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WDE announces 21st Century Community Learning Centers competitive grants award winners

CHEYENNE – Wyoming Department of Education Interim Director Jim Rose announced the 11 recipients of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21 CCLC) Cohort Eight grant in Cheyenne today.

The 21 CCLC is authorized under Title IV, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The program helps students meet state and local standards in core academic subjects, such as reading and math; offers students a broad array of enrichment activities that complement the school day academic programs; and offers literacy and other educational services to the families of participating children.

The awards for Cohort Eight range from \$55,673 to \$150,500 each year for up to five years contingent upon federal funding. The new sub-grantees will establish or expand community learning centers that provide academic and enrichment opportunities for children, particularly students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools.

The eleven recipients are:

- Uinta B.O.C.E.S. #1 Education Center
- Sweetwater County School District #1
- Fremont County School District #6
- Sheridan County School District #2
- Laramie County Community Partnership
- Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters-Albany County
- Fremont County School District #1
- The PRACTICE Afterschool Program, Torrington
- Natrona County Prevention Coalition

- Hot Springs County School District #1
- Fremont County School District #2

"The agency received applications for Cohort Eight from 23 different communities throughout Wyoming," said 21st Century CCLC Education Consultant, Karen Bierhaus. "This indicates to me that school districts and their community partners recognize the potential of quality out-of-school time programs to impact, not only student learning, but very important social and emotional skills that support students as curious, resilient learners throughout their life."

This is Wyoming's eighth funding cycle for this state-administered competitive federal grant. Currently, there are 35 separate grants in 23 communities that receive funding through this program. In 2011-2012, over 10,000 children attended 21CCLC centers across Wyoming.

Applicant funding was determined by a panel of reviewers, scoring each proposal against the published rubric. Additionally, applicants gained points for serving schools in need of improvement; serving over 51 percent Title I schools; offering a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program with measurable objectives; and for being a novice applicant.

For more information, please contact Karen Bierhaus, 21 CCLC Education Consultant, at 307-777-5332. Check out 21 CCLC grant information and reports at http://edu.wyoming.gov/Programs/safety/21st_century_cclc_program.aspx and http://ppics.learningpt.org