

Woods Charitable Fund and Community Development Resources Establish Nonprofit Loan Fund

In April, Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. (WCF) and Community Development Resources (CDR) formed a partnership to pilot the operation of a loan fund for the use of nonprofit organizations serving Lincoln.

Since 1994, CDR, Lincoln’s only Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) has lent solely to small for-profit businesses, with an emphasis on those owned by women and ethnic minorities. WCF made a \$100,000 available to establish the Community Nonprofit Loan Fund so that qualifying nonprofit agencies facing temporary financial emergencies will have exclusive access to zero-interest loans.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES
OPENING DOORS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

“Community Development Resources is pleased to partner with Woods Charitable Fund, a long-

time CDR supporter, to pilot the Community Nonprofit Loan Fund,” stated Rick Wallace, CDR Executive Director. “This is an innovative, first-of-its-kind approach to sustaining the nonprofit organizations that are facing continual loss of private and public support for their programs.”

Applications for financial assistance are reviewed and managed by CDR staff. Loans will vary in size, with a maximum of \$20,000 available to lend per qualifying agency. As borrowing agencies repay their loans, money will be available for new borrowers. Following the pilot phase of the program, WCF plans to evaluate the loan fund project and determine its benefit to the community and nonprofits in need. If the program’s outcomes are positive, WCF hopes other community funding partners will become interested and build on the loan fund’s lending capacity.

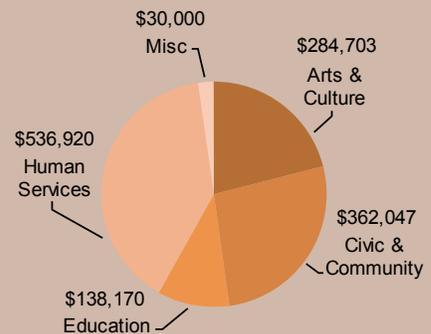
CDR recently approved the first loan through the Nonprofit Loan Fund for \$10,000 to Heritage Films for the completion of the

Continued on page 2

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”
- Nelson Mandela

2010 Grant-making At A Glance

Grants and loans paid to date in 2010: **\$1.35 Million**



Grant cycles completed: **3 of 3**

Average number of proposals reviewed per grant cycle: **24**

Grants awarded to date: **52**

Average size of grant award: **\$24,540**

Smallest grant awarded: **\$1,000**

Largest grant awarded: **\$150,000**

Ann Chang Completes Board Term

This year marked the end of Ann Chang’s board term, which began in 2005. Ann is the founder of the Meadowlark Music Festival, an organization that brings chamber music to diverse audiences and venues. Ann continues to serve as an Artist-in-Residence at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Music and Artistic Director for the Lied Center.



Grants totaling more than \$8 Million were awarded during Ann’s term. She selected Meadowlark Music Festival, the UNL School of Music, Sheldon Friends of Chamber Music, Lincoln’s Symphony Orchestra and the Third Chair Chamber Players as recipients of her director-designated grants totaling \$25,000. ♦

WCF's 2010 Year in Review

In March 2010, WCF board of directors voted unanimously to exceed the IRS' mandated 5% payout by a considerable margin in order to maintain the Fund's 2010 grant-making at its 2009 and 2008 levels. This decision, which brought its payout to nearly 6.5% for the year, reflected the board's belief in the importance of stepping-up community support during challenging economic times.

This year Woods Charitable Fund saw an uptick in the number of grant-seekers new to the Fund and of those which had not applied for several years, possibly a sign of tough financial times for nonprofits as many seek new sources of support. WCF reviewed requests from fourteen first-time applicants.

Closing out the year, with the departure of board member Ann Chang, the WCF board recently approved the nomination of new member Orville Jones, III whose term will begin in January 2011. ♦

Continued from page 1

historical documentary film, *A Home Out West*. Through historical letters, diaries and memoirs, the feature-length documentary, scheduled to release in 2012, depicts the struggles of the Great Plains' first settlers. The loan will help the project through final production steps.

Organizations designated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that would like to request an application or need more information can contact Rick Wallace at (402) 436-2386 or rwal-lace@cdr-nebraska.org. ♦

Organizations Awarded or Paid Grants in 2010

Adoption Links Worldwide
The Angels Theatre Company
Boys & Girls Clubs of Lincoln-Lancaster Co.
BryanLGH Foundation
CASA for Lancaster County
Center for Rural Affairs
Central Plains Center for Services
Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties
Community CROPS
Community Development Resources
Community Justice Center
Community Mental Health Center
Cultural Centers Coalition
El Centro de las Americas
Foundation for Lincoln City Libraries
Fresh Start
Friendship Home of Lincoln
Girl Scouts-Spirit of Nebraska
Habitat for Humanity
Heartland Big Brothers-Big Sisters
HUB Central Access Point for Young Adults

Illusion Theater and School
Indian Center
KVC Behavioral Healthcare-Nebraska
Lighthouse
Lincoln/Lancaster Co. Child Advocacy Center
Lincoln/Lancaster Co. Child Guidance Center
Lincoln Community Playhouse
Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs
Lincoln Housing Charities
Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra
Lincoln YWCA
Lux Center for the Arts
Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach
Meadowlark Music Festival
The Mediation Center
Mourning Hope
Nebraska Advocacy Services
Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest
The Nebraska Cultural Endowment
Nebraska Humanities Council

Nebraska State Historical Society
Foundation
NeighborWorks, Lincoln
Northeast Family Resource Center
Planned Parenthood of the Heartland
Projecto Cultural
Public Interest Projects
Sheldon Friends of Chamber Music
Sheldon Museum of Art
St. David's Welsh Society
St. Monica's Home
TEAMS Educational Center
Third Chair Chamber Players
Union College
United Methodist Ministries
UNL-Dept. of Community and Regional Planning
UNL-International Quilt Study Center
UNL-Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools
UNL-School of Music
UNL-Textile, Clothing and Design Dept.
Voices for Children in Nebraska
Voices of Hope, Lincoln

Follow the Fund on Facebook

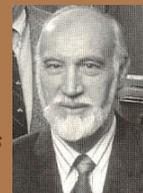
This fall, Woods Charitable Fund put a toe into the social media waters by launching its own Facebook page. As more grant-seeking nonprofits are venturing into Facebook and other online networks, WCF seeks new and effective ways to get better connected with these community groups. The page will be used to communicate with grantees and applicants on any changes to the Fund's grant-making process, new program initiatives, resources for nonprofits, and local and national news releases of special interest to the nonprofit community.



WCF invites you to "like" the Fund on Facebook.

Spotlight on Past WCF Director, Joel Gajardo (1994-98)

Joel Gajardo retired from the WCF board in December 1998 after completing a 5-year term. Joel, a native of Chile, brought to the board a rich academic background in philosophy, theology, ethics and anthropology and experience in education, world affairs and social welfare. Grants totaling over \$3 Million were awarded during his tenure.



What projects or organizations funded during your board term meant the most to you? At the time I was on the board, I was also director of the Hispanic Community Center (now named El Centro de las Americas) in Lincoln, so I was very interested in projects and programs that served racial/ethnic populations. I was especially impressed with the board's interest in supporting community centers and other grassroots organizations.

What are you involved with or interested in today? I'm currently the discussion leader for Prime Time, a bilingual (Spanish-English) program for families with children of elementary school age, sponsored by the Nebraska Humanities Council and city libraries in Nebraska. I also serve on the boards of Bryan LGH College of Health Sciences, The Mediation Center, Mourning Hope, Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health—Statewide Advisory Council, and Latino Research Initiative at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Right now, the two community issues at the center of my concerns are immigration and health care. Also, this year's events in Chile (the earthquake in February and the trapped miners in August) have renewed my concern for the predicaments of the Chilean people.