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CONTACT:

Richard Melching, President
360.694.2550
richard@cfsww.org

Community Foundation for Southwest Washington Receives \$1 Million Gift for Jack, Will and Rob Boys & Girls Club Endowment

Vancouver, WA – February 1, 2010. The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington announces the creation of an endowment fund for the Jack, Will and Rob Boys & Girls Club. The endowment, created by generous gifts from Henry Swigert and the Swigert Foundation totaling \$1 million, will support the development, health and well-being of children ages 6-18 in Camas and Washougal, WA. When fully funded at \$2 million, the Jack, Will & Rob Kids' Fund will provide a permanent source of support for approximately one third of the JWR Boys & Girls Club's annual operating needs.

“The endowment will provide permanent support to the JWR Boys & Girls Club, just as the club itself is a permanent memorial to my great-nephews,” said Swigert. “It’s wonderful to see the interests and talents of Jack, Will and Rob live on in the many children who learn and grow through the Club.”

In addition to the endowment held at the Community Foundation, the Boys & Girls Club of Portland Metropolitan Area has committed to providing \$100,000 in operating funds annually. Brot Bishop Jr., a longtime Boys & Girls Club supporter and friend of Swigert, will also fundraise \$100,000 each year from the southwest Washington community. “With the funding from the Swigerts and the Boys & Girls Clubs, the people of southwest Washington can come together knowing that every dollar that they contribute will be matched with two

dollars, resulting in a wonderful Club for the children of Washougal and Camas,” said Bishop.

Those interested in contributing to the Club may do so by visiting bgcportland.org or calling 503.232.0077. Please specify that you would like your donation to support the Jack, Will and Rob Boys & Girls Club.

“I think it’s great that children in southwest Washington have a place to explore their passions and express themselves creatively,” said Bishop. “By setting up an endowment and securing regular operating support, it is my hope the people of southwest Washington will join in and help carry a portion of the operating load of this tremendous developmental asset.”

Jack, Will and Rob Warren, ages 14, 13 and 9, were killed with their father, William “Tiger” Warren, in a tragic plane crash in 1999. Their mother, Geri Pope Bidwell, led the fundraising for the \$5.3 million structure that opened in their memory in 2002. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Portland Metropolitan Area assumed operations of the Center in 2003, and the name was changed to the Jack, Will and Rob Boys & Girls Club.

The center is divided into three distinct rooms reflecting the boys’ personalities, as well as a gymnasium. There is the music-based Rob’s Playhouse, with a stage and recording studio; the technology-based Jackson Room, featuring web design, graphic arts and movie-making; and Will’s Studio, which houses two kilns and the opportunity to learn clay sculpture, painting, drawing and printmaking.

The JWR Boys & Girls Club serves more than 2,800 children each year and is supported by 11 staff and more than 100 volunteers. The Club serves an average of 125 kids each day, and the annual membership fee is \$5 per year. Through a partnership with both the Camas and Washougal school districts, youth have access to free transportation from their school to the Jack, Will and Rob Boys and Girls Club.

About the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington:

The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington was founded in 1984 by a group of concerned citizens, for the purpose of improving the quality of life through philanthropy. Since the Foundation's inception, more than \$86 million has been infused back into our community. Over 235 individuals, families and local organizations have established charitable funds with the Foundation, awarding scholarships, gifts and grants nationally and throughout Clark, Cowlitz and Skamania Counties. The Community Foundation is a publicly supported philanthropic institution organized to channel gifts from individual and corporate donors to a variety of charitable organizations, locally and nationwide. It is governed by a local board of private citizens who represent the needs and well being of the community.

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