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Blackfoot Donates \$50,000 to Fire Relief Funds

Missoula, Montana -- Blackfoot announced today a total pledge of up to \$50,000 to support local communities affected by Montana's unprecedented wildfire season and to help offset the extensive damage. As part of this pledge, Blackfoot has donated \$5,000 to the United Way of Missoula County Fire Fund, \$5,000 to the Montana Wildfire Relief Fund at the Montana Community Foundation and close to \$30,000 in service credits to business customers who were severely impacted by the devastating fire season. The remaining funds will be used for additional wildfire relief efforts in Blackfoot's service areas.

"Blackfoot is concerned for all those affected by the fires that hit the heart of our communities, and we're committed to helping our member-owners, customers, neighbors and employees recover," said Jason Williams, Blackfoot CEO. "Montanans are known for our ability to work together, to support each other and to recover from challenging times like we experienced this summer. Our service technicians were on the front of the fire lines for weeks on end and everyone at Blackfoot was paying attention to what was happening in our service area communities. On behalf of our Board of Trustees and employees, I'm very pleased to provide financial assistance to help offset the impact of the 2017 fire season."

Riley Meredith, Marketing and Communications Director at the Montana Community Foundation thanked Williams for the donation. "We greatly appreciate this generous donation from Blackfoot. These funds will support many organizations across Montana such as rural volunteer fire departments who are so crucial in wildfire prevention, as well as the many nonprofit organizations that provide relief to individuals directly affected by these terrible fires."

To learn more about the United Way of Missoula County Fire Fund visit: <http://www.missoulaunitedway.org/>

To learn more about the Montana Wildfire Relief Fund at the Montana Community Foundation visit: <https://www.mtcf.org/MFRF>