

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**WOODS CHARITABLE FUND APPROVES \$190,500 IN GRANTS
AT NOVEMBER MEETING**

Woods Charitable Fund's Board of Directors approved grants totaling \$190,500 to 12 tax-exempt organizations during its November grant cycle.

Three of the grants, totaling \$80,000, support three of Lincoln's cultural centers. One benefits MENA Hope, operated by the Good Neighbor Community Center, which works with immigrants and refugees from the Middle East and North Africa. El Centro de las Americas and the Indian Center also received grants for programs to benefit families and the elderly.

The largest percentage of the granted funding – 57 percent – will support six Human Services organizations serving Lincoln and Southeast Nebraska. Additionally, 18 percent of the grants will support Education programs, while another 18 percent will go to Civic & Community organizations. About 7 percent will aid Arts & Culture projects.

Woods Charitable Fund makes grants three times a year to tax-exempt organizations seeking funding for Lincoln-focused programs in the areas of Human Services, Civic & Community, Education and Arts & Culture. For more information on funding guidelines, call (402) 436-5971, visit the Fund's website at www.woodscharitable.org or write to Kathy Steinauer Smith, Tom Woods or Angie Zmarzly at 1248 O St. Suite 1130, Lincoln, NE 68508, or at info@woodscharitable.org.

**Approved for Funding by Woods Charitable Fund Inc.,
November 2014**

CASA for Lancaster County (\$7,500) – For second-year support of a Volunteer Coordinator position to increase the capacity for this organization that helps abused and neglected children going through the juvenile court system

Center for Great Plains Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (\$5,000) – To support the May 2015 Symposium "Standing Bear and the Trail Ahead," focusing on growing Native cultural renaissance and economic progress

CenterPointe Inc. (\$10,000) – For continued support of a Development Associate position for this organization helping homeless and low-income people with mental-health and substance-abuse issues

El Centro de las Americas (\$25,000) – A two-year grant for family support services of this cultural center serving Lincoln's Hispanic/Latino population and the community

Good Neighbor Community Center Inc. (\$40,000) – Two-year support of the MENA Hope Project to help Lincoln's immigrants and refugees from the Middle East and North Africa

Grand Island Community Foundation (\$8,000) – In support of the development of a web-based curriculum for The Quilted Conscience, an intergenerational storytelling project for refugees and immigrants, to make it accessible to more schools and partners

Indian Center Inc. (\$15,000) – To benefit the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, which distributes boxes of shelf-stable food to low-income elderly and others

The Madonna Foundation (\$15,000) – A two-year grant to support Kit's Academy Therapeutic Learning Classroom, which helps children who have had an accident or illness continue their schoolwork during recovery and learn strategies to aid their return to school

Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest Inc. (\$10,000) – Second-year support of work to facilitate implementation of the state's anti-racial-profiling law and related education

Nebraska Human Resources Research Foundation Inc. (\$20,000) – Toward general operations of this leadership-development program that pairs college students with students in 1st through 12th grades

The Nebraska Lawyers Foundation (\$25,000) – Toward development of a pilot project to provide on-call court-certified interpreters via videoconferencing for attorneys serving clients with limited English

St. Monica's Home (\$10,000) – Second-year support of a Development Assistant position for this organization helping women with alcohol and substance-abuse issues