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## **US Wind Force Foundation Names Grant Recipients**

### *Pinnacle Wind Farm Donations Top \$100,000!*

**Keyser, WV – December 18, 2013** - The US Wind Force Foundation, Inc. today announced the recipients of the third round of grants from its Community Benefit Fund associated with the Pinnacle Wind Farm at NewPage. Five grants ranging from \$250 to \$6,000 and totaling \$12,250 were allocated to local projects, bringing the three-year total of donations from the wind farm to \$100,000.

Five grant applications were received and evaluated by a local Allocation Committee made up of seven members of the community. The committee is chaired by Keyser resident Terry Stephens. “I appreciate the continued commitment and the amount of effort the Allocation Committee exerted in its review of the grant applications. They did an outstanding job. We appreciate that the developers of the Pinnacle wind farm designed a process for allocating grant money that allowed for local decision-making,” said Stephens.

The grant recipients, in alphabetical order, are as follows:

Grant Recipient	Grant Amount	Purpose
Developmental Center & Workshop, Inc.	\$6,000	Construction of greenhouse
Eastern West Virginia Community & Technical College	\$2,000	Lab equipment for wind tech program
Faith in Action, Inc. (Food Pantry)	\$2,000	Computer hardware for food pantry
Mineral County Family Resource Network	\$2,000	Support of three Energy Express sites
Mountain Top Crisis Pregnancy Center, Inc.	\$250	Support for Mineral County satellite center

The Directors and Officers of the US Wind Force Foundation extend a special thank you to the members of the Allocation Committee: Terry Stephens, Chairman; Patsy Koontz, Vice Chair; Polly Hightower, Secretary; Tammy Ashby, Bill Boggs, Bill Braithwaite, and Jennie Shaffer. Their service to the Foundation and their community is greatly appreciated. We also want to remember Gary Wilson, the previous committee chairman, for his leadership and direction. He will be sorely missed.

“We are pleased to see these resources going to worthy community projects, but wish we had more applications this year. The Allocation Committee decided to hold some of this year’s grant money for future distribution,” said Jim Cookman, President of US Wind Force Foundation, Inc.

Funding for the Foundation’s Community Benefit Fund comes from Pinnacle Wind, LLC, owner, and operator of the Pinnacle Wind Farm at NewPage. The Pinnacle project was jointly developed by US Wind Force and Edison Mission Energy. The project agreed to provide \$50,000 to the Community Benefit Fund when the project reached commercial operation status in early 2012 and an additional \$20,000 each year for the life of the project.

Brad Christopher, site manager of the wind farm for Edison Mission Energy, said, “We are extremely pleased to be part of this community. It’s nice to know that we can be of help to such worthy projects”.

“It is really gratifying to see the community continuing to benefit from hosting a wind farm,” noted Janice LaRue, President, Mineral County Commissioners.

#### **About US Wind Force Foundation, Inc.**

US Wind Force Foundation, Inc., a West Virginia nonprofit corporation, is organized exclusively for charitable purposes. Its primary purpose is to enhance the community by providing funding for projects related to education, historic preservation, public safety, economic development, public recreation, parks, playgrounds, athletic facilities, and other similar activities. It will provide funding to select not-for-profit community organizations, and communities, consistent with its charter. To learn more about the US Wind Force Foundation, Inc., visit the website [www.uswff.org](http://www.uswff.org).

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