NEWS RELEASE

Greater Green Bay Community Foundation
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- - - IMMEDIATE RELEASE - - -

Community Foundation Week Celebrates Local Giving

GREEN BAY– November 11, 2006 - - - The Greater Green Bay Community Foundation will join more than 650 community foundations across the country in celebrating local charitable giving.

Last week, Governor Jim Doyle signed a proclamation designating November 12-18, 2006 as Community Foundation Week for the State of Wisconsin. The declaration stated, "today associations across the country make substantial contributions to our well-being and; many of these associations are community foundations; and directed by volunteers, community foundations provide effective leadership, assisting in the coordination of public programs and other private services."*

With assets of approximately $39.4 billion, community foundations are one of the fastest growing forms of philanthropy in the United States today. In 2005, donors gave U.S.-based community foundations more than $4.2 billion in gifts. **

"Donors of all kinds find the community foundation as an ideal vehicle for their philanthropy, offering them the opportunity to give back to the community," said Martha Ahrendt, Greater Green Bay Community Foundation Chief Operating Officer.

To date the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation has more than $63 million in assets. Last year the Community Foundation raised approximately $10.7 million thanks to over 1500 different donors, and awarded more than $5.2million in grants to area nonprofit organizations.

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Community foundations have far-reaching benefits for anyone interested in philanthropy, including those of modest means. People can get involved by establishing a fund with the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation, serving on an advisory committee or volunteering with an agency that the community foundation supports. For more information, visit www.ggbcf.org.

"Community foundations are at the heart of our cities and towns. We know the places of need in our area, and we can direct resources to solve those problems," said Ahrendt, "Here donors can get involved in their community, establish a legacy while permanently support causes that are important to them, and they can make a difference."

The Greater Green Bay Community Foundation granted $51,387 to nine area non-profit organizations along with nearly $900,000 to 283 non-profits awarded from donor advised recommendations through the Community Foundation in the past quarter alone.

Community Foundation Week began in 1989 with a congressional briefing on community foundation activities and a proclamation from former President George H.W. Bush. The observance has raised awareness of community foundations' charitable activities and services to donors seeking to maximize their philanthropic dollars.

Established in 1991, the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization. Each year the Community Foundation distributes more than $3 million in grants to many of the humanitarian, educational, and cultural organizations in Northeastern Wisconsin. The Community Foundation's mission is to aid, develop and enhance the quality of life for the communities and citizens they serve throughout Brown, Kewaunee and Oconto Counties.

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* Proclamation from Governor Jim Doyle is attached in e-mail

**According to findings from the *2054 Survey of U.S. Community Foundations*. The survey is prepared by The Columbus Foundation.