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First National Bank Awards \$362,000 in Community Development Grants

Grants bring bank's 2015 annual award total to \$1.69 million

OMAHA, Neb. December 15, 2015. – First National Bank has awarded a total of \$362,000 in community development grants to 29 nonprofit organizations in six states in the fourth quarter of 2015, announced Alec Gorynski, senior director, Community Development and Corporate Social Responsibility. The grants will focus on achieving outcomes in four priority areas: Affordable Housing, Financial Wellness and Economic Self-Sufficiency, Economic Development, and Neighborhood Revitalization and Stabilization.

“Giving back to the communities we serve is not only part of our Operating Philosophy at First National Bank, it’s also embedded in our corporate DNA as a core value and belief,” Gorynski said. “We believe that in order to be successful as a company, our communities must also be successful.” In 2015, First National Bank awarded more than \$1.69 million in community development grants to organizations across its seven-state service area.

The following organizations received grant awards in December:

Nebraska

Omaha

- \$25,000 – Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce: establishes a Community Development Intermediary to revitalize neighborhoods in eastern Omaha and Council Bluffs.
- \$15,000 – Salvation Army | Omaha: implements financial education programming for youth and adults at the North Corps.
- \$9,000 – Omaha Small Business Network: supports entrepreneurs and small business owners with specialized development accounts to capitalize or expand a business.

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Lincoln

- \$2,500 – Gage Area Growth Enterprise (NGage): supports small business growth, job creation and retention, and education and training in Gage County.

Norfolk

- \$20,000 – NeighborWorks Northeast Nebraska: provides down payment assistance and homeownership counseling to families.

Kearney

- \$32,000 – HelpCare Clinic: provides community health services and chronic disease management.

Grand Island

- \$7,000 – Hope Harbor: provides housing and services to transition individuals toward independent living and self-sufficiency.

Fremont (First National Bank operates as First National Bank Fremont in the Fremont area)

- \$10,000 – Low Income Ministry: provides case management services to help move individuals out of poverty.
- \$10,000 – Salvation Army | Fremont: implements programming to help transition clients toward self-sufficiency.
- \$10,000 – United Way | Fremont: supports programming to build up financial and employment resources to increase self-sufficiency.

North Platte (First National Bank operates as First National Bank North Platte in the North Platte area)

- \$8,000 – Lincoln County Community Development Corporation: supports construction of affordable single- and multi-family housing.
- \$10,000 – Deborah's Legacy: provides housing and supportive services that assist with maintaining recovery, improving physical and mental health, and gaining financial independence.

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Scottsbluff (First National Bank operates as First National Bank North Platte in the Scottsbluff area)

- \$10,000 – Western Nebraska Housing Opportunities: provides safe, affordable and quality housing through the rehabilitation of a 100-year-old building into 34 affordable apartments.

Colorado

- \$10,000 – East Colorado Small Business Development Center: supports small business training and development.
- \$10,000 – Larimer County Small Business Development Center: supports small business development and training activities.
- \$10,000 – Bridge House | Boulder: offers employment and supportive services to assist homeless individuals reenter the workforce.

Kansas

- \$9,500 – Junior Achievement of Middle-America: supports financial literacy education and workforce readiness programs in select elementary schools.
- \$25,000 – Olathe Public School Foundation: provides tuition support for low and moderate income high school students to take college courses.
- \$25,500 – Shawnee Mission Education Foundation: provides enhanced problem-solving STEM education at select schools.

Texas

- \$10,000 – Family Promise of Collin County: provides budgeting, life skills classes, and job resources for families seeking to regain independence.
- \$10,000 – Boys and Girls Clubs of Collin County: provides teenagers with financial education and practical financial skills.

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- \$5,000 – Collin Community College Small Business Development Center: supports small business development and training necessary for the successful launch, growth and sustainability of businesses.

Illinois

- \$11,500 – ACCION Chicago: provides small business loans and financial counseling to entrepreneurs to drive economic activity.
- Habitat for Humanity: the following affiliates received grant awards for housing construction, and rehabilitation:
 - \$7,500 – Habitat for Humanity of Northern Fox Valley
 - \$7,500 – Fox Valley Habitat for Humanity
 - \$5,000 – Habitat for Humanity of Boone County
 - \$5,000 – Habitat for Humanity of DeKalb County
 - \$5,000 – Habitat for Humanity of McHenry County

South Dakota

- \$37,000 – Yankton Area Homeless Shelter: supports homelessness prevention, through financial assistance and educational programming in Yankton.

First National Bank, First National Bank Fremont and First National Bank North Platte are subsidiaries of First National of Nebraska. First National of Nebraska is the largest privately owned banking company in the United States. First National and its affiliates have \$20 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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