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November 27, 2006

WOODS CHARITABLE FUND AWARDS GRANTS

Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., a private grant-making foundation, today announced the approval of new and renewal grants in Lincoln, Nebraska totaling up to \$628,159, as its final grant cycle of the year. Twenty-four tax-exempt organizations will benefit from these awards (ATTACHED). Three of the grants awarded at the November Board meeting are highlighted below:

***Northeast Family Resource Center (\$30,000)** – For general operating and organizational planning to help sustain this family center that provides outreach services and programs to strengthen neighborhood families and youth*

***UNL-Lied Center for Performing Arts (\$25,000)** – For local performances of and related events for *The Train*, a story about the Holocaust written by Carl Slotboom and translated by Lincoln resident and Holocaust survivor, Dr. Louis Leviticus, as part of a collaborative project between the Lied, the Angels Theatre Company and the Third Chair Chamber Players*

***St. Monica's Home (\$23,000)** – For the creation and implementation of a *Cultural Diversity Organizational Model* to better serve its clients by improving the cultural diversity and multicultural competencies of this organization that serves women affected by substance abuse and other behavioral health disorders*

Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. makes grants three times a year to tax-exempt organizations seeking funding 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, or write to either Pam Baker, Tom Woods or Angie Zmarzly at P.O. Box 81309, Lincoln, NE 68501.

Approved for Funding by Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., November, 2006

Asian Community and Cultural Center (\$35,000) – Support of staff time toward sustaining the *Asian Elderly New Americans Enrichment Project*, a long-standing program of the Center that makes vital human services and social interactions more accessible to Asian seniors

Boy Scouts of America, Cornhusker Council (\$3,300) – To provide the Cub Scout handbook to each of the elementary school boys expected to join Cub Scouting in the Lancaster County area during the fall of 2006

Capacity Building Initiative (up to \$57,500) – Renewal of the *Capacity Building Initiative*, a project funded together with the Lincoln Community Foundation, that provides support for five local nonprofits to strengthen their infrastructure and create self-sustaining organizations to better serve the Lincoln community; the terms of this agreement include a \$10,000 grant to each of the following organizations: ***Leadership Lincoln, Lighthouse, Lincoln Community Playhouse, Lux Center for the Arts and Rape-Spouse Abuse Crisis Center***

Community CROPS (\$15,000) – For the *Community Garden Investment Project*, an effort to enhance volunteer recruitment and fundraising of this organization that supports the food security and agricultural-based enterprises of immigrant and refugee gardeners in Southeast Nebraska

Community Development Resources (\$75,000) – Fourth-year general operations funding for program expansion and development for this organization that supports affordable housing and business opportunities for women, minorities and the economically disadvantaged

CASA for Lancaster County (\$25,000) – Continued support of the Volunteer Coordinator staff to recruit and train special advocates for this organization that provides advocacy for abused and neglected children in the court system

Fresh Start, Inc. (\$100,000) – Toward its capital campaign to purchase and renovate a new transitional group home for single, homeless women without dependents

Health Partners Initiative (\$30,000) – For continued support of a Program Coordinator for the *Neighborhood Service Exchange*, a grassroots effort to help people take responsibility for their own well being and that of their neighbors by utilizing neighbor-to-neighbor volunteering

Lincoln Friends of Chamber Music, Inc. (\$21,150) – Two-year funding to organize and administer a chamber music competition for young musicians from Lincoln and around the state

Lincoln and Lancaster County Child Guidance Center (\$35,000) – Support to enable the agency to continue offering parent counseling services in order to enhance outcomes for the Center's child clients receiving mental health therapy

Lincoln Parks and Recreation Foundation (\$20,000) – For an Executive Administrator to enhance fund development, community and volunteer involvement and to achieve the strategic plan set out by this organization that provides support to Lincoln's parks and recreational resources

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc. (\$20,000) – Support of the *Bridge* program, which provides transitional services, including housing and employment assistance, to ex-offenders released from the Nebraska Department of Corrections

Matt Talbot Kitchen (\$10,000) – For a case manager, to provide assistance in helping its clients find housing, build skills and attain self-sufficiency, located at this organization dedicated to providing food and services to Lincoln's homeless and working poor

Nebraska Advocacy Services, Inc. (\$9,209) – To support Spanish and Vietnamese translation of the legal educational materials and website of this organization that helps people with disabilities to fully participate in their community

Northeast Family Resource Center (\$30,000) – For general operating and organizational planning to help sustain this family center that provides outreach services and programs to strengthen neighborhood families and youth

Opera Omaha, Inc. (\$8,000) – Support of free public educational programs in Lincoln in association with *Wakonda's Dream*, a new opera opening in early 2007 about the impact of history on a contemporary Native American family

St. Monica's Home (\$23,000) – For the creation and implementation of a *Cultural Diversity Organizational Model* to better serve its clients by improving the cultural diversity and multicultural competencies of this organization that serves women affected by substance abuse and other behavioral health disorders

UNL-Department of Educational Psychology (\$26,000) – Two-year funding to develop and conduct a free Summer Writing Clinic to help children with writing difficulties improve their skills and have a better chance to succeed educationally

UNL-Lied Center for Performing Arts (\$25,000) – For local performances of and related events for *The Train*, a story about the Holocaust written by Carl Slotboom and translated by Lincoln resident and Holocaust survivor, Dr. Louis Leviticus, as part of a collaborative project between the Lied, the Angels Theatre Company and the Third Chair Chamber Players

UNL-Public Policy Center (\$60,000) – Three-year support to create, implement and promote a comprehensive, searchable online database of available human service resources in the state, to be freely accessible to Lincoln residents and service professionals