

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Debbie Nichols/Tom Baker
Date: 12/02/2014
Re: Grants funding to area non-profits

In studying the grant applications received we looked at the needs being met in the community directly. Undoubtedly all of the applicants provide much needed services and so the task is to take what funds we have and disperse them in a way that will support our community the best.

In the past, and also this year, we have focused Council's resources on the River Center due to the significance of this organization in providing assistance to New Castle residents. Also, again this year, we have focused on the New Castle Community Market as our second highest recipient of funds due to its importance in creating activity in downtown New Castle and providing access to locally grown and healthy food. As you can see, both of these organizations are recommended to receive amounts similar to what they received last year; however, in both cases it is less than requested. As you review this memorandum, you will see that requests for funding exceed distributed funds by over 190%.

Please review the program descriptions, the highlighted text, and staff recommendations. Staff included a reserve amount of \$1,000.

Advocate Safehouse - \$500

Advocate Safehouse offers comprehensive and confidential services to survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence, and their children. In order for ASP to be successful it is critical that they receive local support to be able to qualify for foundation grants. **Already in the first nine months of 2014, 27 residents of New Castle have received services from the Advocate Safehouse Project. During 2013, 42 residents of New Castle received service from ASP.**

Staff recommendation – \$300

Aspen Community Foundation - \$750

Aspen Community Foundation provides the "Preschool on Wheels" program or better known as The Sunshine Bus, that is here in New Castle on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They serve 109 children from New Castle to Rifle bringing a preschool program to children that do not have access to a regular preschool program.

Staff recommendation - \$300

Junior Achievement - \$500

Junior Achievement mission is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy and to encourage entrepreneurship. They provided volunteer and class material to local teachers that request it. During the 2013-2014 school year they provided 8 programs for New Castle teachers. They currently have requests from 4 teachers at ECES and KSE for the 2014-2015 school year.

Staff recommendation - \$150

Lift Up - \$750

Lift Up's mission is to provide essential humanitarian assistance in the community. Its purpose is to provide emergency food and basic assistance to the homeless and disadvantaged residents in New Castle. With support from the town it will help individuals and families with food, prescription assistance, and local bus passes for doctors' appointments and job interviews. In 2013 Lift Up served 2,540 New Castle clients. Through September 2014 Lift Up has served 1,018 clients in New Castle, which is 7% of their client base

Staff recommendation – \$750

Literacy Outreach - \$990

Literacy Outreach's mission is to teach essential literacy skills. The goal is to give all adults in Garfield County a chance to become functionally literate. The objective is to raise every student's literacy level by one-half grade level for every 50 hours of instruction. Literacy Outreach will specifically use the funds to purchase core text books for our New Castle students. In 2014 there were 14 students in New Castle and the average cost of books per student/tutor pair was \$90.

Staff recommendation – \$600

LoVa - \$1500

LoVa's mission is to plan and develop trails and other designated routes connecting communities and destinations in Garfield County along the Colorado River corridor. They are currently requesting operational support.

Staff recommendation - \$500

New Castle Community Market - \$3,500

Market organizers plan to continue the community market and expand it. Next year the organizers hope to have local clubs and organizations host weekly demonstrations on cooking, recipes, and food selection and preparation. They will also strive for a greater diversity of vendors and participants. The Market brings people into the downtown and local businesses said that on Thursdays they noticed an increase in foot traffic and business immediately following the Market. 7 full time vendors, 6 part-time vendors 2012 and 5 non-profit groups.

Staff recommendation – \$2,100

River Bridge - \$2,000

At the request of law enforcement and human services agencies in Garfield County, RBRC provides prevention and intervention services in a child-friendly environment for children (ages 2-18) who have allegedly been abused or who have been witnesses to violence. From January – November 2013, 5% (7) victims and non offending caregivers from New Castle were referred to River Bridge.

Staff recommendation – \$500

River Center - \$12,000

River Center's mission is to identify and address unmet community needs through compassionate volunteerism. With the funds they receive 80% is spent in New Castle and Apple Tree Park. The numbers for their different teams:

Emergency Assistance – Assisted over 200 people in the past 11 months with the resources to make rent or utility payments.

Seniors Outreach – bringing low cost dental cleanings and exams for the seniors.

School Outreach – 180 children each week receiving a bag of non-perishable food for the weekend, Summer Food program, Back to School Drive provided \$3,000 in school supplies and Winter outerwear distributed to 150 people.

Community Garden – Just over 287 pounds of produce was harvested and distributed in the community.

Volunteer New Castle and Family Education – providing New Castle with the volunteers needed for different situations and bringing free seminars to the community.

Staff recommendation - \$8,600

Salvation Army - \$5,000

Currently to date they have been able to help 174 people in New Castle out of the 1,764 people they have assisted in this general area.

Staff recommendation - \$500

YouthZone - \$2,000

YouthZone provides prevention and intervention programs to kids and their families in order to divert and prevent them from entering the juvenile justice system. YouthZone is the only youth organization in three counties that intervenes with the juvenile court system. YouthZone provides services to youth ages 6 to 18 years from Aspen to Parachute/Battlement Mesa. For fiscal year 2013-2014, YouthZone served a total of 971 clients. 125 clients resided in New Castle.

Staff recommendation – \$1000

The following organizations submitted their required mid-year report 7/31/14:

- Lift Up
- River Bridge
- Literacy Outreach
- River Center
- New Castle Community Market
- YouthZone

❖ The Grant Notebook with all the complete applications is available in Melody's office for review.

2015 Grant Requests:	2014 Amount awarded	2015 Amount Requested	Amount suggested by staff	2015 Amount Awarded
Advocate Safehouse	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$300.00	
Aspen Community Foundation	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$300.00	
Junior Achievement	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$150.00	
Lift Up	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	
Literacy Outreach	\$750.00	\$990.00	\$600.00	
LoVa	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$500.00	
New Castle Community Mkt	\$2,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,100.00	
River Bridge	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$500.00	
River Center	\$8,500.00	\$12,000.00	\$8,600.00	
Salvation Army	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$500.00	
YouthZone	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Destination Imagination/CRHS	\$1,000.00	\$0.00		
High Country RSVP	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
RFOV	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	<u>\$16,300.00</u>	<u>\$29,490.00</u>	<u>\$15,300.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

New Castle Lions Club

\$500.00

**Reserves

\$1,000.00

\$16,300.00

*The highlighted are the organizations that followed through with the 7/31/2014 updates.

** Note: We have not received requests from the Lions Club and the DI team from CRHS as of yet.