



FLATHEAD
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

Generous Legacy - July 2017 Newsletter

You make the difference. We make it happen.

Nonprofit Development Partnership

Thank you Marc!



We offer our condolences to Marc Lorenzen's family. He passed away in his home on May 30, 2017. Marc was a long time board member and chair of the Flathead Community Foundation.

We are grateful for Marc's past dedication and his request for donations to be made to the Flathead Community Foundation. He will be greatly missed.

[Read full obituary by clicking this link.](#)

Welcome Jenny!

The Flathead Community Foundation is happy to welcome

The Flathead Nonprofit Development Partnership (NpDP) - a service of the Flathead Community Foundation - provides educational programs, information resources, and networking opportunities that support and strengthen nonprofit organizations in northwest Montana.



NpDP EVENTS

Our popular Brown Bag Lunch Series at the Museum at Central School will return after a summer hiatus.

September 14: Josh Kroll, Park Side Credit Union
October 12: Hilary Shaw, Abbie Shelter
November 9: Diana Damron, Author

Details on individual sessions and presenters will be available soon.

NpDP JOB BOARD

Send us your job postings to info@flatheadcommunityfoundation.org.

Giving Circle

Women Who Wine of the Flathead

WWWF, a Giving Circle and charitable fund of the Flathead Community Foundation, is committed to engaging all women in the power of collective philanthropy. Members regularly contribute their time, talents, and financial resources to serve their community

our newest staff member, Jenny Sweeney. Jenny brings nearly 15 years' experience working for nonprofit organizations to FCF. During those years, she developed skills in donor relations, fund raising, and report writing. Beyond these practical skills, Jenny most values the vision she gained in those years working for community-supported organizations. "When individuals come together to support a cause-whether through giving their finances, their time, their skills or other resources-they gain a sense of community as well as individual ownership. Their desire to see that program or project succeed intensifies because it is part of themselves."

At FCF, Jenny will assist Judy in the day-to-day administrative duties of maintaining the foundation's many philanthropic endeavors, but will also participate in various outreaches and special events. "I look forward to involving my children in these community-service activities, so that they can learn that giving of themselves not only benefits others, but enriches the giver in indescribable ways."

FCF Staff & Board

Staff

[Judy Sommers](#), Executive Director
[Jenny Sweeney](#), Administrative Assistant

Board of Directors

Mike Smith, President
Katy Croft, Vice President
Clint Ekern, Treasurer
Jim Rafferty, Secretary

Margit Baake
Josh Boyce
Brett Damaskos
Heidi Escalante
Krista Lammers
Jeffrey Lewis
Ed Myers
Marcia Spano
Ty Weber
Crystal Wendt

Contact Us

- and through monthly gatherings educate themselves and others about local needs and services. New members are always welcome! Monthly meetings take place in Kalispell on the first Tuesday of the month. Bigfork meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month (not every month).



Women Who Wine of the Flathead
A Charitable Fund of the Flathead Community Foundation

To learn more about WWWF or sign up for monthly announcements, [please visit our Women Who Wine Flathead web page.](#)

Upcoming Meetings

KALISPELL

July 11
Hosted by Allison Mielicke and Lyn Andenoro and benefiting ASSIST, Neighbors Helping Neighbors

August 1
Hosted by Kari Gabriel, Carrie Rau, and Beth Kornick benefiting Make a Wish Montana

BIGFORK

Meetings will resume on September 18th after a summer break.

Coming Soon-The Brews Brothers!

Featured Fund Montana Alpine Race School (MARS)

FCF had a chance to learn more about MARS. Here are some excerpts of our interview:

About the Organization:

The mission of Montana Alpine Race School Foundation is to advance our student athletes' academic and character development by supporting their involvement in competitive alpine racing programs. MARS is a new ski race program formed in 2016. There are two components to the program.



The MARS program is designed for teen age ski racers who aspire to national and international competitive levels. MARS racers rank amongst the top in the nation. To reach this level and beyond requires dedication to a full year program and the best equipment and training



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Agency Funds at FCF

Abbie Shelter Endowment
The Brews Brothers
CASA for Kids Endowment
Care Farm Challenge
Center for Restorative Youth Justice
Endowment
Child Bridge Endowment
Crown of the Continent Choir
Flathead Community Foundation
Endowment
Flathead Food Bank Endowment
Friends of Flathead Law Enforcement
Foys-Herron Park Endowment
Glacier Symphony & Chorale
Endowment
Hockaday Museum of Art Endowment
Humane Society of NW MT
Endowment
Kalispell Boulder Project
Kalispell Golf Association
Lighthouse Christian Home
Montana Alpine Race School
NpDP Endowment
NW MT Forest Fire Lookout
Endowment
Paws to Play Dog Park Project
Ravenwood Outdoor Learning Center
Sunburst Community Foundation
Endowment
Women Who Wine of the Flathead

Donate to FCF

Your donation to the Flathead Community Foundation supports our mission to ensure the good of the Flathead forever, by strengthening local nonprofits and connecting generous donors

facilities. Our coaches have years of experience coaching athletes at some of the finest sport academies and NCAA collegiate programs in the country. Blacktail Mountain provides an excellent home for our competitive training; we also utilize Whitefish Mountain. All of the MARS athletes earned racing opportunities to compete beyond and represent Montana this year. MARS athletes have trained and competed in MT, ID, WY, UT, CA, OR, WA, VT, BC and AB this past season.

The balance of time for academics, training, competitions and travel is very delicate. Each of these athletes learns valuable lessons in time management through this sport. Throughout this process athletes work on their own personal goals while in very close association with teammates. Simply learning to live with teammates on the road, as well as encourage their performances and console them at the low times, is a very valuable learned skill. This journey of experiences will build friends for life.

The Blacktail Development Team began this midwinter, as interest grew from the ski community, to give the local children, ages 9-14, an opportunity to experience ski racing at a recreational, fun level. A USSA certified coach was dedicated to that group. Development of basic skiing fundamentals is a part of that experience in a fun team environment. We hope to grow that team and experience this winter. Funding for this group is, for the most part, self-sustaining as they utilize the resources of the MARS team.

The MARS team is very small because this level of talent and commitment is rare. Therefore, funding for youth athletics at this elevated level is a grand challenge. The MARS athletes are climbing the national development ladder. Four current athletes are ranked in the top 65 nationally for their age, two in the top five. Every rung earned on that ladder of development requires an additional commitment of funds for training, travel, equipment and educational resources suitable for that lifestyle. Beyond what is required for an individual family to provide for their own, the cost of overhead for coach travel to these competitions is elevated. It is the burden of this overhead cost that we hope to lessen for the families. This challenge is common to many youth individual sports, and usually beyond the assistance of the local community organization and beyond the vision of many regional organizations. Thus explaining why we see large declines in numbers in these sports. Investment in these committed teens will assist their athletic pursuit now and when their athletic careers come to a close and they mature to become business, medical and community leaders, as is so common, your investment returns to the community with a very generous return.

How does the Flathead Community Foundation help your organization?

Being a very small group and just beginning our second year as an established program (six months as a non profit) we have a lot to learn. Judy has already provided

with the causes they care about most. Make a difference.



numerous fresh ideas based on her years of experience. FCF provides a sound infrastructure for a tiny 501 c3 like MARS. It gives us a chance to be heard and present our mission to a greater audience. There are people who do feel that our mission and our goals are important, and are willing to invest in that process but we need to find them! FCF provides the highway we need to navigate. We are ready to navigate that highway and to deliver our mission and our goals to the highest standards possible.

Do you have any upcoming community events?

We are currently working on individual and business gifts/ donations/ sponsorships. We are currently working on several grant applications. The athletes will embark on their annual Banner Advertisement campaign later this summer.

Flathead Community Foundation, PO Box 1422,
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