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**WOODS CHARITABLE FUND ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBER, OFFICERS**

Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., a private grant-making foundation, announces the election of officers and a new member to its Board of Directors. **Kevin Abourezk** was elected to the Board during the Fund's November Board meeting.

Abourezk, a citizen of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, is a journalist and Deputy Managing Editor of ICTNews.org, which features Native American news, information and entertainment. In his nearly 25 years of journalism experience, he has traveled the country to write about Native American people and stories, including investigative reports, and he has been an editor and reporter at the Lincoln Journal Star. He has received the Native American Journalists Association's prestigious Richard LaCourse Award for Investigative Reporting, the 2006 Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism from the Casey Journalism Center on Children and Families, and many awards from the Associated Press. He has been a mentor for the American Indian Journalism Institute, Crazy Horse Journalism Conference and Nebraska Sovereign Native Youth Leadership Symposium. He received a Master's degree in Journalism and Mass Communications from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of South Dakota, and he has served on several community and national boards including as a commissioner for the Lincoln Commission on Human Rights.

"Kevin Abourezk is a dynamic and community-focused individual whose diverse range of interests seamlessly aligns with Woods Charitable Fund's mission," said Tom Woods, President of Woods Charitable Fund. "As a passionate advocate and champion for the Native American community, Mr. Abourezk has played crucial roles on numerous boards serving Native organizations, such as the Lincoln Indian Center, Lincoln Public Schools' Native American Advisory Committee, and Intertribal Spiritual Lodges. We are confident that Kevin will bring the same level of dedication and inclusive spirit to Woods Charitable Fund, contributing significantly to our efforts as we strive to make impactful grant-making decisions."

Woods Charitable Fund also elected officers at its November meeting. Those elected were **Nelle Woods Jamison**, chairwoman; **Pablo Cervantes**, vice chairman; **Hank Woods**, treasurer; **Michael J. Tavlin**, assistant treasurer; and **Tom Woods**, president and board secretary. **Jay Conrad**, **Suk Wortman** and **Charlie Foster** are continuing members of the Board.

*Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., makes grants twice a year to tax-exempt organizations seeking funding for Lincoln-focused programs in the areas of Human Services, Civic & Community, Education, and Arts & Culture and through its Breakthrough Initiative Grant program. It has granted more than \$100 million since its inception in 1941. For more information on funding guidelines, call (402) 436-5971, visit [www.woodscharitable.org](http://www.woodscharitable.org) or write to Tom Woods, Kathy Steinauer Smith or Nicole Juranek at 1248 O St. Suite 1130, Lincoln, NE 68508 or at [info@woodscharitable.org](mailto:info@woodscharitable.org).*