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March 8, 2011

## WOODS CHARITABLE FUND AWARDS GRANTS

Amid the ongoing public debate on immigration reform, Woods Charitable Fund's Board of Directors awarded funding at its March meeting to **Center for Legal Immigration Assistance (CLIA)**, a Lincoln organization that provides legal assistance to immigrants and refugees. CLIA serves those who are either struggling to navigate the federal immigration process or are victims of domestic violence. WCF Directors awarded funding to help support CLIA as it establishes itself as an independent not-for-profit agency and prepares for future growth.

**Center for Legal Immigration Assistance** is among fifteen tax-exempt organizations to be awarded new or renewal grants as part of Woods Charitable Fund's first grant cycle of 2011. Grants totaling **\$257,500** were approved at WCF's March meeting (**BELOW**). Of the \$257,500 in awards given, 29% will go toward Human Services, 31% toward Civic & Community, 24% toward Arts & Culture, and 16% toward Education.

*Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., a private grant-making foundation, awards funding three times a year to tax-exempt organizations seeking support for programs in the areas of Human Services, Civic & Community, Education, and Arts & Culture, as well as programs and initiatives designed to assist new Americans in Lincoln. For more information on funding guidelines, call 436.5971, visit the Fund's website at [www.woodscharitable.org](http://www.woodscharitable.org), or write to Pam Baker, Tom Woods or Angie Zmarzly at P.O. Box 81309, Lincoln, NE 68501.*

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### Approved for Funding by Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., March 2011

**Asian Community and Cultural Center (\$25,000)** – Second-year support of the Executive Director position and operations of this community ethnic center dedicated to serving the needs of Lincoln's Asian community while it is currently undertaking a leadership transition

**Boys and Girls Clubs of Lincoln and Lancaster County (\$10,000)** – For operational support of its *Power Hour* program that offers after-school tutoring and homework assistance to kids at the Club's Park Middle School location

**Center for Legal Immigration Assistance (\$25,000)** – Second-year support of staff and transition expenses incurred during its establishment as an independent nonprofit

**Center for People in Need, Inc. (\$20,000)** – Support of the Center's AmeriCorps Program Director who oversees 35 AmeriCorps members for this agency that provides supplies, services and training to Lincoln's low-income and at-risk populations

**Flatwater Shakespeare Company (\$15,000)** – Toward the theatre company's touring performances to be offered free to the public this summer in underserved areas of Lincoln

***Foster Care Closet (\$10,000)*** – A challenge grant to support the general operating expenses of this agency dedicated to providing free clothing and supplies to any child classified as a Ward of the State of Nebraska

***Girl Scouts-Spirit of Nebraska (\$20,000)*** – Third-year support of its outreach program to offer Girl Scout programming, including topics in self-esteem building, academic achievement and career exploration, to high risk middle and high school girls

***Legal Aid of Nebraska (\$25,000)*** – Third-year support of its *Ethnic Island and Special Populations Outreach* program that takes civil legal aid services directly to ethnic and homeless populations in community settings

***Lighthouse (\$20,000)*** – Third-year support for its *Truancy Intervention and Prevention* program focusing on youth in grades 5 through 12 who have problems with school attendance

***Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra (\$20,000)*** – Second-year general operating support to help stabilize this organization that exists to broaden appreciation of and support for orchestral music of artistic excellence

***Seniors Foundation (\$20,000)*** – Second-year support of the *Lincoln Seniors Transportation Program*, a volunteer social transportation program that provides affordable, non-medical transportation assistance for older adults in Lincoln

***Sheldon Museum of Art (\$7,500)*** – A challenge grant to support the launch of the Sheldon's new biannual magazine that will promote statewide its new vision and philosophy

***United Way of Lincoln and Lancaster County (\$10,000)*** – Toward its *Women in Philanthropy* program which succeeds at attracting a broader range of women donors and volunteers for the agency

***UNL-Department of Child, Youth and Family Studies (\$10,000)*** – Toward the creation of the University of Nebraska Extension Office's *Seeing i-2-i Adventures in Cultural Awareness and Diversity* curriculum which aims to promote cultural understanding and interaction among middle school students

***Willa Cather Pioneer Memorial and Educational Foundation (\$20,000)*** – Toward a Lincoln-based Development Director for this organization that promotes appreciation and understanding of the life and works of author Willa Cather

## **RECIPIENT CONTACTS:**

### **Asian Community & Cultural Center**

Contact: Madoka Sato Wayoro

Phone: 477-3446

### **Boys & Girls Club**

Contact: Nick Dean

Phone: 477-4134

### **Center for Legal Immigration Assistance**

Contact: Max Graves

Phone: 471-1777

### **Center for People in Need**

Contact: Beatty Brasch

Phone: 476-4357

### **Flatwater Shakespeare Company**

Contact: Bob Hall

Phone: 770-5065

### **Foster Care Closet**

Contact: Leigh Esau

Phone: 617-0667

### **Girl Scouts-Spirit of Nebraska**

Contact: Jenny Cardwell

Phone: 476-7539

**Legal Aid of Nebraska**

Contact: Dave Pantos

Phone: 348-1069

**Lighthouse**

Contact: Bill Michener

Phone: 475-3220

**Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra**

Contact: Barbara Zach

Phone: 476-2211

**Seniors Foundation**

Contact: Diane Rolfsmeyer

Phone: 441-6179

**Sheldon Museum of Art**

Contact: Daniel Veneciano

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**United Way**

Contact: Brian Wachman

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**UNL-Department of Child, Youth and Family Studies**

Contact: Maria de Guzman

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**Willa Cather Foundation**

Contact: Ashley Olson

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