

PRESS RELEASE

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Pride Foundation Awards 72 Grants Transforming LGBTQ Communities across the Northwest *Awards \$383,000 to organizations in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, & Washington*

SEATTLE, WA— Today, Pride Foundation announced \$383,000 in grant awards to 72 organizations in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington—investing critical resources in leaders and communities so even more lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) people can be who they are, where they are.

This year’s funding to organizations across the Northwest is the highest award amount in Pride Foundation history.

These remarkable grantees are working to address complex issues facing our community. Here in Montana, \$37,000 was awarded to 8 organizations, including its first grant awarded in Havre, Montana.

Grantees include:

- **Montana State University - Northern Multicultural Center** (*Havre, Montana*): For creating new community-wide and campus-specific programming in support of LGBTQ students, faculty, and staff of MSUN, as well as local community members.
- **Rainbow Coffee House** (*Billings, Montana*): For providing safe and affirming support for LGBTQ youth and young adults as part of a new drop-in center that offers educational programs and community-building events, in collaboration with numerous, local educational and faith-based community groups.
- **BridgerCare** (*Bozeman, Montana*): For expanding its *Affordable Hormone Therapy for Transgender Patients* project, which addresses the lack of health services for transgender Montanans living in central and eastern Montana.

Read a complete list of grantees [here](#).

“We’ve prioritized funding organizations and ideas that are strengthening the fabric of our communities and our movements,” said Kim Leighton, Pride Foundation’s Regional Development Organizer in Montana. “At a time when more than 200 pieces of

legislation targeting LGBTQ people have been introduced across the country and there is opposition to discrimination protections for transgender people, we need strong, life-affirming resources and services accessible to our community. That's what these grants are all about.”

In addition to these community grants, Pride Foundation awarded a total of \$7.2 million to visionary organizations and student leaders in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington in 2016 through our scholarship program, sponsorships, and our area of interest, donor-designated, and donor-advised funds.

Since the foundation began in 1985, Pride Foundation has awarded nearly \$72 million to promote the safety, health, and well-being of LGBTQ individuals and families across the Northwest region—with a focus on those who are most impacted by disparities and inequities.

The press and members of the public can learn more about these remarkable grantee organizations at local [year-end events taking place around the region](#).

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Founded in 1985, Pride Foundation is a regional community foundation serving Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Its mission is to inspire giving to expand opportunities and advance full equality for LGBTQ people in the Northwest. Learn more at www.pridefoundation.org.