

SDCF NEWS RELEASE



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CONTACT: Beth Massa, Regional Director for Foundation Relations
605-390-2690
bmassa@sdcommunityfoundation.org

Stephanie Miller-Davis Library Summer Reading Grant Program

Pierre, S.D.– The Stephanie Miller-Davis Library Summer Reading Grant Program has continued its second year supporting summer reading programs in small rural communities in partnership with the South Dakota Community Foundation (SDCF) and the South Dakota State Library (SDSL). The program has distributed grants of \$1,000 to 26 libraries in rural communities across South Dakota.

Stephanie loved books and created her legacy by donating children’s books and bookcases to the school library in her hometown of Murdo, SD. She wanted to provide the children in the community the books she longed to read as a child growing up on the South Dakota prairie. “My mother’s legacy will go on through this exciting grant program,” said daughter Anne Franz. “If my mom was here today, I think she would be proud that we are continuing to support the heroic work of parents, teachers, librarians and other community members to provide every child the chance to read even through the challenges of any social distancing necessary this summer.”

“We are so thankful for the vision of the Miller-Davis family to serve the literacy needs of kids in small towns and rural areas across South Dakota. These rural public libraries struggle to keep their doors open.” said Daria Bossman, South Dakota State Librarian. “Having a quality summer reading program with new books is such a treasure.”

“The South Dakota Community Foundation is proud to partner with the Stephanie Miller-Davis family as they perpetuate their mother’s passion and investment in early childhood literacy across South Dakota,” said Beth Massa, SDCF Regional Director for Foundation Relations. “I think Stephanie would be very proud to see her husband and daughters continuing her investment in children.”

The South Dakota Community Foundation administers over 980 funds benefiting thousands of wonderful causes every year. To learn more about charitable opportunities through the South

Dakota Community Foundation please visit <https://sdcommunityfoundation.org/> or give us a call at (605) 224-1025.

The South Dakota State Library (SDSL) is a division of the SD Department of Education. SDSL supports local libraries and works to build capacity within the state's public and school libraries with an overall goal of 100,000 SD children participating in summer reading programs. To learn more please visit library.sd.gov.

Each of the following libraries were awarded \$1000 to support their summer reading programs:

Alcester Public Library, Armour-Carnegie Public Library, Britton Public Library, Centerville Community Library, Clear Lake City Library, Emil M. Larson Library, Grant County Public Library, Freeman Public Library, Haakon County Public Library, Hot Springs Public Library, Hurley Public Library, Hyde County Library, Lennox Community Library, Langford Public Library, Lemmon Public Library, Northwest Regional Library, Parker Public Library, Parkston Public Library, Potter County Free Library, Redfield Carnegie Library, Scotland Community Library, Tripp County Library, Waubay Public Library, Webster Public Library, Wilmot Public Library, Woonsocket Community Library



John Davis, husband of the late Stephanie Miller-Davis, with Vicki Anderson from the Northwest Regional Library in 2019. Northwest was also awarded \$1000 in the 2020 grant cycle.



John Davis, husband of the late Stephanie Miller-Davis, with Sarah Jones-Lutter from the Redfield Carnegie Library in 2019. Redfield was also awarded \$1000 in the 2020 grant cycle.



John Davis, husband of the late Stephanie Miller-Davis, with Raven Christman from the Lemmon Public Library in 2019. Lemmon was also awarded \$1000 in the 2020 grant cycle.

About the SDCF

SDCF is a public non-profit organization established in 1987. SDCF, with offices in Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Aberdeen administers over 980 funds benefiting hundreds of charitable organizations annually. The Foundation distributed nearly \$18 million in grants in 2019 which made a tremendous difference in communities statewide. This would not have been possible without the generosity of our donors. If you have a specific cause you would like to support or would prefer to give for the general good of our state, please visit <https://sdcommunityfoundation.org/for-donors/> to learn more or call 1-800-888-1842.