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CONTACT:

Carolynn Bright
Media Relations Coordinator
(406) 495-7506

Free FAFSA Help Available at Montana College Goal Sunday

When it comes to paying for college, every little bit counts. And for students and families across the nation, that process begins with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

“Many students and families assume they won’t qualify for financial aid, but studies show that a significant number of people who don’t complete the FAFSA would have received some form of assistance — federal or institutional,” said Rhonda Safford, state-wide coordinator for Montana College Goal Sunday. “We at nonprofit Student Assistance Foundation (SAF), and our community partners, don’t want anyone to miss out on any financial aid opportunities. That’s why we help coordinate Montana College Goal Sunday each year.”

This year, Montana College Goal Sunday will take place at 18 sites across the state on Sunday, Jan. 31 and/or Wednesday, Feb. 3. Dates and times vary among locations. Visit www.CollegeGoalMT.org, or call 877-COLG4ME (265-4463), for more information about this event in your community.

College Goal Sunday participants receive free, one-on-one assistance completing this important form. In addition, attendees may register to win one, \$500 scholarship to the postsecondary institution of their choice at each College Goal Sunday site.

“In the five years SAF has coordinated the Montana College Goal Sunday program, we have served more than 6,000 students and families with the aid of our dedicated volunteers,” said Safford. “We encourage everyone interested in attending college in the fall to come to one of our College Goal Sunday locations across the state to get help maximizing their potential to receive student aid.”

College Goal Sunday is a national program that was originally created by the Indiana Student Financial Aid Association with funding from Lilly Endowment, Inc. and with supplemental support from Lumina Foundation for Education.

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 \$16.8 million. For more information, visit www.safmt.org or www.SmartAboutCollege.org