- Deschutes Public Library Foundation
- Cascades Theatrical Company
- Deschutes County Historical Society
- Women's Civic Improvement League
- High Desert Chamber Music
- Discover Your Forest

Health, Mental Health, and Addictions Services

- Volunteers in Medicine
- Advantage Smiles for Kids
- Healing Reins
- Children's Vision Foundation
- Deschutes Family Recovery

Other Essential Services

- Volunteers in Action
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Central Oregon
- NeighborImpact
- American Red Cross
- ICON City
- Bloom Project
- Heart of Oregon
- The Center Foundation
- Bend Spay & Neuter Project
- Families Forward
- Bend's Community Center
- Grandma's House
- La Pine Community Kitchen
- St. Vincent de Paul Redmond

Review Process

A three-person panel reviewed the 2014-15 Community Grant applications, assigning numerical points and rankings based four evaluation criteria that included organizational strength; financial stability; proposed program, project, or activity benefit; and performance management capability. Points and rankings assigned by members of the review panel were averaged and the results were compared to individual ratings to assess conformity. The review panelists were then given an opportunity to confirm that the highest ranking applications reflected a consensus recommendation.

Recommendations

Specific recommendations will be presented to the Board of Commissioners for discussion during the work session scheduled on December 29, 2014.