

# PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**BANTERRA BANK OFFERS AN ECLIPSE GLASSES FUNDRAISER  
IN ALL BRANCHES FOR TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE;  
WILL PROVIDE A MINIMUM OF \$50,000 TO ORGANIZATIONS FOR CRITICALLY ILL CHILDREN**

**Marion, IL**—As the anticipation builds for the upcoming solar eclipse occurring on April 8<sup>th</sup>, Banterra is thrilled to announce a unique initiative to illuminate hope for critically ill children. Banterra is now offering solar eclipse glasses for purchase at all branches for a minimum \$2 donation until April 8<sup>th</sup> or while supplies last. Banterra is donating \$50,000 to Granted's "House of Hope" initiative, as well as distributing funds from eclipse glasses sales to Granted and Make-A-Wish charities. Glasses sold in Banterra branches in Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky will benefit Granted. Granted is a non-profit organization based out of Southwest Indiana that helps grant wishes to children in the surrounding areas who have been diagnosed with life-threatening or terminal conditions. Glasses sold in Arizona, Missouri, and Utah will benefit Make-A-Wish, a non-profit organization dedicated to fulfilling wishes to children across the nation also with critical illnesses.

Banterra's donation to Granted's "House of Hope" will secure naming rights for the Children's Grassy Play Area to be constructed and will serve as a vibrant and safe space for children to play, learn and grow. The "House of Hope" project, with expected opening in June 2025, will be a comprehensive programming facility, offering support groups, inclusive events, and other resources to children and their families.

"We provided glasses as a charity fundraiser for the solar eclipse in 2017, and we knew with its popularity and need, we would want to do it again," said Jeff May, President and CEO of Banterra Bank. "We're honored to once again provide this service to our communities for such a unique event while also making a meaningful impact on the lives of children through donations and our contribution."

Banterra's footprint covers six states, including Midwest states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Missouri, but also Western states of Arizona and Utah. Southern Illinois, where Banterra is founded and based, and parts of Indiana and Kentucky, are some of the prime viewing locations for the eclipse, not only to see totality, but also because of the length of time the eclipse will be visible. Protective eye wear will be necessary when viewing this historic event.

## **ABOUT BANTERRA BANK**

Banterra Bank began as a single bank in Ridgway, Illinois in July of 1975. Today, Banterra has more than \$3 billion in assets and is ranked in the Top Eight Percent of U.S. Charter Banks and Top Five Percent for Illinois Charter Banks according to asset size. Banterra has 40 locations in Arizona, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, and Utah. In addition to offering a variety of personal and business banking products, Banterra provides services nationwide through specialty lending including Aircraft Finance, Machine Tool Finance, Corporate, Transportation, RV and Marine Lending as well as specific regional lending for Agriculture and Healthcare industry needs. Banterra also offers Banterra Insurance and Investment services. For more information, call 866-BANTERRA (226-8377), or go to [www.banterra.bank](http://www.banterra.bank).

### ABOUT GRANTED

Granted is a community-based nonprofit located in Evansville, Indiana. Two local residents, Carl Wallace and Carolyn Pfaffmann, founded the organization with a mission to grant once-in-a-lifetime wishes for local children who have been diagnosed with life-threatening or terminal conditions. Serving a population of over one million people, Granted works to make wishes come true for children residing in the areas of Southern Indiana, Southern Illinois, and Western Kentucky.

### ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH

Founded in 1980, Make-A-Wish is a well-known and trusted non-profit organization that fulfills the wishes of children with critical illnesses, bringing hope, strength, and joy into their lives. It began with the wish of one child, seven-year-old Christopher James Greicius, who wanted to be a police officer and his Phoenix community came together to make his wish come true. The organization was formed and believes that wishes provide children and families with hope through dark times, strength to persevere and experiences that forever change their lives.

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