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**Montana Food Network Receives Annual Grant from Avista**

*Support will benefit the Sanders County food banks*

**SPOKANE, Wash. Dec. 20, 2011:** The six community food banks in Sanders County, MT, will be the recipients of funds through a donation to the Montana Food Network as part of Avista’s year-end donation program. A total of \$25,010 is being donated to food banks in Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana by [Avista](#) and the [Avista Foundation](#). Funding for these donations comes from foundation funds and company profits. It is not included as a cost to customers in developing retail rates.

“Community food banks are providing vital safety net services in the communities we serve. Through their buying power and relationships with food producers, the food banks are able to leverage donations like ours to bring several times their value to help stock the shelves for those in need,” said Tim Swant, Avista’s Clark Fork License manager. “Helping limited income families and seniors meet their nutritional needs is an important part of our emphasis on providing assistance to reduce poverty in the communities served by Avista Utilities.”

2011 Avista and Avista Foundation Annual Food Bank Donations - \$25,010

ACCESS, Inc.	Medford, OR
Addy Rescue Mission	Addy, WA
Asotin County Food Bank Assoc.	Clarkston, WA
Bayview Bible Chapel	Athol, ID
Bonner Community Food Center	Sandpoint, ID
Cheney Food Bank	Cheney, WA
Colville Volunteer Food & Resource Center	Colville, WA
Community Action Partnership (Funding for the following food banks: Community Action Partnership of Kootenai County Community Action Partnership of Benewah County Community Action Partnership of Shoshone County Community Action Partnership of Boundary County Community Action Partnership of Bonner County Community Action Partnership of Clearwater County Community Action Partnership of Idaho	Lewiston, ID

County Community Action Partnership of Latah County Community Action Partnership of Lewis County Community Action Partnership of Nez Perce & Asotin Counties)	
Community Action Center of Whitman County, serving Pullman & Colfax, WA	Pullman, WA
Community Connection of NE Oregon	La Grande, OR
Connell Food Bank	Connell, WA
The FISH of Roseburg	Roseburg, OR
Kettle Falls Community Chest	Kettle Falls, WA
Klamath Lake Counties Food Bank	Klamath Falls, OR
Lincoln County Care & Share	Davenport, WA
Loon Lake Food Pantry & Resource Center	Loon Lake, WA
Montana Food Bank Network (Serving food banks in Sanders County, MT)	Missoula, MT
Northport Food Bank	Northport, WA
Odessa Food Bank	Odessa, WA
Othello Food Bank	Othello, WA
Our Place Community Ministries	Spokane, WA
Peaceful Valley Neighborhood Assoc.	Spokane, WA
Post Falls Food Bank, Inc.	Post Falls, ID
Priest River Food Bank	Priest River, ID
Rathdrum Community Food Bank	Rathdrum, ID
Ritzville Food Pantry	Ritzville, WA
Second Harvest	Spokane, WA
Senior Citizens of Chewelah Valley	Chewelah, WA
Sojourner's Alliance	Moscow, ID
Spirit Lake Food Bank	Spirit Lake, ID
Sprague-Lamont 4-H Club	Sprague, WA
United Community Action Network	Grants Pass, OR
Spokane Valley Partners	Spokane, WA
Valley Food Pantry	Valley, WA
Washington Gorge Action Programs	Bingen, WA
Warden Food Pantry	Warden, WA
West Bonner County Food Bank	Priest River, ID

### **About Avista Foundation**

The Avista Foundation, established in 2002 with dollars from the sale of appreciated Itron stock, focuses its giving on grants to 501(c)3 non-profit organizations that strengthen communities and enhance the quality of life for people served by Avista Utilities in eastern Washington, northern Idaho, southern Oregon and Sanders County, Montana. The foundation focuses its giving in the areas of:

- education – K-12 education particularly in the fields of science, math and technology; and higher education including scholarships,

- vulnerable and limited income populations – providing assistance to those on limited incomes and support for initiatives to reduce poverty,
- economic and cultural vitality – supporting projects that help communities and citizens to grow and prosper.

Information on the Avista Foundation is available at [www.avistafoundation.org](http://www.avistafoundation.org) . The Avista Foundation is a separate, non-profit organization established by Avista Corp.

### **About Avista**

Avista Corp. is an energy company involved in the production, transmission and distribution of energy as well as other energy-related businesses. Avista Utilities is our operating division that provides electric service to 358,000 customers and natural gas to 317,000 customers. Our service territory covers 30,000 square miles in eastern Washington, northern Idaho and parts of southern and eastern Oregon, with a population of 1.5 million. Avista's primary, non-regulated subsidiary is Ecova. Our stock is traded under the ticker symbol "AVA." For more information about Avista, please visit [www.avistacorp.com](http://www.avistacorp.com) or [www.avistautilities.com](http://www.avistautilities.com).

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