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Freeport-McMoRan Announces 2016 Climax Area Community Investment Fund Grant Recipients

Leadville, CO, April 19, 2016 – The Freeport-McMoRan Foundation has announced that the 2016 Climax Area Community Investment Fund grant recipients have been selected.

A total of \$200,000 will be awarded to five nonprofit organizations from three counties – Lake, Summit, and Eagle. Recipients were recognized and received their monetary awards at a presentation held on Tuesday, April 19 at the Colorado Mountain College – Timberline Campus in Leadville, Colorado.

The Climax Area Community Investment Fund was established in 2011 to focus on programs and projects that help create sustainability and reduce dependency on any single industry. Eligible programs and projects include those in the areas of education, community and economic development, environmental stewardship and health and wellness. The Fund is governed by a committee comprised of community leaders representing diverse organizations and two Freeport-McMoRan representatives. The community leaders were selected by the Climax Area Community Partnership Panel, a stakeholder engagement process established by Freeport-McMoRan in 2008 to foster open and ongoing dialogue with the community, allowing the company and the community to work together to develop thoughtful solutions that address community issues.

Advocates of Lake County – \$60,000

Funds will allow the Lake County Safehouse to acquire property and make enhancements to better accommodate shelter-eligible clients, including secure parking. The project will address common deterrents that prevent victims from leaving an abusive situation. The improvements will create an environment that will help victims cultivate the skills necessary to become self-sufficient community members while contributing to a peaceful and stable community.

Cloud City Conservation Center – \$68,000

Grant funds will support the creation of the Cloud City Farm. The Farm will serve the community by offering fresh produce shares at affordable prices and special programs to provide affordable locally-grown produce that was not available before. Additionally, educational opportunities will be made available for youth encouraging them to become scientists and environmental stewards. The community greenhouse, farm and living classroom will become a community asset while increasing economic and environmental sustainability.

Eagle River Watershed Council, Inc. – \$12,000

Grant funds will support the Eagle County Watershed Inventory, Restoration and Enhancement project in an effort to collect data regarding the health of the local aquatic habitat. Data will allow decision-makers to determine the best ways to protect the unique wildlife habitat on rivers, remote streams, and springs which make up Eagle County's extraordinary environment. Restoration and enhancement will also assist in removal of invasive plants along 50 miles of the Upper Colorado River.

Lake County School District – \$35,000

Lake County School District will renovate the West Park Elementary play yard. Improvements will create a safer space and make the park accessible for public use during out of school hours. The project will increase the

number of youth who have access to a high quality play space, increase engagement in physical activity during school hours and serve as a source of community and school pride.

Summit Community Care Clinic – \$25,000

The grant will support expansion of the Clinic’s oral health facility. The expansion will assist in meeting the oral health needs of low-income populations in the region and for the Care Clinic to fulfill its mission of providing exceptional, patient-centered care to those who experience barriers to accessing care.

“The key to sustainable communities, is the development of a strong set of diverse assets including things like a varied sources of economic revenue and jobs, quality schools that support local workforce development, preventative social and health services that reduce the higher cost of urgent hospital care and government services,” said Tracy Bame, President of the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation. “We appreciate and commend the efforts of the Climax Area Community Investment Fund Committee as well as local nonprofits, academic institutions and citizens, to consider the kinds of community projects that will best support the needs of the area and the goal to achieve greater sustainability.”

Additional information about Freeport-McMoRan community investments and programs may be obtained by visiting www.FreeportInMyCommunity.com or by contacting Tara Hosick at tara_hosick@fmi.com or Nell Wareham at Nell_Wareham@fmi.com.

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