



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Richard Melching, President  
360.694.2550  
[richard@cfsww.org](mailto:richard@cfsww.org)

**Community Foundation Begins Awarding 2007 Grants  
\$8.5 Million Infused into Community in 2006**

**Vancouver, WA – March 1, 2007.** After infusing the community with over \$8.5 million in charitable dollars in 2006, The Community Foundation started its new granting cycle by announcing awards for 30 programs at local nonprofit agencies. These grants, totaling \$263,000, were presented from The Community Giving Fund and The Children's Trust Fund this morning at E.B. Hamilton Hall at the Historic Reserve. Over 50 nonprofit representatives and Community Foundation supporters were on hand for the announcements.

**2007 Grant Awards**

Together, the Community Giving Fund and Children's Trust Fund's total grant awards of \$263,000 represents an increase in giving. In 2006, \$220,000 was distributed from these Funds. The Community Giving Fund and the Children's Trust Fund are both open Funds that allow many donors to pool their resources and provide support to a broad range of worthy causes in our neighborhoods.

The **Community Giving Fund**, a permanently endowed fund that meets the ever-changing needs of the community, awarded over \$145,000 to 15 local organizations. The Community Giving Fund is now served through a \$6.5 million endowment. Distributions

from this Fund invigorate programs that strengthen families, children and those with special needs; addressing the health of the community; and improving cultural opportunities and enhancing quality of life. “We have a warm and giving community with a strong nonprofit network” noted Nancy Hales, President of the Community Foundation.

The **Children’s Trust Fund** awarded a record \$117,000 to 15 programs providing assistance to needy children in our community. Children’s Trust Auxiliary Grant Committee Members, Lisa Morasch and Carole Collins, presented the awards. The women who make up the auxiliary are all volunteers, who meet frequently and work many hours to raise funds and carry out the Children’s Trust Fund Auxiliary mission. Since its beginning, more than \$838,000 has been raised and awarded to local organizations which provide food, clothing, medical and dental care, and support programs designed to meet the needs of disadvantaged children. The Children’s Trust Fund is managed under the “umbrella” of the Community Foundation.

These grants represent the first announced in the 2007 granting period. Additional funding of community needs will come from donor directed funds throughout the calendar year. A permanent endowment of \$52 million supports this activity.

### **2006 Grant Awards**

Thanks to the generosity and the collective giving of Community Foundation supporters, southwest Washington was infused with over \$8.5 million in charitable dollars in 2006. These gifts are from a variety of funds held at the Community Foundation. Since the Foundation’s inception 23 years ago, a total of \$74 million has flowed from the Community Foundation in support of local good works.

“Our contributors not only cultivate the well being of our community, but have established permanent vehicles that will shape our region for years to come,” noted Susan D. Keil, the Community Foundation Board Chair. Over 200 individuals, families and organizations have funds at the Foundation.

For the first time, the majority of grant dollars supported “Safety net” programs in the areas of health and human services. In the past, civic and community projects benefited the most. In addition, the Community Foundation supports education, children’s issues, conservation, scholarships, and arts and culture.

The Community Foundation helps a broad cross section of citizens build stronger communities through effective philanthropy. One of the nation’s 700 community foundations, it is a tax-exempt, public charity that primarily serves southwest Washington. The Foundation holds distinct Funds, ranging in size from \$10,000 to over \$3 million, that are pooled, managed, and invested to generate growth and income for granting and inflation purposes. Governed by a volunteer Board of local leaders, the Foundation offers services to donors and nonprofit organizations and a wide range of benefits to the community. In total, the Community Foundation has infused more than \$80 million into the community since it was established in 1984.

# # #