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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Foundation Launches Catalyst Award for Philanthropic Innovation;  
Mary Granger to be Awarded Posthumously**

**Vancouver, Wash., April 8, 2011**—The Community Foundation for Southwest Washington has launched the *Catalyst Award for Philanthropic Innovation*, honoring Mary Granger as the first recipient. The Award will be presented, posthumously, at the Community Foundation’s Annual Luncheon on May 10, 2011, at the Hilton Vancouver Washington. This event is open to the public with tickets available online at [www.cfsww.org](http://www.cfsww.org) or by calling 360-694-2550. The Presenting Sponsor is Ferguson Wellman Capital Management.

**The Catalyst Award for Philanthropic Innovation**

*The Catalyst Award for Philanthropic Innovation* was established by the Community Foundation’s Board of Directors to recognize original approaches to addressing community concerns through philanthropy.

“Mary Granger was selected as the first *Catalyst Award* recipient in recognition of her original approaches to addressing need, her ambition and the stunning results she achieved,” stated Rick Melching, President. “We are firmly aware that Mary launched the Community Foundation in the midst of a recession and at a time when few thought such bold dreams could be realized. The success of the Community Foundation today is testament to Mary’s determination and drive.”

Mary also established many other innovative, effective programs that have now become a

part of the fabric of southwest Washington including the Children's Trust, I Have a Dream, Principal's Checkbook, the Mary Granger Sculpture Garden in downtown Vancouver, Women in Action and Women in Action Foundation.

The Award will be given posthumously to Mary Granger who died in November 2010 at age 78. It will be presented to her family.

The *Catalyst Award* will be made to the most highly qualified individuals, businesses and nonprofits, and not necessarily on an annual basis. Nomination criteria include: noteworthy ambition to increase the scale or reach of the approach, whether by expanding an existing program or providing a model new program; imagination and innovation; bold action to change the current situation and conceptualize solutions to better southwest Washington; and evidence of results, ensuring a positive future for the targeted beneficiaries of the program.

### **About the Community Foundation for Southwest Washington**

Established in 1984, 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 more than 270 distinct Funds, ranging in size from \$10,000 to nearly \$6 million, which are pooled, managed and invested to generate growth and income for granting purposes. Governed by a volunteer Board of local leaders, the Foundation offers services to donors and nonprofit organizations, as well as a wide range of benefits to the community.

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