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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Bank's Charity Drive Secures Over \$24,000 For Local Food Banks

In an effort to promote philanthropy in local charities, Community Bank conducts the annual Charity Drive. Proceeds from the drive are used in that same community during the holiday season.

Funds collected are matched dollar for dollar up to a maximum of \$1,000 per branch. Last year, over \$23,000 was dispersed to ten charities in the region. This year we exceeded \$28,000 with \$24,000 going to food bank non-profits.

Since the Community Bank Charity Drive began in 2010, the total amount given to area charities now exceeds \$245,000. Community Bank would like to thank all of their customers and community members who donated to the fundraising efforts.

Food Bank charities that benefited this year were: Enterprise/Joseph Community Connection Food Bank \$10,730! Elgin Food Bank \$3,680; Wallowa Food Bank \$2,425; Baker City food banks (St Francis de Dales and Church of the Nazarene Compassion center) each received \$2,000; Community Connection Food Bank in La Grande \$1,754; in Pendleton, Altrusa's Feed the Child Program received \$1,529.

In addition, other types of charities were supported in areas where there is already a significant fundraiser for the food banks. In Hermiston, Made to Thrive, which helps children, received a donation of \$2,582 with collections and the match. In Walla Walla, Children's Home Society, Parents as Teachers program received \$524 and the City of Milton-Freewater received \$969 for the power and light assistance program. The City then matched that amount as well to assist local residents with their bills.

"This campaign helps demonstrate the charitable nature of the folks in our communities. Those who volunteer, and who step up to give are making an impact during a truly challenging time," says Tom Moran, Community Bank President.

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Contact

Tom Moran

President/CEO

tmoran@communitybanknet.com

509-525-9860