Grantmaking increased 33% to the Gem State, the largest increase among the six Northwest states.

Once again, education and human services topped the list of funder priorities in Idaho, capturing 28% and 18% respectively. One of the largest grants in 2016 was a $4 million grant from New York-based NoVo Foundation’s Movement to End Violence initiative to the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence. The grant funded several programs that support movement-building to end gender violence.

Compared to overall giving to the Northwest, Idaho’s environment and sports and recreation benefited from a notably larger share of funding. Idaho Community Foundation was the largest funder in the state, awarding 1,133 grants for $13 million total.

- **Innovia Foundation (WA)** granted $20,000 to the Lake Pend Oreille Waterkeeper, a nonprofit in Sandpoint, Idaho dedicated to protecting and preserving swimmable, fishable and drinkable waters for future generations of North Idahoans.

- **M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust (WA)** awarded $300,000 to Swiftsure Ranch Therapeutic Equestrian Center in Bellevue, Idaho to complete the construction of an indoor riding arena used to provide equestrian therapy and recreation to people with disabilities.

- **The Wilburforce Foundation (WA)** provided $20,000 to Friends of the Scotchman Peaks Wilderness based in Sandpoint, Idaho. Funds supported the organization’s mission to protect the Scotchman Peaks in North Idaho and Northeast Montana through Wilderness designation, ongoing stewardship and education.

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**Top 10 Foundations Awarding Grants to Recipients in Idaho, 2016**

1. Idaho Community Foundation (ID)
2. Community Action Partnership Association of Idaho (ID)
3. Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation (ID)
4. NoVo Foundation (NY)
5. M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust (WA)
6. Micron Technology Foundation (ID)
7. St. Luke’s Wood River Foundation (ID)
8. Fidelity Charitable (OH)
9. Legal Services Corporation (DC)
10. The ALSAM Foundation (UT)

**TOTAL GIVING BY 1,039 FUNDERS TO 1,352 ORGANIZATIONS:** $117.0 MILLION

**MEDIAN GRANT:** $4,000

**NUMBER OF GRANTS:** 5,083

**CHANGE IN GIVING BETWEEN 2014 AND 2016:** ▲ +33%
IDAHO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
$20,000 to a rural school district to improve reading and empower teachers

In 2016, the Idaho Future Fund (IFF), part of the Idaho Community Foundation (ICF), awarded $20,000 to the Aberdeen School District in rural eastern Idaho. The grant supported teacher trainings by the Lee Pesky Learning Center aimed at improving kindergarten through third grade reading scores by empowering teachers and parents.

The impact meant 15 Aberdeen teachers received training, and they taught 260 students during the 2016-2017 school year. The grant also covered two parent events that drew 135 people. However, the impact is exponential since generations of kids will benefit from the one-time investment in training teachers, says Elly Davis, former community impact officer at ICF, who recently left the foundation to work for a national grantmakers resource. Davis worked with the IFF donors to establish the fund.

“This was a really big investment in this type of rural school district,” said Davis. “It is a shining example of what can happen when you invest in rural communities and what makes them special. They are used to doing so much with so little — everyone pitches in.”

IFF is a donor-advised fund administered by the Idaho Community Foundation. Founded in 2014 by an anonymous couple living in Blaine County (home to Sun Valley), IFF supports gaps in the funding the state provides for pre-K through 12th grade education. The fund’s guidelines stipulate that grantees must be a charter school, public school, or nonprofit that provides direct preschool or supplemental education services.

“There is a lot of acceptance that we underinvest in education in Idaho, and thankfully, there are people across the state with the ability and desire to help,” Davis said. “All it takes is one person to invest in something to make a really big difference, especially in rural communities.”

IFF’s grantmaking committee includes ICF board members from the organization’s eastern region. To date, the fund has awarded just over $1 million toward education efforts around Idaho. For ICF, this fund is particularly significant because this couple makes the decision to donate to the fund each year — it was not established in perpetuity.

“They trust ICF to know our communities and the communities to know themselves,” Davis said.

**ENDNOTE**

9 The data in this report includes information from the data sources described in the Methodology section. Only those organizations that responded to our requests for information or had reliable information publicly available elsewhere have been included in this report.
METHODOLOGY

This report is based on the analysis of two closely-related datasets from 2014 and 2016 collected by or reported to Foundation Center, now operating as Candid, by December 31, 2018:

• Analysis of the fiscal year (FY) 2016 philanthropic giving to the Northwest relies on data from 73,813 grants totaling $2.97 billion from a national sample of 7,445 funders that awarded at least one grant of $1,000 or more to the six-state region — Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming.

• Analysis of the changes in giving to the Northwest between FY’s 2014 and 2016 uses a matched subset of 4,253 funders so as not to distort data due to changes in the funders in each year.

Dollar amounts may represent the full authorized grant award, or the amount paid in that year, depending on how the foundation reports its activity. Similarly, FY 2014 and FY 2016 may include grants awarded in late 2013 and late 2015, respectively, depending on a foundation’s fiscal calendar. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number, leading to some figures reflecting slightly more than 100% totals. Dollar amounts are rounded to the tenth place.

ABOUT THE DATA

What data was collected? This report includes grants data, primarily, but also foundation-administered programs, program-related investments and mission-related investments, collectively called “transactions." The data come from:

• IRS Forms 990 and 990-PF
• Lists provided directly by funders
• Foundation websites

New since 2016, each reported transaction is now machine-coded according to Candid’s Philanthropy Classification System. The change increased the number of grants in the database and provides a more comprehensive picture of the philanthropic sector.

Candid manually reviews machine-assigned codes for transactions of $250,000 or more made by 1,000 of the largest U.S. foundations, as well as for some special projects. The automated system uses a deliberately conservative methodology to track grant recipients that primarily work with people of color by population group, focusing on:

1. Identifying the population served by the transaction.

2. If there is no beneficiary population associated with the transaction, then Candid identifies the population served by the recipient organization.

Some transactions benefit multiple population groups, such as African Americans and LatinX Americans. In these cases, the full dollar amount is allocated for each beneficiary population, since it’s not possible to specify the share of support that is intended for each population group.

For detailed information about Candid’s Philanthropy Classification System or to learn more about how the data were classified visit the website at taxonomy.candid.org.
TRENDS IN NORTHWEST GIVING 2019 is a joint project of Philanthropy Northwest and Foundation Center, now known as Candid.

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