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First National Bank of Omaha Awards \$1.1 Million in Community Development Grants

Grants bring bank's 2016 annual grant award total to \$1.84 million

OMAHA, Neb. Nov. 15, 2016. – First National Bank of Omaha, which also operates as First National Bank Fremont and First National Bank North Platte, has awarded a total of \$1,105,000 in community development grants to 51 organizations in Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, South Dakota and Texas announced Alec Gorynski, Vice President, Corporate Philanthropy and Social Responsibility. The grants, which support Affordable Housing, Education and Job Training, and Economic Development programs, mark the bank's final disbursement of grant funding for the year. First National Bank awarded a total of \$1,840,000 in community development grants in 2016 to organizations across its seven-state service area.

"First National Bank operates under the vision of creating and maintaining successful communities in all the places we operate," Gorynski said. "Our community development grant program is a key driver in achieving that vision as we partner with community organizations who will make lasting and substantial impacts within our communities."

In Nebraska, First National Bank awarded \$816,000 in community development grants to 32 organizations across the state. Grants supporting Educated Workforce initiatives will enable a projected 11,927 individuals in Nebraska to move closer to self-sufficiency. These include:

- \$30,000 – Boys Town in partnership with Heartland Family Service (Omaha): provides low interest auto loans for low and moderate income individuals so they can have reliable transportation to get to and from work.
- \$30,000 – College of Saint Mary (Omaha): administers summer academies for minority high school students to encourage post-secondary education, provide hands-on programming and interact with successful women.

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- \$50,000 – Family Housing Advisory Services (Omaha): supports financial education and asset building programs that provide individuals with the skills necessary to achieve financial well being
- \$45,000 – Financial Hope Collaborative at Creighton University (Omaha): provides financial education, coaching and cash flow management to increase savings, credit scores and financial self-confidence of low and moderate income women.
- \$40,000 – Heartland Workforce Solutions (Omaha): builds pathways linking employers, industries, community providers and workforce intermediaries to address barriers for out-of-school and unemployed youth and young adults.
- \$40,000 – Hope Center for Kids (Omaha): provides education and experience that help youth develop skills needed to secure and sustain employment.
- \$20,000 – Latino Center of the Midlands (Omaha): provides adults basic education that will increase access to education and higher wage employment.
- \$25,000 – Literacy Center of the Midlands (Omaha): provides literacy instruction and adult basic education for adults necessary to further economic self-sufficiency.
- \$32,000 – Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska (Omaha): provides case management and self-sufficiency services, including financial education, to refugees, immigrants and asylees.
- \$40,000 – Metro Community College Foundation (Omaha): provides personalized adult education, including coaching, tutoring, GED and ESL courses.
- \$20,000 – NorthStar Foundation (Omaha): development of a college and career readiness curriculum for high school-aged boys.
- \$20,000 – Omaha Home for Boys (Omaha): supports housing, life skills and employment training, and educational delivery to young men and women facing homelessness.
- \$40,000 – Together, Inc. (Omaha): provides case management and navigation support to help homeless veterans secure employment.
- \$40,000 – Urban League of Nebraska (Omaha): provides job readiness training and vocational skills needed to secure and maintain employment.
- \$25,000 – Women’s Center for Advancement (Omaha): provides self-sufficiency programming including individualized case management, financial literacy and career coaching to victims of domestic violence.

- \$75,000 – Operation Hope (Omaha): provides financial education and credit counseling services to low- and moderate income individuals.
- \$10,000 – Credit Advisors Foundation (Omaha): provides budgeting, credit counseling and financial action plans for individuals working toward becoming a home owner.
- \$10,000 – Care Corps Family Services (Fremont): provides case management, employment services and supports for homeless individuals.
- \$14,000 – Kearney Works (Kearney): provides career education, training and pathways that lead to degree completion and employment credentialing necessary to obtain and sustain employment.
- \$2,500 – Boys and Girls Club of Lincoln (Lincoln): provides financial education to Boys and Girls Club youth ages 13-18.
- \$5,000 – Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties (Lincoln): increases financial well-being by providing matched savings accounts so individuals can save for life changing expenses like a home, business or education.
- \$16,000 – Western Nebraska Community College Foundation (Scottsbluff): supports recruitment and retraining of former railroad workers into degree completion programs.

The bank also awarded a \$50,000 grant to GreenPath Financial Wellness, of which \$10,000 will provide financial education and credit counseling to individuals in Lincoln and Norfolk to promote financial stability.

Grants for Affordable Housing programs will allow recipients to build, rehabilitate or finance a projected 113 homes and provide homeownership education to a projected 919 individuals. These include:

- \$28,000 – Nebraska Housing Developers Association (Lincoln): increases access to safe, affordable and quality housing through statewide homebuyer education.
- \$15,000 – Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance (Omaha): supports remediation of home health hazards for qualifying families with children.
- \$30,000 – Habitat for Humanity of Columbus (Columbus): supports affordable housing construction in the Columbus area.
- \$10,000 – Fremont Area Habitat for Humanity (Fremont): supports affordable housing construction in Fremont.

- \$10,000 – Grand Island Area Habitat for Humanity (Grand Island): support property acquisition to begin affordable housing construction in Grand Island.
- \$16,000 – Kearney Area Habitat for Humanity (Kearney): supports affordable housing construction in Kearney.
- \$10,000 – North Platte Area Habitat for Humanity (North Platte): supports affordable housing construction in North Platte.
- \$55,000 – Lincoln County Community Development Corporation (North Platte): increases the number of safe, quality and affordable housing units in Lincoln County.

A grant supporting Economic Development initiatives will contribute to a projected 12 new and retained full- and part-time jobs and assist 28 new and existing small businesses. This includes:

- \$2,500 – NGage (Beatrice): assists small businesses and startups in Gage County.

First National Bank awarded \$75,000 in community development grants in Colorado; \$48,000 in Illinois; \$60,000 in Kansas; \$33,000 in South Dakota; and \$23,000 in Texas. The bank also awarded \$50,000 to the National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC), which supports financial counseling activities of NFCC member agencies nationwide and ensures standards for quality credit counseling are met and maintained.

To view First National Bank's 2015 "First in the Community Impact Report" and learn more about the full extent of its community contributions, please visit: <https://www.firstnational.com/site/about-us/in-the-community/index.fhtml>

First National Bank of Omaha is a subsidiary of First National of Nebraska. First National of Nebraska is the largest privately owned banking company in the United States. First National of Nebraska and its affiliates have more than \$21 billion in assets and 5,000 employee associates. Primary banking offices are located in Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, South Dakota and Texas.

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