



The kids in my neighborhood are Mexican, American, Vietnamese, and Iraqi. They come from different backgrounds, yet play together as if they were one family. It is a hard area of town to raise kids, but the truth is, every area of town is hard to raise kids in.

Debora Oden

In 2004, Debora Oden's photograph taken in a Lincoln neighborhood was selected from nearly 1,000 photo entries and included in the Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest Reality at the Roots exhibit.

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## 2005 Officers, Directors and Staff:

MICHAEL J. TAVLIN  
*President*

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Chief Financial Officer

DONNA W. WOODS  
*Vice President*  
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*Treasurer*  
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1st Vice President & Resident  
Manager

ANN CHANG-BARNES  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Senior Lecturer of Music  
Meadowlark Music Festival  
Founder/Artistic Director

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THOMAS C. WOODS, IV  
Program Officer

ANGIE ZMARZLY  
Program Associate

## About the Foundation:

Woods Charitable Fund is a private philanthropic foundation created by Frank H. Woods and Nelle Cochrane Woods and their three sons. It was incorporated in Nebraska in 1941 and Frank Woods provided major endowment in 1952 before his death that year. In 1955 the Fund received one-third of the net residuary estate of Nelle C. Woods. The resources that made these gifts possible resulted from business interests in the telecommunications and coal industries in Nebraska and Illinois, namely Lincoln Telephone & Telegraph and Sahara Coal Company.

For over fifty years, the Fund made grants in Lincoln, Nebraska and Chicago, Illinois. Until the early 1980's, it operated as a family foundation under the leadership of trustees Frank H. Woods, Jr. in Chicago and Thomas C. Woods, Jr. in Lincoln. Both men had many business and personal ties in both cities. Their deaths, in 1980 and 1989 respectively, brought changes which included: expanding the board beyond family members to acknowledge both the benefits of

new viewpoints and the fewer family members in the two cities available for board membership; bringing on staff; and introducing more targeted grant programs.

At the end of 1993, Woods Charitable Fund underwent a major restructuring that institutionalized in two separate foundations the different grant programs of the Fund in Chicago and Lincoln. Woods Charitable Fund now operates in Lincoln only and a second foundation, Woods Fund of Chicago, was created by transferring part of the original foundation's assets to the new foundation. Both foundations currently operate with local representative boards and are able to respond to the issues, opportunities and creative leadership in their respective communities.

The Fund's reports and Treasury Form 990-PF are on file at the Foundation Center in New York City and Washington, D.C., in the office of the Secretary of State in Lincoln, Nebraska and online at GuideStar ([www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)).

### Founders:

Frank H. Woods  
(1868 - 1952)

Nelle C. Woods  
(1870 - 1950)

Thomas C. Woods  
(1895 - 1958)

Henry C. Woods  
(1895 - 1968)

Frank H. Woods, Jr.  
(1905 - 1980)



Back in '96, a youth group was formed with the intention of providing services to victims of crime on a weekly basis, and giving teenage boys meaningful experiences. On July 15, 2004, these young men were moving beds into a woman's apartment. She was the victim of domestic abuse and had been homeless for three months before finding a place. - Chris Leon, Lincoln

## A letter from the President:

The year 2005 was significant for Woods Charitable Fund, as important strides were made in positioning and strengthening our community and in Fund governance.

More than \$1.3 million in grants was paid to 57 different organizations. Grant payments over the past five years exceed \$7.3 million. The current state of affairs for the tax-exempt and charitable sector is a serious concern to us and we appreciate that the impact of ever-shrinking public dollars continues to create significant stresses. We are continually reminded of the special relationship between the Fund and our community, and we pledge to honor that relationship.

Directors adopted a Code of Conduct for the Fund, Conflict of Interest Policies for the Board and staff and Fund investment policy was updated. The first year of implementing the "Capacity Building Initiative," in partnership with the Lincoln Community Foundation, has been completed and we worked closely with the leadership

of the Fund's two other current focus areas – affordable housing and Community Learning Centers. We also gave special attention to advocacy, immigration and public policy. Directors continued to emphasize the need for more collaboration, more cooperation and more communication. We remain convinced that diversity is an essential component of success.



Avery Woods and A. Eugene Crump

It is impossible to overstate the importance of the contributions of those who have gone before us, from the original founders of the Fund to all of the Fund's former and current directors, officers and staff. Special thanks go to two directors who shared their time and wise counsel with the Fund

over the past seven and six years, respectively. To Avery Woods, who brought her creative expression, a dedication to the legacy and purposes of the Fund and a strong appreciation for the arts and to Gene Crump, who shared his extensive experience in law, education, politics and the criminal justice system. Gene's long and generous record of volunteer service in the

community deepened the Fund's understanding of many community organizations and set an example for us all.

As public stewards of private resources, we accept a special obligation to use Fund resources for the public's interest. Our aim is high and our goal is to make a positive difference.

Our commitment is one of perseverance and persistence.

*"If we have the capacity to endure, if we have the patience, things will change."*

– Cesar Chavez

Michael J. Tavlin  
President

## A letter from the Executive Director:

### **Core values. Common ground. Equal justice.**

Woods Charitable Fund made its first grant to the *Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest* shortly after it opened its doors in 1996. This year Nebraska Appleseed will celebrate 10 years of operation and a rich history of support for Nebraska's low income and working poor families, immigrant populations and children who need protection.

### **Since 1996, Woods Charitable Fund has granted a total of \$202,000 to help the organization get its start, develop new initiatives and build its capacity.**

Led by Executive Director Milo Mumgaard, Ford Foundation Leadership for a Changing World honoree in 2000, Nebraska Appleseed consistently addresses problems at their sources through a variety of strategies including community education, negotiation, research, network building, legislation and litigation.

### **Since it began, Nebraska Appleseed counts these among its major successes:**

> Won Nebraska Supreme Court cases addressing certain negative/counter-productive impacts of welfare reform, including narrowing the "family cap" welfare provision, insuring the 2-year time limit is applied only when allowed

under law and protecting the right to education/training for low-skilled welfare recipients seeking higher paying jobs.

> Improved public dialogue and appreciation for Nebraska's new immigrants by organizing the "Immigrant Rights Network of Iowa & Nebraska," advocating for state law and policy that achieves the most welcoming environment for our newest neighbors and winning a Nebraska Supreme Court case deciding that all Nebraskans, even undocumented immigrants living in Nebraska, are entitled to constitutional due process.

> Won federal court class actions regaining Medicaid coverage for over 10,000 low-income single mothers unlawfully terminated and launched a statewide coalition to work with policy-makers to reform the Medicaid program for long-term sustainability for the almost 200,000 Nebraskans who rely upon this vital program for health care.

> Raised the public's awareness of working conditions within Nebraska's meatpacking industry and its impact on new immigrant families and helped to create and implement the "Meatpacking Industry Workers Bill of Rights."

> Drafted and organized the successful passage of "Living Wage Ordinances" in both Omaha and Lincoln (providing direct raises to hundreds of city and contract workers previously earning below-poverty wages) and created "Self-Sufficiency Standards" to ensure that "living wage" and "self-sufficiency" calculations are now part of state and local tax incentive, job training and economic development programs.

***The work of effecting positive change in public policy is consistent with Woods Charitable Fund's funding interests.*** In 2005, Woods supported advocacy and public policy efforts through grants paid to at least 6 organizations - **Nebraska Appleseed Center, League of Human Dignity, Center for People in Need, Nebraska State Bar Association Charitable Fund (fiscal agent for the Minority Justice Committee), Cedars Youth Services and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.** We invite you to review their work and explore the efforts of 51 other organizations begun or continued in 2005 with Woods Charitable Fund support.

*Pam Baker*

Pam Baker  
Executive Director

## Grant Program:

### PURPOSE

*Through grants made to eligible organizations, Woods Charitable Fund seeks to strengthen the community by improving opportunities and life outcomes for all people in Lincoln, Nebraska. Woods supports members of the nonprofit sector who are exploring creative alternatives and promoting more just, effective approaches to meet community needs.*

The Fund supports a broad range of activities which include, but are not limited to, the **Special Interests** described below. We are interested in reviewing plans for pilot projects and innovative programs, as well as sustained growth for organizations whose work coincides with the purposes of the foundation. The foundation funds both direct services and policy programs.

The Fund looks forward to opportunities to review proposals joining partners (academic, community, government, business,

public service, faith-based) to explore ways to integrate perspectives and talents toward common goals. We support projects that involve coalition-building, public education and advocacy to affect positive social change and improve opportunities for all citizens.

### SPECIAL INTERESTS

#### Human Services

A significant cornerstone in community life is the family. Its power to mold and develop mentally healthy, secure, loving members determines Woods' interest in supporting projects to strengthen families and provide opportunities for youth to achieve their full potential. This is a broad category and may include either direct service or policy programs focused on child care, single parenthood, the elderly, family planning, shelter, troubled families as well as others.

*The Fund will give special consideration to programs and initiatives designed to prevent youth and family violence.*

#### Education

Our educational systems face the challenge of preparing individuals for a rapidly changing society. Today, more than ever before, education touches the lives of people of all ages - students at all levels, newcomers learning a second language and culture, adults retraining to handle new job responsibilities. The Fund looks forward to opportunities to review proposals from existing educational institutions and from creative new programs to meet the challenge.

#### Civic and Community

To sustain or increase its vitality, a community must consistently nurture its development, particularly as that development impacts lower income citizens. The Fund supports projects that empower less advantaged Lincoln residents to participate in the economic system and that foster community participation and responsibility, thus engaging people to solve problems and improve opportunities



for all. Woods recognizes the growing need in Lincoln for affordable housing and supports programs that expand its availability. Advocacy groups and neighborhood, citizen and community organizations are effective avenues to promote citizen involvement and strengthen neighborhoods.

*The need for individuals to achieve self-sufficiency has been identified as a primary community concern. The Fund encourages submission of proposals that suggest creative approaches to helping people escape poverty and become work ready.*

### Arts and Culture

Visual art, literature, dance, theater and music are cornerstones of a community's aesthetic and ethical being. They can bind people through shared experience and understanding. They stimulate thought, communication and creativity. Woods supports programs in the arts and humanities that will enhance or develop the common aesthetic spirit.

*Programs that connect the arts and humanities with nontraditional participants are of special interest to the Fund.*

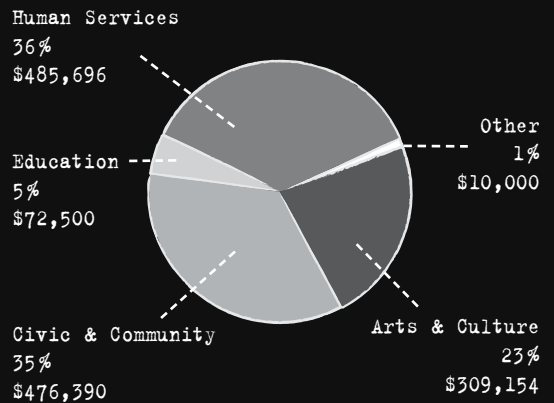
### Focus Area

The Fund will give special consideration to programs and initiatives designed to: (1) support organizations that haven't traditionally served refugees and immigrants but are trying to integrate them into their client bases and work forces; (2) expand English language education for New

Americans; (3) help develop community acceptance and appreciation for New Americans; and (4) extend research and planning concerning immigrants and refugees in Lincoln.

*Please read "To Apply for a Grant" before contacting the Fund.*

## 2005 Grants Paid by Special Interest Area:



TOTAL \$1,353,740

## To Apply for a Grant:

### FUNDING LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

While grants are made primarily in Lincoln, Nebraska, the Fund will consider grant applications from other locations in the context of their impact on Lincoln. The Fund makes grants in diverse fields, however, the following areas are not eligible for grant review:

- Capital projects for health care institutions
- Environmental programs
- Funding of endowments
- Fundraising benefits or program advertising
- Individual needs
- Medical and scientific research
- Programs for individual schools
- Recreation programs
- Religious programs
- Residential care and medical clinics
- Scholarships, fellowships
- Sponsorships

College and university proposals are reviewed only if they directly involve faculty and/or students in applied

projects of benefit and concern to the community.

Requests for support of technology must be from organizations whose emphasis is in the Fund's special interest areas. Requests must define the need for the technology, provide compelling evidence that it is appropriate for the task and is cost-effective.

Furthermore, the proposal must demonstrate the technology's impact on the organization's mission.

The Fund will consider requests for:

- Technical assistance for technology planning
- Information/Technology staff
- Computer software
- Technological training
- Fund development using technology
- Marketing using technology

Applicants generally should be organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and have a written ruling from the IRS that they also qualify under

Section 509(a)(1), (2) or (3) of the Code (publicly supported organizations and their affiliates). Occasionally the Fund considers proposals from 501(c)(3) organizations that are private, operating foundations. In exceptional cases, the Fund will consider fiscal agent and expenditure responsibility grants.

Woods does not accept applications from organizations: (1) that have had proposals approved or declined in the preceding 12 months; or (2) that are recipients of active, multi-year grants. This policy does not apply when organizations are involved in collaborative proposals.

Proposals not clearly within the Fund's priority areas but not clearly ineligible are screened for funding consideration by the Fund's board members.

### What you should know before applying:

> We only accept applications from nonprofit organizations that have communicat-

ed with us and have been asked to complete an application form.

> Contact the Fund by telephone or by sending a 2-page letter of intent, including budget information, by mail, facsimile or e-mail. Then Woods staff can help you decide whether it is worth your time and expense to proceed with a full proposal.

> Many excellent proposals cannot be funded because there are absolute limits to the number of proposals the Fund can study thoroughly and support.

> If your organization receives a grant, you will be asked to sign a grant agreement form requiring written reports on use of the grant in relation to the original proposal objectives and program results. A selected number of grantees may be asked to participate in a post-grant evaluation to study program accomplishments in more depth.

### TO APPLY FOR A GRANT

FIRST, please read the Fund's guidelines, procedures and timetable.

SECOND, contact the Fund by telephone or by sending a 2-page letter of intent, including a budget, by mail, facsimile or e-mail to determine if it is worth your time and expense to proceed with a full proposal.

THIRD, if the Fund requests a full proposal, please complete a Lincoln/Lancaster County Grantmakers Common Application Form, available from Woods Charitable Fund's office or as a Rich Text Format document at [www.woodscharitable.org](http://www.woodscharitable.org). Together with the requested attachments, submit a **single paper copy** according to the timetable to the right.

The staff at Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. is pleased to consult with applicants at any time during the process to help strengthen their proposals.

### TIMETABLE

Submission Dates:	Awards Announced:
Feb 15 – Mar 1	June
Jun 15 – Jul 1	November
Oct 15 – Nov 1	February

In cases of extreme emergency, Woods will consider proposals of \$10,000 or less outside the set timetable.

Applicants should direct inquiries to:

Pam Baker, Tom Woods  
or Angie Zmarzly  
Woods Charitable Fund, Inc.  
P.O. Box 81309  
1440 'M' Street  
Lincoln, NE 68501  
(402) 436-5971 (telephone)  
(402) 436-4128 (fax)  
[www.woodscharitable.org](http://www.woodscharitable.org)  
[pbaker@woodscharitable.org](mailto:pbaker@woodscharitable.org)  
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[azmarzly@woodscharitable.org](mailto:azmarzly@woodscharitable.org)



Working parents make too much money for medical coverage; parents without coverage can get no help when ill. At high risk of death without medication, children are put in foster homes. - Lisa Boelts, Lincoln

## Grants Paid in 2005:

### HUMAN SERVICES

#### **CASA for Lancaster County**

For a Staff Coordinator position to recruit and train African-American volunteer case workers for this organization advocating for abused and neglected children in the court system . . . . . **20,000**

#### **Cedars Youth Services, Inc.**

Final payment of a two-year \$50,000 grant toward building the Cedars Northbridge Community Center, which offers public meeting space and programs, some in collaboration with other local nonprofit organizations, in early childhood development, English language learning, health services and job training . . . . . **25,000**

Final payment of a two-year \$120,000 grant to continue to provide equitable salaries and education incentives for teachers in six Cedars' childhood development centers, to evaluate the impact on staff retention and to advocate for an increase in Nebraska Health & Human Services' child care reimbursement rates . . . . . **60,000**

#### **Center for People in Need, Inc.**

Third-year support for the Legislative Resources Database, which facilitates communication between organizations working with legislative issues affecting low-income and under-represented people . . . . . **25,000**

#### **Community Justice Center (formerly OASIS, Inc.)**

Second-year funding for the position of Program Specialist, to support the Center's *Restorative Justice* program for victims and perpetrators of crime through workshops, support groups and its website . . . . . **25,000**

#### **Family Service Association of Lincoln**

General operating support for this organization providing early childhood care and education services in Lincoln and Lancaster County . . . . . **19,832**

#### **Friendship Home of Lincoln**

Second-year funding for the Hestia Project, to support and expand the availability of emergency shelter beds and client services for women and children who experience domestic violence . . . **30,400**

#### **Good Neighbor Community Center**

Renewal support for the part-time Development Director position to coordinate fundraising, grant writing and public relations activities for the Center which provides clothing and basic needs to low-income people . . . . . **10,000**

#### **Health Partners Initiative**

Toward the position of Neighborhood Service Exchange Project Coordinator, to develop a grassroots network of volunteers to help people take responsibility for their own well being and that of their neighbors . . . . . **10,000**

#### **Indian Center, Inc.**

For the position of Executive Assistant, to strengthen the governance, administrative and programmatic infrastructure of this organization that dedicates itself to strengthening and teaching cultural traditions among American Indians and promoting cultural awareness throughout the community . . . . . **20,000**

## Grants Paid in 2005:

### HUMAN SERVICES *(continued)*

#### **Lancaster County, Youth Services Center**

Staff support and technical assistance for the further development of a horticulture program for the at-risk youth housed at the Center . . . . . **3,780**

#### **Lighthouse**

For the *Capacity Building Initiative* project, equally funded by Lincoln Community Foundation and Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., providing support for five local non-profit organizations to strengthen their infrastructures and develop self-sustaining organizations to better serve the Lincoln community . . . . . **16,000**

#### **Lincoln Interfaith Council**

Toward building repair and remodeling for the lower level of the Council's 140 South 27th Street building in order to provide meeting and classroom space for the Council and other Lincoln organizations † . . . . . **7,000**

#### **Lincoln and Lancaster County Child Guidance Center**

Final payment of a \$200,000 grant for purchasing and renovating a new location for the Center's outpatient treatment facility and administrative offices; Child Guidance serves approximately 1,100 children and their families each year . . . . . **50,000**

#### **Malone Community Center**

Purchase of equipment for the Center's Early Childhood Education/Child Care Program † . . . . . **7,500**

#### **Matt Talbot Kitchen**

Toward office expansion and additional storage space for its hunger relief and outreach programs for Lincoln's working poor and homeless . . . . . **1,851**

#### **Mourning Hope**

Second-year renewal support of general operations for this community-based grief support network serving children, teens and families . . . . . **6,000**

#### **Rape-Spouse Abuse Crisis Center, Inc.**

For the *Capacity Building Initiative* project, equally funded by Lincoln Community Foundation and Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., providing support for five local non-profit organizations to strengthen their infrastructures and develop self-sustaining organizations to better serve the Lincoln community . . . **16,000**

#### **UNL-Department of Educational Psychology**

For *Target the Bully*, a half-day in-school suspension program that works with students who are chronic bullies through one-on-one evaluation and development of action plans aimed at stopping bullying behaviors, in collaboration with Lincoln Public Schools . . . . . **12,679**

#### **UNL-Department of Psychology**

Renewal support for *Project SAFE*, to provide on-site mental health services at the Child Advocacy Center, serving child abuse victims and non-offending family members . . . . . **30,636**

#### **UNL-Department of Sociology**

Support for the *Latino Achievement Mentoring Program (LAMP)*, a program to promote academic achievement of at-risk Latino youth and enhance the leadership skills of their college student mentors . . . . . **30,000**

† Indicates retiring board member grant designation

## Grants Paid in 2005:

### **UNL-Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families and Schools**

Toward *Project TEAMS*, a partnership between Lincoln Public Schools and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, to assist students reentering school after a prolonged absence and increase the likelihood that they remain in high school and graduate . . . . . **44,518**

First payment of a two-year \$28,500 grant for implementation of a risk assessment service to investigate, learn and create innovative new practices for treating adolescent sex offenders, in collaboration with Adolescent and Family Services and Bryan LGH Hospital . . . . . **14,500**

**TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES . . . . . \$485,696**

### **CIVIC AND COMMUNITY**

#### **City of Lincoln, StarTran**

To assist *Ride for Five*, a low-income monthly bus passport program of StarTran, for the city budget year 2005-06 . . . . . **5,000**

#### **Community Development Resources**

Third-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 . . . . . **30,000**

#### **Lancaster County, Human Services Department**

For an Employment Case Manager for New Americans, in collaboration with the New Americans Task Force and Lutheran Family Services Heartland Resettlement Office in Lincoln . . . . . **25,000**

#### **Leadership Lincoln, Inc.**

For the *Capacity Building Initiative* project, equally funded by Lincoln Community Foundation and Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., providing support for five local non-profit organizations to strengthen their infrastructures and develop self-sustaining organizations to better serve the Lincoln community . . . **16,000**

#### **Lincoln Action Program, Inc.**

To sustain and expand the *Free to Grow* program, focusing on community organizing in the Clinton Neighborhood to create a safer, more stable inner-city neighborhood for its 5,000 residents . . **30,000**

#### **The Lincoln Community Foundation, Inc. (fiscal agent for *Capacity Building Initiative* project)**

For the *Capacity Building Initiative* project, equally funded by Lincoln Community Foundation and Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., providing support for five local non-profit organizations to strengthen their infrastructures and develop self-sustaining organizations to better serve the Lincoln community . . . . . **7,500**

#### **The Mediation Center**

Toward a part-time Marketing and Development Specialist to diversify the funding base of this organization that provides strategies for collaborative conflict resolution and consensus building . . **20,000**

#### **Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest, Inc.**

Matching funds support for a Program Director position to increase the advocacy capacity of this organization dedicated to equal justice for all Nebraskans . . . . . **20,000**

Toward a staff position to support the organization's *Immigrant Integration and Civic Participation Program* . . . . . **40,000**

## Grants Paid in 2005:

### CIVIC AND COMMUNITY (continued)

#### Nebraska State Bar Association Charitable Funds, Inc. (fiscal agent for Minority Justice Implementation Committee)

Toward the development, administration and evaluation of a statewide campaign to educate and encourage Nebraska's minority communities to participate in jury service . . . . . **30,000**

#### Nebraska Sustainable Agriculture Society

Second-year support for the Co-Director position for *Community CROPS (Combining Resources, Opportunities and People for Sustainability)*, an initiative to increase food security and agricultural-based enterprises of immigrant and refugee gardeners in Southeast Nebraska . . . . . **15,000**

#### NeighborWorks, Lincoln (formerly Neighborhoods, Inc.)

Third payment of a five-year \$1,000,000 grant to develop and implement a plan to increase affordable housing in Lincoln, Nebraska, a collaborative project with Lincoln Urban Development Department and the University of Nebraska College of Architecture . . . . . **200,000**

#### United Methodist Ministries

For expansion of the *Equity-in-Nebraska* program, which helps low-income immigrants by providing quality legal immigration services at an affordable cost . . . . . **20,000**

#### VolunteerLinc (dba Volunteer Partners)

Toward staffing and office operations to establish a Corporate Volunteer Council in Lincoln to promote workplace volunteerism . . . . . **17,890**

**TOTAL CIVIC AND COMMUNITY . . . . . \$476,390**

### ARTS AND CULTURE

#### Flatwater Shakespeare Company

Toward the position of Executive Director for this new organization providing high quality Shakespearean and other theatrical productions and educational programs . . . . . **20,000**

#### Friends of Arts Are Basic

Second-year support for the *Multicultural Youth Arts Project*, known as *MYArts*, a collaborative project to create and implement cross-cultural art education opportunities for multicultural at-risk youth in after-school programming . . . . . **12,719**

#### Friends of Mary Riepma Ross Film Theatre, Inc.

To purchase and install an outdoor electronic marquee to help increase patronage to the theatre † . . . **7,500**

#### Friends of the Haymarket Theatre

First payment of a two-year \$36,000 grant toward the position of Executive Director and continued implementation of the organization's long-term plan for this group providing professional theater productions and comprehensive theater training for children and young adults . . . . . **24,000**

#### Lincoln Arts Council

Second payment of a two-year \$51,000 grant toward staff positions for fund development, marketing, website management and administrative assistance for this organization that promotes the arts in Lincoln . . . . . **21,000**

† Indicates retiring board member grant designation



## Grants Paid in 2005:

To conduct an economic impact study to educate donors about the value of the arts to the community . . . . . **9,150**

**Lincoln Community Playhouse, Inc.**

For the *Capacity Building Initiative* project, equally funded by Lincoln Community Foundation and Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., providing support for five local non-profit organizations to strengthen their infrastructures and develop self-sustaining organizations to better serve the Lincoln community . . . . . **16,000**

Second-year funding for operational support, focusing on the Playhouse's *Education & Outreach Program*, including scholarships, salary support and program-related materials . . . . . **25,000**

**Lincoln Municipal Band Association, Inc.**

First payment of a two-year \$22,000 grant to strengthen and broaden educational outreach projects in Lincoln schools, a collaboration including Lincoln Municipal Band, Nebraska Brass, Nebraska Jazz Orchestra and Nebraska Trumpet Ensemble . . . . . **15,000**

**Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra (formerly Lincoln Orchestra Association)**

Toward three part-time positions dedicated to marketing and fundraising for Lincoln's Symphony Orchestra . . . . . **30,000**

**Lux Center for the Arts (formerly University Place Art Center)**

For the *Capacity Building Initiative* project, equally funded by Lincoln Community Foundation and Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., providing support for five local non-profit organizations to strengthen their infrastructures and develop self-sustaining organizations to better serve the Lincoln community . . . **16,000**

**Meadowlark Music Festival**

Support of a new part-time Executive Director position for this annual summer music festival . . **15,000**

**Nebraska Art Association**

Renewal support for the position of Development Director at the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery and Sculpture Garden . . . . . **28,585**

**The Nebraska Cultural Endowment**

First payment of a three-year \$75,000 grant toward completion of the Endowment's first fundraising campaign to secure \$5,000,000 held in trust . . . . . **30,000**

**Nebraska Humanities Council**

Toward the position of Development Secretary, providing support for all fundraising activities for the Council whose mission is to cultivate understanding of Nebraska history and culture . . . **20,000**

**NET Foundation for Television**

Toward a DVD resource about poetry and Nebraska poets to be distributed to every school and library in Nebraska . . . . . **5,000**

**Third Chair Chamber Players, Inc.**

For the *Music Mentors* project to mentor young musicians in a chamber ensemble setting and expand opportunities to perform and experience chamber concerts . . . . . **1,200**

**University of Nebraska Foundation**

For the College of Law Class of 1976 Reunion Fund toward the acquisition of a Larry Roots mural for placement in the College of Law building † . . . . . **3,000**

† Indicates retiring board member grant designation

## Grants Paid in 2005:

### ARTS AND CULTURE *(continued)*

#### UNL-Lied Center for Performing Arts

First payment of a two-year \$15,000 grant for support of *Free at 6*, a program that includes six free Lied Center performances by Nebraska artists to expand opportunities for main stage programming and to utilize and serve Lincoln's diverse artists and audiences . . . . . **10,000**

**TOTAL ARTS AND CULTURE . . . . . \$309,154**

### EDUCATION

#### Lincoln Children's Museum

Second payment of a three-year \$45,000 grant toward the full-time Development Director position to support this museum that stimulates the adventure of learning for children, youth and adults . . . . . **15,000**

#### Lincoln Literacy Council

Support for *Project for Higher Education Mentoring (PHEM)*, an adult literacy initiative for *English as a Second Language* learners and *Basic Adult Literacy* learners who seek to complete a GED or pursue post-secondary education . . . . . **10,000**

#### Lincoln Public Schools

To expand the work of the *Media Literacy* project among Lincoln Public Schools' educators, enabling them to learn media literacy strategies and teach students and parents the skills to critically analyze audio and visual media . . . . . **20,000**

#### Malaika Foundation

To support Lincoln teachers' attendance at the Foundation's International Education Institute, providing training and resources to help students understand and appreciate their own cultures in relation to other cultures at home and abroad . . . . . **7,500**

#### Southeast Community College

Second payment of a two-year grant for the Newcomers Educational Center, serving adult English language learners, developing curriculum for special classes and providing cultural competency workshops for instructors . . . . . **20,000**

**TOTAL EDUCATION . . . . . \$72,500**

### OTHER

#### Capital Humane Society

For strategic planning to redefine the direction and programs of this organization that fosters healthy companionship between humans and animals . . . . . **10,000**

**TOTAL OTHER . . . . . \$10,000**

**TOTAL GRANTS PAID . . . . . \$1,353,740**

To make a gift to Woods Charitable Fund, please contact  
Executive Director Pam Baker at (402) 436-5973 or pbaker@woodscharitable.org.



People with no legal representation sometimes get lost in the system. This man did not know how to get a lawyer or get another home. The person who owns the land kicked him off. - Susanna Sall, Lincoln

## Independent Auditors' Report:

To the Board of Directors  
Woods Charitable Fund, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying statements of assets, liabilities and net assets arising from cash transactions of Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") as of December 31, 2005 and 2004, and the related statements of income collected, deductions and expenses paid and of changes in unrestricted net assets arising from cash transactions for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note B to the financial statements, these financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash transactions, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets arising from cash transactions of Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. at December 31, 2005 and 2004, and its income collected, deductions and expenses paid and changes in unrestricted net assets for the years then ended, on the basis of accounting described in Note B.

*Deloitte & Touche LLP*

DELOITTE & TOUCHE LLP  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
February 22, 2006

## Financial Statements:

### STATEMENTS OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
Cash (including checking, savings and money market accounts)	\$ 125,627	\$ 67,252
Investment securities, at cost:		
Mutual funds (fair value of \$33,649,007 for 2005, and \$33,483,913 for 2004)	24,118,325	24,057,806
Partnerships and other investments	1,867,925	701,466
Program related investments	395,919	416,177
Total assets	<u>\$ 26,507,796</u>	<u>\$ 25,242,701</u>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>\$ 26,507,796</u>	<u>\$ 25,242,701</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 26,507,796</u>	<u>\$ 25,242,701</u>

*See accompanying notes to cash basis financial statements*

### STATEMENTS OF INCOME COLLECTED, DEDUCTIONS AND EXPENSES PAID YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
Income collected:		
Investment income:		
Net realized gains on sale of investments	<u>\$ 696,743</u>	<u>\$ 652,703</u>
Interest:		
Program related investments, interest bearing	19,832	20,180
Checking accounts, interest bearing	4,968	1,298
Total interest income	<u>24,800</u>	<u>21,478</u>
Dividends from mutual funds	2,276,154	1,345,392
Other	-	12,037
Total investment income	<u>2,997,697</u>	<u>2,031,610</u>
Donations	<u>200</u>	<u></u>
Total income collected	<u>2,997,897</u>	<u>2,031,610</u>
Deductions:		
Grants paid	<u>1,353,740</u>	<u>1,436,511</u>
Expenses paid:		
Salary and related expenses	265,182	252,524
Investment advisory fee	26,719	26,048
Conferences and meetings	9,629	3,927
Legal, audit and financial services	9,550	8,909
Office expenses	11,837	2,655
Memberships and dues	9,489	8,450
Consultants	3,395	1,459
Annual report expenses	5,301	4,416
Other expenses	17,995	21,485
Taxes:		
Excise tax payments	<u>19,965</u>	<u>20,600</u>
Total expenses paid	<u>379,062</u>	<u>350,473</u>
Total deductions and expenses paid	<u>1,732,802</u>	<u>1,786,984</u>
INCOME COLLECTED OVER DEDUCTIONS AND EXPENSES PAID	<u>\$ 1,265,095</u>	<u>\$ 244,626</u>

*See accompanying notes to cash basis financial statements.*

### STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005 AND 2004

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
Unrestricted net assets, January 1	\$ 25,242,701	\$ 24,998,075
Income collected over deductions and expenses paid	<u>1,265,095</u>	<u>244,626</u>
Unrestricted net assets, December 31	<u>\$ 26,507,796</u>	<u>\$ 25,242,701</u>

*See accompanying notes to cash basis financial statements.*

## Notes to Cash Basis Financial Statements:

YEARS ENDED  
DECEMBER 31, 2005  
AND 2004

### A. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") is a private philanthropic foundation incorporated in the state of Nebraska in 1941. Through grants made to eligible organizations, the Fund seeks to strengthen the community by improving opportunities and life outcomes for all people in Lincoln, Nebraska. The Fund supports members of the nonprofit sector who are exploring creative alternatives and promoting more just, effective approaches to meet community needs.

### B. BASIS OF PRESENTATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Fund are prepared on the basis of cash transactions which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, income is recognized when received and expenses and grants are recognized when paid. Under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"), income would be recognized when earned and all expenses would be recognized when incurred. The financial state-

ments also do not include certain information about cash flows that would be included in a presentation in conformity with GAAP.

Investments are carried at cost unless the Fund has determined a permanent decline in value. As of December 31, 2005 and 2004, there are no investments which the Fund has determined to be permanently impaired. The Fund uses the weighted average method to determine the cost of mutual funds sold and the first-in, first-out method to determine the cost of all other securities sold. Under GAAP, not-for-profit organizations would record investments in equity securities with readily determinable fair values and all investments in debt securities at fair value.

### C. ESTIMATED FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Estimated fair values of publicly traded securities and mutual funds at December 31, 2005 and 2004 were determined from closing prices of national securities exchanges, latest bid quotation or published net asset values.

During 2005, the Fund invested \$1,500,000 in a private fund of hedge funds, for which the estimated fair value at December 31, 2005 was \$1,539,120 as determined by the Fund's management. The Fund held an investment

in a private limited partnership interest with a cost of \$367,925 and \$701,466, for which a fair value was not ascertainable at December 31, 2005 and 2004, respectively.

### D. FEDERAL EXCISE TAX

The Internal Revenue Service has classified the Fund as a private foundation as defined in Section 509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The total estimated 2005 federal excise tax liability is \$60,000. The Fund made estimated excise tax payments of \$10,500 in 2005 related to 2005. The Fund paid \$9,465 in excise tax during 2005 related to 2004. The Fund made estimated tax payments of \$10,600 in 2004 related to 2004. The Fund paid \$10,000 in excise tax during 2004 related to 2003.

### E. COMMITMENTS

The Fund is committed to pay grants aggregating \$870,049 at December 31, 2005. In addition, the Fund has supplied a stand-by letter of credit to YWCA of \$28,500 as of December 31, 2005. This letter of credit expires in May 2011. The Fund is committed to invest an additional \$74,640 in a limited partnership interest as of December 31, 2005. Certain of these commitments are contingent upon the fulfillment of specified conditions.



Not all children in our community are being provided quality care. Budget cuts have made this unaffordable for many families - it takes a village, and our children are our future. They all deserve a safe, loving, and happy place to be! - Lora Curry, Lincoln



*Reality at the Roots*  
Images of Real Lives, Real Struggles,  
and Real Issues in Nebraska:

*In 2000, Woods Charitable Fund designated a \$10,000 grant to the Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest toward the planning and implementation of its project entitled Reality at the Roots.*

In the summer of 2004, Nebraska Appleseed donated hundreds of disposable cameras to people in more than a dozen Nebraska communities across the state. With cameras in hand, these volunteers accepted the task of documenting their lives and the challenging circumstances they strive to overcome—real lives, real struggles, real issues. *Reality at the Roots* is the result of these efforts.

Reaching out across the state to photograph and examine grassroots justice issues, *Reality at the Roots* is the first project of this nature and scale in Nebraska. The volunteers worked with trained facilitators, learned about technique and discovered how photography has historically generated positive social change. Participants documented the situations by capturing them on film. They shared their thoughts and ideas with other participants and, in the process, were empowered to speak.

Nebraska Appleseed received nearly 1,000 photos from individuals representing a variety of backgrounds,

ages and ethnicities. Of these images, the Advisory Board (including local photographers, artists, community activists and academics) selected 31 photographs to create a dramatic traveling exhibit that is now used as a tool to stimulate discussions about democracy. The exhibit was unveiled in the Nebraska State Capitol in 2004. *Reality at the Roots* has subsequently traveled statewide and nationally to educate decision-makers, community leaders and politicians. All of the 31 images, along with the photographers' captions of the photos, can be found on the Nebraska Appleseed website, [www.neappleseed.org/roots](http://www.neappleseed.org/roots).



## Nebraska Appleseed

1996 - 2006

### A Decade of Sowing the Seeds of Justice:

*Core values. Common ground. Equal justice.*

For 10 years these have been the motivating principles at Nebraska Appleseed. For 10 years, Nebraska Appleseed has reinforced that fairness, opportunity, community and responsibility are four core values Nebraskans hold in common and want to see in public policy. During that time, low-income



NEBRASKA  
**Appleseed**

*A decade of sowing  
the seeds of justice.*

families, new immigrants, children in need of protection and struggling communities have benefited from Nebraska Appleseed's efforts to assure that these values are at the forefront when people approach tough problems.

For 10 years, Nebraska Appleseed has worked to achieve progress for those who have little or no voice when public policies are made. Appleseed's

committed staff and volunteers work long and hard to address problems at the roots, using approaches that range from the use of a creative arts project like *Reality at the Roots*, to food and nutrition research that brings together unlikely allies, to litigation that regained \$18 million in health care benefits for uninsured Nebraskans.

This year, Nebraska Appleseed proudly celebrates 10 years of sowing the seeds of justice in Nebraska.

## About the Cover Artist:

Debora Oden was born in O'Neill, Nebraska and educated at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, receiving her M.F.A. in 2003. Debora has served as Adjunct Professor of drawing and printmaking at UN-L, as well as Director of the Eisentreger/Howard Gallery. Her awards include a 2004 Nebraska Arts Council *Individual Arts Fellowship Award*, the *Vreeland Award* and the *Art on Paper Award* from The Print Center in Philadelphia. She exhibits her work nationally and



Debora Oden

internationally (France, Thailand, Egypt, Poland and Austria). Her pieces can be found in private and corporate collections, including The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, Hallmark, Inc., The Bemis

Center and the University of Nebraska Department of Art and Art History. Using the printing techniques of intaglio and silkscreen, Debora's work emphasizes repeated line, building forms out of ambiguity with shadowy structure and the implication of narrative through the organization of symbolic elements.

She is the mother of 11 year-old Mila and 6 year-old Leo and currently teaches at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, though she still calls Lincoln "home."

Other featured artists throughout this report are:

Lisa Boelts  
Lora Curry  
Chris Leon  
Susanna Sall



Standing outside the "Design Build Home" featured in the Woods Charitable Fund 2004 annual report are: (top row) Hank Woods, Joan Stolle, Donna W. Woods, Pam Baker, Jose J. Soto, Nelle Woods Jamison; (middle row) Thomas C. Woods, IV, Lynn Roper, A. Eugene Crump; (front row) Michael J. Tavlin, Ann Chang-Barnes, Angie Zmarzly.

The home, located at 949 North 30th Street in Lincoln, was designed by a student in the College of Architecture graduate design studio at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the fall semester of 2004. Students from the College of Architecture and Neighborworks® Lincoln began construction of the house in 2005. It is nearly complete and will be occupied by a qualified home owner in 2006.

WOODS CHARITABLE FUND, INC.

PO Box 81309  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501  
(402) 436-5971

To make a gift to Woods Charitable Fund, please contact  
Executive Director Pam Baker at (402) 436-5973 or pbaker@woodscharitable.org.