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Pulliam trust awards \$2.7 mil to 22 charities

Russ Wiles

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Twenty-two charities operating in Arizona will split more than \$2.7 million in grants from a trust established by a former newspaper executive.

The donations from the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust primarily go to organizations that help people in need. Some gifts, however, go to animal-welfare groups and charities that enrich the community.

The largest grant, \$750,000, goes to Chrysalis Shelters, followed by \$250,000 for the Children's Museum of Phoenix and \$200,000 apiece to Interfaith Community Care and Valle del Sol.

Most of the biggest grants will help fund building projects.

Chrysalis, for example, will use a chunk of the money to refurbish its Phoenix shelter for victims of domestic violence, expanding the facility from 20 to 50 beds.

"The shelter will really look good thanks to those dollars," said Patricia Klahr, the organization's chief executive officer. "A grant that size is a total vote of confidence."

Since the trust began making grants in 1998, it has awarded more than \$68 million to 320 Arizona non-profit groups.

Nina Pulliam was an executive with Central Newspapers Inc. and married company founder Eugene C. Pulliam. The company owned and operated *The Arizona Republic*, of which Nina Pulliam eventually served as publisher.

"As trustees, we are pleased to continue her legacy of helping people in need, protecting animals and nature, and enriching community life," said Trustee Chairman Frank E. Russell in a statement.

Gary Trujillo, founder of the Be a Leader Foundation, said officials of the Pulliam trust carefully check out non-

profits before donating money, thus providing an example to others who might want to give money to the same groups.

"They provide psychological support," Trujillo said. "Other donors see they've done their due diligence."

Trujillo's group received \$150,000 to help create a technology-training center in the historic Roosevelt Community Center in south Phoenix.

The trust also funds scholarships. Last year, it committed \$7.8 million over four years to 168 non-traditional college students in Arizona and Indiana. Recipients include students raised in foster care, those who are 25 years or older with dependents, and adults with physical disabilities.

The trust finances non-profit organizations in the Phoenix and Indianapolis metro areas - the two places Nina Pulliam called home.

The trust had \$410 million in assets as of May 31, 2007.

The next preliminary application deadline for non-profit grants is Sept. 4. Applications can be downloaded at www.nina.pulliamtrust.org or requested at (602) 955-3000.

Reach the reporter at russ.wiles@arizonarepublic.com.

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