

### **2023 Annual Report**





Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, we are pleased to present the Annual Report of the 1776 Foundation. It is with gratitude and enthusiasm that we share some of the highlights from 2023 made possible through the collective efforts of our dedicated team, committed partners, and generous supporters. This was unquestionably a great year for the foundation.

- Our Grants have now delivered over \$100,000 to support worthwhile organizations that share our values.
- Our Montana Constitution Project had its biggest year yet, distributing over 20,000 free copies to parents, educators, elected officials, and interested citizens all across Montana.
- Our Bill of Rights Hard Card Project had another great year and has now shipped over 5,000 cards.
- Our Gadsen Flag License Plate had its largest year so far, generating over \$140,000 in revenue for the Foundation.

The 1776 Foundation has also been at the forefront of civic engagement initiatives, encouraging active participation in democratic processes. With another great year in the books, we look forward to the opportunities in the year ahead.

Sincerely, The 1776 Foundation Board of Directors

PO Box 80801 | Billings, Montana 59108

### **ABOUT** the 1776 Foundation



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**Scott Aspenlieder** 



**Jake Eaton** 



Tyler Schott

Based in Billings, Montana, the 1776 Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that seeks to improve government and politics by working to inform and equip the people of Montana to better evaluate policy options that uphold traditional American values, historic civil liberties, the Montana Constitution and the Constitution of the United States of America.

Founded in 2015, the 1776 Foundation works to accomplish our mission through a variety of programming and by supporting other like-minded organizations in Montana.

#### **Board of Directors**

Mr. Scott Aspenlieder Mr. Jake Eaton Mr. Tyler Schott



## PROGRAMS



**Gadsden Flag License Plate** 



**Free Constitution Project** 



#### **Liberty Lessons**



#### **Grant Program**



#### **Bill of Rights Hard Card**



**Liberty Invitational** 



#### **Montana Pulse**

### 1776 Foundation Gadsen Flag LICENSE PLATE



Welle Lee









Since January 2017, Montana residents have been able to purchase their very own 1776 Foundation Gadsden Flag license plate when they register a Montana vehicle.

An iconic symbol of the American Revolution, the Gadsden Flag was named for Christopher Gadsden who created it during the American Revolution. Today it has come to symbolize support for liberty and the rugged, independent American spirit. Now you can display this iconic symbol on your Montana vehicle and support the great work of the 1776 Foundation.

Our plate was once again one of the bestselling specialty license plates during 2023. The plate is now a regular site on thousands of cars, trucks, trailers and campers on Montana's highways and byways.

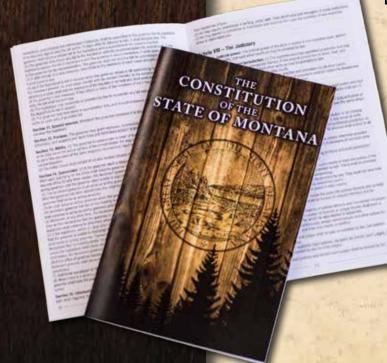
### Free Constitution **PROJECT**

A firm understanding of our Montana Constitution is a foundation each and every Montanan should be equipped with, especially during their formative years.

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Unfortunately, most of our public schools do not offer such coursework.

The 1776 Foundation Constitution Project seeks to fill this void by providing free copies of the Montana Constitution to educators, parents and the public.



During 2023, this project produced and distributed over 20,000 free copies of the Montana Constitution. Since the program's inception back in 2017, we have now distributed over 60,000 free copies to parents, educators, elected officials and interested citizens all over Montana.

# LIBERTY LESSONS

The 1776 Foundation's Liberty Lessons are a series of educational radio and video messages designed to give you a deeper understanding of the meaning and history of the Montana and U.S. Constitutions. Each episode is delivered by exciting Montana political, business and community leaders.

Our series now includes episodes focused on: The Electoral College, Separation of Powers, Democracy and more. These episodes are broadcast online and on radio stations throughout Montana.

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## GRANTS

Helping out our neighbors and giving back to the community is part of the Montana way of life.

The 1776 Foundation is proud to support likeminded organizations with funding for programs that are in line with our mission.

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Our grants program distributed \$27,500 to worthwhile organizations in 2023 and has now provide over \$100,000 in funding since coming online in Q3 2017.

### BILL OF RIGHTS Hard Card

The first 10 Amendments to the Constitution spell out our most important rights, and now our Bill of Rights Hard Card lets you take your rights with you everywhere you go!

James Madison drafted the amendments that became the Bill of Rights after calls from some states for greater constitutional protections to safeguard individual liberties. The Bill of Rights was ratified by the states in 1791.

The 1776 Foundation's Bill of Rights Hard Card is a sturdy aluminum card measuring 3.5"x2" –

the same size as a standard business card.

We have now shipped over 5,000 cards since starting this program in Q3 2020.



## MONTANA PULSE



The Montana Pulse program conducts a series of public opinion polls several times per year.

Each poll measures Montanans' attitudes on elected officials, current policy proposals and a variety of other timely topics. The results of each poll are made available for free to the media and the general public, so that all Montanans can keep a pulse on important issues and the elected officials leading our state.

Each poll is conducted by a professional public opinion research firm, utilizing a combination of traditional telephone survey and an online survey tool to interview randomly selected participants from a demographically diverse panel. Utilizing this methodology ensures we are able to reach voters that have abandoned landline telephones.

## THE LIBERTY INVITATIONAL



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The Liberty Invitational is a unique golf event that brings together elected officials and political candidates, along with business and community leaders to foster conversations about civic engagement.

During our first two events, we have been honored to have an amazing group of participants including US Senator Steve Daines, Governor Greg Gianforte, Congressman Ryan Zinke, Attorney General Austin Knudsen and many others..

# FINANCIALS

#### Revenue

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Contributions	\$ 5,538.50
License Plate Sales	\$ 143,360.00
Total Revenue	\$ 148,898.50

### **Program Costs**

Bill of Rights Card Program	\$ 5,316.86
Grants Program	\$ 27,000.00
Liberty Invitational	\$ 30,901.29
Liberty Lessons Program	\$ 250.00
License Plate Program	\$ 14,488.41
Montana Constitution Program	\$ 21,095.98
Montana Pulse Program	\$ 12,650.00
Other Program Costs	\$ 4,179.40
Total Program Cost	\$ 115,881.94

#### **Administrative Costs**

Advertising	\$ 8,276.95
Accounting/Professional Fees	\$ 2,881.00
Rent & Office Expenses	\$ 6,715.63
Website Hosting & Maintenance	\$ 520.00
Misc. Expenses	\$ 10,476.93
Total Administrative Cost	\$ 28,870.51
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**Net Operating Revenue** 

\$ 4,146.05







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