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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 13, 2016

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**ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF FLAGSTAFF AND COLLABORATORS
AWARD \$1.35 MILLION IN GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

FLAGSTAFF—The Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff and a coalition of collaborating funders have awarded \$1,354,712 million in grants to Flagstaff-area nonprofit organizations through the annual competitive grants process.

“When people come together to work toward a common goal, great things happen,” said Cathy Ryan, Chair of the Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff Board of Advisors. “This year, 12 collaborating funders came together to support local nonprofits, and the result is more than \$1 million being put to work in our community.”

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Nonprofit organizations receiving grants this year serve Flagstaff’s artistic, cultural and educational institutions, promote environmental stewardship, advance health care and support organizations providing valuable social services. A total of 122 organizations will be recognized as grant recipients during the 19th Annual Celebrating Nonprofit Organizations event on Monday, September 19 at the High Country Conference Center.

Collaborating for greater impact

The Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff’s collaborative funding model invites local philanthropic entities to leverage their grantmaking capacity in partnership with ACF of Flagstaff. This unique approach to community philanthropy allows local funders to work together and streamlines the grant application for nonprofit organizations by allowing one application to qualify an organization for financial support from multiple funders.

ACF of Flagstaff solicits applications, facilitates informational workshops and manages the vetting of applications so collaborators see the strongest proposals. Representatives of nonprofit organizations then participate in interviews with all of the collaborating funders to explain the nature of their organization and proposed project.

“Whether you’re awarding or seeking funding, it’s very personal, and we think our process reflects that by connecting funders and applicants for an in-person conversation,” said Ryan. “By serving as the administrative back-end for this process, funders can more easily find the projects that resonate with their interests and values, and organizations can receive more financial support with less paperwork.”

Collaborating partners for the 2016 competitive grants process include Capstone Health Fund, Delta Dental of Arizona Foundation, Ernest & Evelyn Chilson Fund, Forest Highlands Foundation, Full Circle Trade & Thrift, Geile Charitable Fund, GeoFund, Molly & Joseph Herman Foundation, McClanahan Family Unrestricted Fund, Northern Arizona Healthcare Foundation, Stone Soup Fund and W.L. Gore & Associates, Inc.

Celebrate Local Giving

The 19th annual Celebrating Nonprofit Organizations event takes place Monday, September 19 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The event will be held at the High Country Conference Center at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. To attend, please contact Gwen Groth, Regional Philanthropic Coordinator, at 928.526.1956.

Founded in 1987, the Arizona Community Foundation of Flagstaff is a permanent philanthropic endowment for the benefit of communities in Flagstaff and Northern Arizona. This family of charitable funds is guided by a local Board of Advisors and benefits from cost-efficient, centralized professional services provided by the Arizona Community Foundation. Founded in 1978, the Arizona Community Foundation is a statewide philanthropy with regional offices serving communities across Arizona. Last year, Arizona Community Foundation granted more than \$46 million to more than 3,000 nonprofit organizations, schools and government agencies.