

SDCF NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release – Friday, April 30, 2021

**CONTACT: Jeff Veltkamp, Director of Development
605-222-3863
jveltkamp@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 third 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 \$25,000 to libraries in rural communities across South Dakota.

Stephanie loved books. She 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 Stephanie’s 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 and passion 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 have struggled in recent years, especially during the pandemic, 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 for the entire community.”

“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 Jeff Veltkamp, SDCF Director of Development. “I think Stephanie would be very proud to see her husband and daughters continuing her investment in children.”

The SDCF administers over 1,000 funds benefiting thousands of wonderful causes every year. To learn more about charitable opportunities through the SDCF, please visit <https://sdcommunityfoundation.org> or call (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. You can participate by joining your local library and attend summer reading events! Bring your family and

friends too! Attend in-person, outdoor, take home or virtual programming towards our continued goal of 100,000 participants. Take a book selfie of yourself and share on social media with **#SDSummerReading2021**. Join us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube! To learn more please visit library.sd.gov.

Each of the following libraries were awarded \$1,000 to support their summer reading programs:

- ARMOUR-CARNEGIE PUBLIC LIBRARY
- AVON PUBLIC LIBRARY
- BRITTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
- CLEAR LAKE CITY LIBRARY
- EMIL M. LARSON LIBRARY
- FREEMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY
- HAAKON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
- HAND COUNTY LIBRARY
- HOT SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY
- HURLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
- HYDE COUNTY LIBRARY
- LAKE ANDES CARNEGIE LIBRARY
- LEMMON PUBLIC LIBRARY
- LANGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
- M. P. BEEBE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
- NEWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY
- NORTHWEST REGIONAL LIBRARY
- PARKER PUBLIC LIBRARY
- PARKSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY
- POTTER COUNTY FREE LIBRARY
- SCOTLAND COMMUNITY LIBRARY
- SHERWOOD MEMORIAL LIBRARY
- TRIPP COUNTY LIBRARY - GROSSENBURG MEMORIAL
- WAUBAY PUBLIC LIBRARY
- WEBSTER PUBLIC LIBRARY



John Davis, husband of the late Stephanie Miller-Davis, with Vicki Anderson from the Northwest Regional Library in 2019. Northwest was awarded \$1,000 in the 2020 and 2021 grant cycle.



John Davis, husband of the late Stephanie Miller-Davis, with Raven Christman from the Lemmon Public Library in 2019. Lemmon was awarded \$1,000 in the 2020 and 2021 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 1,000 funds benefiting hundreds of charitable organizations annually. The Foundation distributed nearly \$18 million in grants in 2020 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://www.sdcommunityfoundation.org/giving> to learn more or call 1-800-888-1842.