The Foundation for the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming
Community Enrichment Grant Reporting
St. David's 2017 Q3 Ralston Art Collection

Cover Sheet
Parish Information
Parish name: St. David's
Grant contact: Cale Case
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Contact’s title: member of Vestry
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Grant Information
Award Date: 2017
Award Amount: $1,500 foundation; $500 parish

Narrative
1. Do you feel you accomplished your stated goals? Circle one: YES

a. Briefly explain the outcome of your program.
Successful acquisition of the Ralston paintings collection by the Fremont County Pioneer Association for permanent display at the Fremont County Pioneer Museum in Lander. The 24-piece collection documents the life of Chief Washakie, Great Chief of the Eastern Shoshone. The paintings’ prominent display and return to Wind River Country is an important connector to the people of the Wind River Indian Reservation. Essential to the story is Father John Roberts and our own parish. Father Roberts was the founder of the Fort Washakie, Ethete, Lander and other area Episcopal Churches, and headmaster of the Shoshone Episcopal Mission school. Father Roberts’ friendship with the Great Chief is featured in two of the paintings.

The paintings have become the cornerstone of an entire roomful of Shoshone art, tools clothing and other items of cultural significance. With the new space for the Ralston collection and other Shoshone artifacts, more materials related to the Arapaho people and culture will also have the opportunity for display and interpretation: a win-win.

2. Circle one or more of the dimensions of community health your grant impacted:

Social Justice X Support of Families Assisting Youth at Risk
Advancing Spirituality X Suicide Awareness

3. Please indicate the total number of individuals served through the program: served; turned away; waitlist; need
During the temporary exhibition period, the collection was viewed by 5,200 visitors annually. With the permanent acquisition and permanent display (official opening June 1, 2019), the collection will be viewed by an estimated 11,000 visitors.

4. How will the program be sustained over time?

The now permanent collection is housed in the Fremont County Pioneer Museum. The Museum is supported by a county mill levy, donations, an entry fee and an endowment.

5. What kind of difference do you think this program makes within the population it serves?

The collection will preserve and communicate Shoshone and Arapaho history and raise the awareness of tribal contributions to Wyoming. Chief Washakie’s historical contribution to the welfare of his people and the peaceful settlement of the Salt Lake Basin and south and central Wyoming is one of the most important events in our history. He nurtured the peaceful relationship between native people and white immigrants. In no small part, the contribution of Father Roberts and the Episcopal Church will be better understood by the viewer.