

MEDIA ADVISORY:

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SAF to Host Golf Tournament to Raise Funds for Student Scholarships

(HELENA) Twenty-one teams from communities across Montana and throughout the nation will gather at Helena's Green Meadow Country Club on Thursday, Aug. 11 at 12:30 p.m. to play a round of golf, compete for a variety of hole prizes and raise funds to support nonprofit Student Assistance Foundation's Circle of Succe\$\$ scholarships.

"2011 marks the sixth year that Student Assistance Foundation (SAF) has hosted a golf scramble to raise funds to help Montana students pursue their dreams of postsecondary education," said Pat Schlauch, event coordinator. "We think it's appropriate that we selected a Hawaiian luau theme for the event because this is really a celebration of our donors' generosity and the difference our partnership has allowed us to make in the lives of students."

These \$1,000 Circle of Succe\$\$ scholarships are provided annually to second, third and fourth-year college students from across Montana to help them cover costs associated with continuing their postsecondary education. To date, SAF has distributed \$341,000 through this program.

Jaycilyn Croff, a 2011 Circle of Succe\$\$ recipient, is majoring in elementary education at Blackfeet Community College in Browning, and has plans to continue her education at Montana State University. Then, she plans to return to Browning to teach second-grade students.

"I was born and raised here on the Blackfeet Reservation, so this is my home," she said. "I plan on giving back the support that my community has given me."

Following the scramble, golfers and sponsors at the event will enjoy hors d'oeuvres at the clubhouse and participate in a silent auction and raffle. Again, all proceeds will be used to fund scholarships.

According to Schlauch, Circle of Succe\$\$ Grants are near and dear to the hearts of SAF employees — they were originally funded solely through employee contributions.

"This program allows SAF's employees to really live the company's mission of helping Montana students," he said. "We'd like to thank all of our participants and those individuals and businesses who generously donated to this event."

Student Assistance Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Montana corporation that provides students with knowledge and tools to finance and pursue their postsecondary education. Funds generated by SAF are returned to Montanans in the form of education grants and public benefit programs - to date more than \$22.4 million. For more information, visit www.SmartAboutCollege.org or www.safmt.org.

