



**FOUNDATION  
FOR COMMUNITY CARE**

221 2nd Street NW • Sidney, MT 59270  
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We really appreciate the opportunity to stay in touch with our donors. If you'd like to update any of your contact information with us, please don't hesitate to contact us (406)488-2273, or at [hello@foundationforcommunitycare.org](mailto:hello@foundationforcommunitycare.org).

## Service Excellence: Continuous Improvement of the Patient Experience

By: Jennifer Mercer  
Sidney Health Center Senior Executive Patient Experience

Sidney Health Center strives to deliver exceptional quality care that is respectful of and responsive to patient preferences, needs and values through excellent service. We are always looking for ways to continuously improve the quality of care we deliver by reviewing data, including comments from patients and their families about their care experience. Most recently the idea to provide our younger patients with something to do while hospitalized was brought to our attention. Our Information Technology department had the idea of a gaming console as a means of distraction therapy after reading about positive results with other healthcare facilities. In July, we received a Foundation grant to purchase a Gamers Outreach Kart (GO Kart), a portable, medical-grade gaming kiosk nurses can use to transport video games and entertainment to children in the hospital.

Each GO Kart is equipped with a gaming monitor, gaming console, and games. The carts provide a safe, flexible, and efficient way to ensure children and gamers have access to entertainment and coping mechanisms during a hospitalization. Each unit helps provide bedside recreation in their hospital rooms.

Hospitalization can often be a scary experience for young children. Research shows that these gaming carts make an incredible difference providing relief, whether it be for distraction, socialization, or even education, there are a range of purposes games can serve within medical environments.

Emory University clinical psychologist Nadine Kaslow explained, "playing the games takes patients' minds off what hurts them. It can serve to distract you and give you a sense of control and some positive reinforcement."

Thanks to the Foundation grant, a Gamers Outreach Kart will now be part of our young patients' hospital experience. We anticipate deployment of the GO Kart gaming console before the end of 2020. Play is vital to the healing process, not only does it reduce anxiety that can be associated with a hospital stay, but it allows patients to engage in fun, interactive activities all of which will enhance the patient experience.

Sidney Health Center continues to look for opportunities to enhance the patient experience of high quality, safe, appropriate care combined with excellent service.



TOGETHER | FALL 2020

## BRAINS MATTER

By: Melissa Boyer  
Foundation for Community Care Director

Football in small town America is more than a tradition. It can become a community's identity. Even today, glory days stories swirl around like the fallen autumn leaves. Friday night lights are something we all still get excited about. It's the lights out part that makes the spectators leery of the sport.

That's why Sidney Public Schools wanted to address the health concerns related to head injuries and concussions. Most concussions happen during practice. The Guardian seemed like one part of the solution to safety concerns.

Chris Lee, Athletic Director for Sidney Public Schools noted, "The Guardian reduces impact up to 33%, and keeps our players cooler by insulating their helmet."

Roger Merritt, Head Coach of the Sidney Eagle football team says the coaching staff is taking the extra steps

to minimize head injuries. "At first, the players were suspicious of how bulky the Guardian was on top of their helmet, but they are adjusting to it now. They realize its purpose is for their safety." He believes it's a positive safety addition to the team.

"As far as I know, we've had no concussion injuries in practice, and I could see where the Guardian played a role in that."

Carl Dynneson, Sidney High School Principal, emphasized the fact that the Guardian grant was written to the Foundation for Community Care, not only to protect the developing brains of the youth in our community, but to maximize the healthcare workforce services in our area. "Each time a head injury occurs, that individual needs to be evaluated by a healthcare professional, and then again before they are allowed to return to their sporting activity. By preventing concussions and

head injuries, we are taking care of our students and preserving provider appointments for other community members."

The investment of \$8000 purchased enough Guardian helmet covers for all of Sidney's contact football leagues. All safety equipment has an expiration date, and these will last approximately 10 years.

Jacq Free, APRN FNP-C, at the MonDak Clinic in Fairview, is the main provider in the area when it comes to baseline and re-checks after head contact. Her advice on concussions, particularly related to football, is to continue to coach youth in the correct tackling techniques, as that's proven to decrease concussion incidents overall. She believes in and endorses any kind of equipment that schools can obtain that can decrease impact on the brain, because, "Brains matter!"

# OUR MISSION

*The mission of the Foundation for Community Care is to help ensure the continuance and quality of local healthcare services.*

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## Light the Night

On September 17, Light the Night, a fundraising event for Sidney Health Center Cancer Care, took place at the Foundation for Community Care. Not many events actually take place at our location, but this pandemic has pushed us to look at events from a different vantage point. Early planning had us situated at the Richland County Fair with lots of food and entertainment...and people. These plans were not feasible due to Covid, so we came up with plan B, plan C, and finally plan Foundation. At the end of the day, it turned out the way it was supposed to.

It began in the morning with planned posts and testimonies from Sidney Health Center Cancer Care patients on social media outlets. Karen Arnold-Truax sang her beautiful rendition of "Rainbow" by Kacey Musgraves for the viewers. Reese & Ray's IGA sold ice cream sandwiches to raise funds for the Cancer Center. The week before, Reynold's Market held a cook out with all proceeds benefitting the Cancer Center.

Beginning at 6:00, the Foundation did hourly live streams of the lanterns that memorialized and honored those who were or are fighting cancer. People strolled at their leisure and absorbed the moment in the warm glow of the lights. It was a healing, comforting time.

A special thanks to Sidney High School and Penny Filler's Publications class for painting our windows to promote this important event. You all did a wonderful job!



## upcomingEVENTS

### November:

7th - 14th - Virtual Wine & Food Festival

### December:

All Month - Bridge Fund Campaign

1st - Giving Tuesday

Visit our Facebook page or website for more information about upcoming events:

[www.foundationforcommunitycare.org](http://www.foundationforcommunitycare.org)

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## The Founder's Society

The Founder's Society recognizes donors who have taken their cumulative commitment to the exceptional level of \$50,000 and above. These gifts help strengthen the Foundation's ongoing efforts to ensure quality healthcare to the residents of Richland County. Established in honor of our nine original founders: A.H. "Bud" Groskinsky, Melvin Leland, Leonard Odenbach, Ing Svarre, Synove Lalonde, Antone Carda, John L. Olson, Jimmie Ashcraft and Curtis Hunter. Founder's Society members are special people who recognize the importance of medical care to the community and they are willing to make a significant commitment to the Foundation for Community Care.

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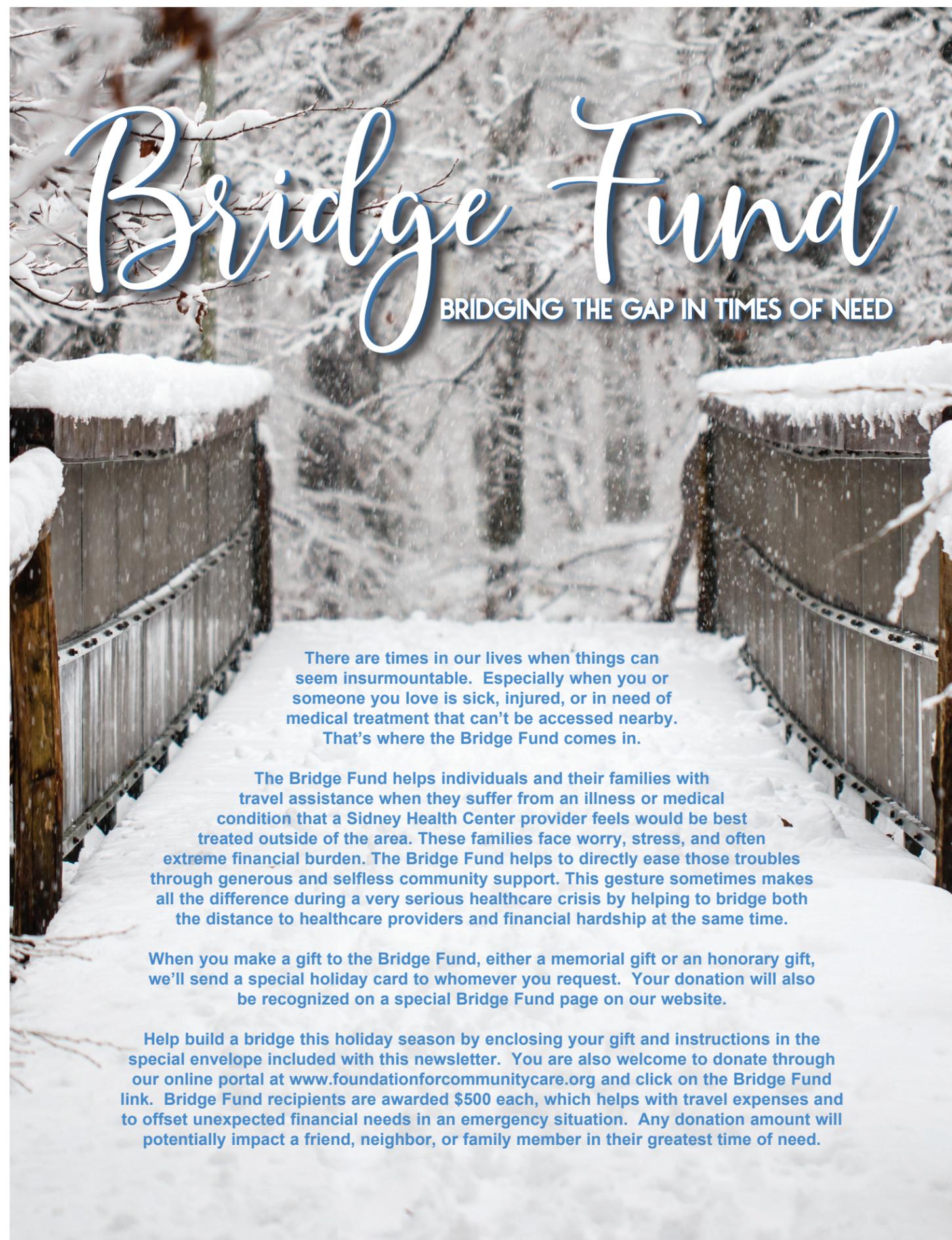
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# Bridge Fund

BRIDGING THE GAP IN TIMES OF NEED

There are times in our lives when things can seem insurmountable. Especially when you or someone you love is sick, injured, or in need of medical treatment that can't be accessed nearby. That's where the Bridge Fund comes in.

The Bridge Fund helps individuals and their families with travel assistance when they suffer from an illness or medical condition that a Sidney Health Center provider feels would be best treated outside of the area. These families face worry, stress, and often extreme financial burden. The Bridge Fund helps to directly ease those troubles through generous and selfless community support. This gesture sometimes makes all the difference during a very serious healthcare crisis by helping to bridge both the distance to healthcare providers and financial hardship at the same time.

When you make a gift to the Bridge Fund, either a memorial gift or an honorary gift, we'll send a special holiday card to whomever you request. Your donation will also be recognized on a special Bridge Fund page on our website.

Help build a bridge this holiday season by enclosing your gift and instructions in the special envelope included with this newsletter. You are also welcome to donate through our online portal at [www.foundationforcommunitycare.org](http://www.foundationforcommunitycare.org) and click on the Bridge Fund link. Bridge Fund recipients are awarded \$500 each, which helps with travel expenses and to offset unexpected financial needs in an emergency situation. Any donation amount will potentially impact a friend, neighbor, or family member in their greatest time of need.



# The CARES Act: How It Impacts Your Giving

As a leading non-profit in Montana, the Foundation for Community Care maintains important relationships with other organizations with similar objectives, like the Montana Community Foundation. We often share resources and information, like how the CARES Act could impact your giving. Many thanks to the Montana Community Foundation for summarizing some of the most pertinent topics for our donors.

Thanks to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, signed into law in March 2020, individual and business donors have access to some unique and potentially impactful tax incentives for charitable giving in 2020. Below you will find examples of a few notable opportunities created by the CARES Act, which may be of interest to you or someone you know. The window for taking advantage of these changes closes December 31, 2020.



### Universal Deduction for Donations Up to \$300: A Special Incentive for Non-Itemizers

Even if you take the standard deduction on your 2020 federal tax return, the CARES Act allows you to claim a one-time “universal” deduction for gifts to charity. Individuals can claim a deduction up to a total of \$300: married couples filing jointly can claim up to \$600.

### Increased Charitable Deduction Cap: Give Big, Benefit Big

If you itemize deductions on your federal tax return, the CARES Act raises the 60% adjusted gross income (AGI) limit for cash donations, enabling individual and joint filers to deduct up to 100% of their AGI. That means it's possible to have zero taxable income in 2020 if you really give big!



*Note: The 100% AGI limit for 2020 does not apply to gifts of securities or to cash donations made to establish planned gifts such as those qualifying for the Montana Endowment Tax Credit.*

For corporate donors, the charitable deduction cap has also been raised for 2020, from 10% AGI up to 25%. Since cash donations from corporations do qualify for the Montana Endowment Tax Credit up to \$10,000 per year, this provides an excellent opportunity for business owners to leverage this benefit while increasing charitable impact in their communities.



### Charitable IRA to Roth IRA Conversion: A More Attractive Option for 2020

If you have been considering converting all or part of your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA, certain CARES Act provisions might make 2020 the year to do so. First, this year's required minimum distribution (RMD) waiver removes the need to take an RMD before converting to a Roth. Second, the 100% AGI limit mentioned above could help off-set increases to taxable income as a result to converting pre-tax money from a traditional IRA to a Roth. While this type of IRA conversion is not right for everyone, for those seriously considering it this may be the right time.

### Contact Us

We can help you explore these and other options to maximize your tax benefits and charitable giving impact, including gifts to qualify for the Montana Endowment Tax Credit, provide income during your lifetime, offset capital gains, and support a strong future for healthcare in our community. Contact us at 406-488-2273.

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Dear Donors,

As we have mentioned in previous newsletters, our team decided over a year ago to switch to a new internal donor information management system called Kindful. That decision has already saved our organization thousands of dollars, given our donors the flexibility to manage their own gifts and receipts, to save their payment methods in their own profile account, and it has saved hours and hours of staff time because of its utility. Kindful does have some limitations, hence the cost savings, but it offers what the Foundations needs to do business in a clear, concise format.

Our donors are so very important to us, and recognizing you for your gifts in the way you want to be recognized is our top

priority when we thank you for what you have done for this community. In the transfer to Kindful, your “preferred salutation” was not a data field that was able to be brought along into the new system. We have done our best to reference other records to reflect your past wishes, but as you look through this list, you may find that your name is not as you’d prefer. Please let us know how you would like it to read. We would be delighted to correct it for you in our records.

It is my distinct pleasure to announce the 2019 Foundation for Community Care donor list. Thank you to all past, present, and future philanthropists.

To Your Health,  
Melissa Boyer

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Our sincerest gratitude to every single one of our 2019 donors, sponsors, and supporters!

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# MAKING TRADITIONS

By Melissa Boyer  
Foundation for Community Care Director

Before I sat down to write about the 27th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament, I flipped through all the photos taken throughout the day, just to jog my memory. This was my 13th year of being a part of this event, and most years, the weather can be described as "perfect." Even if it was too windy, that's code for "just enough of a breeze to keep the bugs off." If it was a really hot day, "the cold drinks really hit the spot!" The food at the Sidney Country Club is always good, along with the service. The course is always in impeccable condition, and our players are always on their best behavior.

What I noticed most about the photos from this year's event was more than all of that; they gave me a feeling of family and tradi- tion. Take a look at these teams who have been playing together for decades, or families, like mine, who won't miss this tour- nament for anything. Check out our volunteers who love spending the day with us because they believe in our mission. These people make our golf scramble one of the best around. Thanks for making it a tradition.

Mark your calendar for August 28, 2021. I know I'll see you there.





# TABLE TALK

Several months ago, a couple of our regular visitors, Dennis and Renita Welnel, donated a beautiful, solid oak table, with two leaves and six chairs. It fits in perfectly at our office, and frankly, I can't imagine working here without it now. It's become a "hub" for our frequent flyers, our weekly staff meetings, a place to stuff mailing campaigns, and even eat lunch. It is well loved and well used.

On this occasion, it was used to have a serious conversation with Jeff Aisenbrey and Lorilee Norby, as they are nearing the end of their 3rd, consecutive 3 year term on the Foundation's Board of Directors. After one year of departure from the Board, they are eligible for reappointment. Stay tuned for their answers!

## What made you want to serve on the Foundation's Board of Directors?

**Jeff:** I was interested in learning about how the hospital and assisted living were ran.

**Lorilee:** That was almost a decade ago! I wanted to get more involved in the community because I believe in community service.

## In your time on the Board, where have you seen the greatest change?

**Lorilee:** The Foundation has grown in sophistication as a more mature non-profit.

**Jeff:** Everything gets better with time and good leadership. I also think we learned what not to do!

**Lorilee:** Yes! Experience! I also think reaching the \$8 million mark in our investment portfolio was impactful for the organization.

**Jeff:** And consolidating into one money manager. The Board took time to learn about the investments and together we made the decision to go with just one. It makes it easier to understand what's going on with our finances.

**Lorilee:** That change was hard, but I think we managed it well, and came out better for it.

## What are you going to miss most about being on the Board?

**Jeff:** Getting together with different

people that I only see at these meetings. All the people on this board have different ideas, and you don't have to believe in all of them, but people respect all the ideas.

**Lorilee:** With a 17 member Board, it opens your mind to so many more ideas. I will miss the people, including the staff, but I will do my best to stay engaged.

**Jeff:** And I'll still come and check if you have any coffee!

At the end of our visit, as Lorilee had another meeting and Jeff had a tee time, I mentioned how much each of them would be missed and offered that after a one year sabbatical, it would be possible to get re-elected.

**Lorilee:** I'd be interested!

**Jeff:** Arizona is nice for half the year. I think Emeritus might be the right choice for me!

By Melissa Boyer  
Foundation for Community Care Director

## Sidney Sugars Employees Continue Support

Have you ever heard the old adage, "It's not what you know, it's who you know."? In this story, that just happened to be the case.

For more than two decades, Sidney Sugars employees have been generously giving pre-taxed donations to the Foundation for Community Care. Our Foundation staff would be invited to speak to the Sidney Sugars employees at a safety meeting about the importance of our healthcare mission, and then several individuals would sign up for monthly contributions right from their paychecks.

Then along came Covid, and for the safety of the Sidney Sugars workers, that meeting wasn't going to be possible. Imagine the implications of a Foundation staff member passing this dreadful disease to the workforce that supports our community! Getting in front of those men and women responsible for the well being of the entire valley was just not going to happen. Then along came Marissa Eberling.



Marissa, payroll tax accountant at Sidney Sugars, and Jen Boyer, the Foundation's Operations Coordinator, came up with a plan.

"How do we bypass the Covid situation and still reach the Sidney Sugars employees? That's the problem we were faced with." Marissa remarked.

"Jen put together a letter and a donation form, but for privacy reasons, didn't have a way to reach her audience, but I did. When the next payroll stubs were sent out, so were the Foundation's communication. Now whenever there is a new hire, I can connect them with Foundation information." In the near future, with Marissa's assistance, video displays in the warehouse, factory, main office, and break rooms will also feature some of the important work being done by the Foundation in our community.

Marissa went on to explain that this little extra effort is just one way that Sidney Sugars is putting its best foot forward for the betterment of the community.

Stay tuned, as Marissa's philanthropic



Marissa Eberling

work with the Foundation isn't quite done for 2020. She also owns and operates Badlands Clothing Co. and plans to host a pop-up shop at the Foundation before year's end. Some proceeds will benefit the Foundation for Community Care. Keep this in mind for your Christmas shopping list!

Many thanks to Marissa for being our community connector and putting in that little extra effort to create an extra special outcome. If anyone reading this article wants to begin an employee giving program at your business, or have the Foundation come and speak with your employer, please contact us at (406) 488-2273.

## Summer Facelift

The three of us who spend the most time here at the Foundation, Jen Boyer, Jaena Cotter, and I, know how lucky we are to have such a truly warm and inviting space to share with the community and our donors. As the years have gone by, a few maintenance projects have taken us by surprise, and a few more are in the planning phase. Here's what we completed this summer.

Crystal Wyman of Pure Imagination Vinyl, updated our signage so our incredibly unique building is much more identifiable. You can see our logo from Holly Street on the old teller window, our front sign lights up with fresh paint, and our front door is much more welcoming to our visitors. Crystal's eye for design took this project from good to great. Thanks for your creative ideas, Crystal! Though we love having visitors, we have had less confusion from people looking for the library.

The Kringen construction crew spent a few weeks updating our exterior starting with repairs to our beams. Once that was complete, the crew swung into action on the next phase of the plan and removed our old shake style roof, then installed a new shingle roof. Our "facelift" sure looks amazing and we appreciate the great job, Kringen Construction!

For the finishing touch, Kris Hettich added a pop of color and beauty to our front entrance by filling our planters. Thanks, Kris!

