

Update as of 1-31-2011

The Trust Committee and Trustee of the Montana Mental Health Settlement Trust have met and considered several of a large number of applications for trust funds submitted in December of 2010. Even though the Trust is still in the process of considering the applications, the Trust has decided that several of the applications are of such importance in assisting Montanans battling serious mental illness they should be accepted and the proposed projects funded.

The Trust Committee, so far, has committed trust funds to:

- The Montana Office of Public Instruction in the approximate amount of \$600,000. The purpose of the grant is to join with Tribal Governments, Indian Health Services, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and the University of Montana in launching a replicable, school-based mental health program which will begin with the Fort Peck Reservation, Crow Reservation and Northern Cheyenne Reservation.
- Montana State Hospital, Warm Springs, in the amount of \$20,000. The 2005 Legislature authorized the Hospital to raise \$350,000 of private funds to build an interfaith chapel for patients, family and staff, on the hospital campus. The Trust is informed that sufficient funds have been raised to complete construction of the chapel and the grant from the trust will help provide furnishings for the building.
- Eastern Montana Community Mental Health Center in the approximate amount of \$600,000. The grant will provide a substantial portion of the funding necessary to construct a multi-service comprehensive community mental health center building in Glendive. This facility will be used to provide mental health services to 18 Eastern Montana Counties.
- Havre/Hill County Local Advisory Council in conjunction with Northern Montana Hospital in the amount of \$20,000. The grant will help provide peer-to-peer services to adults enduring a mental health crisis.
- Ravalli County in the approximate amount of \$425,000. The grant will be used to pay remaining building costs and provide needed equipment for a crisis stabilization facility in Hamilton, which is already under construction. The facility is designed for use in providing mental health services, as well as provides secure and voluntary beds for those undergoing a mental health crisis.
- The Trust will commit to provide matching funds of \$300,000 to Inter-mountain Deaconess Home for Children, which when matched dollar for dollar by other sources, will be used to acquire a building in which to establish an integrated Community Mental Health Center specializing in the treatment of children with serious emotional disturbance and severe disabling mental illness.
- Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, in the amount of approximately \$180,000 for implementation of challenging the stigma associated with depression and the prevention of suicide. This program will provide, through the department, suicide prevention, resources to communities throughout

Montana.

- The University of Montana, Missoula, Department of Pharmacy, in the amount \$19,900. The trust funds will be utilized to fund a two year demonstration project which will entail training of digital storytelling facilitators from each of Montana's American Indian Reservations. Digital Storytelling is an innovative way to engage Native American youth in suicide prevention.

The funds which have been committed to date distribute only a portion of funds available. The Trust is continuing its consideration of the over 200 applications for grants it has received. Further commitments may be announced from time to time as applications are accepted.