

***Strmiska to Join Council on Foundations in Washington, D.C.***

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For Immediate Release

August 21, 2006

(Green Bay, WI) Ken Strmiska, President and CEO of the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation (GGBCF), will leave his position with the Foundation at the end of September to become Managing Director of the Community Foundation Division for the Council on Foundations in Washington D.C.

Community Foundation Board of Directors Chairman, Jeffrey Ottum, said Strmiska has been a strong, effective leader and he will be missed. “I am sure that I speak for many in the community when I say that we will miss Ken’s enthusiasm for philanthropy and for his belief in its role in sustaining a vibrant community.” He added that while it is a loss for the Foundation, “Green Bay should be very proud that one of our own was selected for this national leadership position.”

Strmiska, who has been with GGBCF for more than eight years, says the decision to leave was not an easy one, but that the opportunity to work on a national level and encourage strong community philanthropy was appealing. “It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation. I was selected for Council on Foundations position because of the reputation that our foundation enjoys as a model, community-based organization. I have been fortunate to have a visionary board, a dedicated staff and a receptive community in order to achieve the success that we have enjoyed over the past years.”

Under Strmiska’s leadership, the GGBCF has:

- seen its assets grow from \$16 million to more than \$63 million,
- added more than 300 new funds,
- helped community organizations raise an additional \$30 million for capital projects and endowments,
- and helped establish a variety of charitable and philanthropic initiatives, including the Women’s Fund of Greater Green Bay, co-founding the Institute for Fundraising and Philanthropy and co-founding the Multi-Cultural Center.

*(more)*

Strmiska has also worked internationally as a Fellow of the German Marshall Fund and is a sought after public speaker. He holds a doctorate in higher education administration from North Carolina State University as well as a master of business in arts administration and a bachelor's degree in music performance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The Council on Foundations (COF) is a membership organization of more than 2,000 grantmaking foundations and giving programs worldwide. It provides leadership expertise, legal services and networking opportunities, among other services, to its members and the general public.

A search committee will be formed by the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation to look for the organization's next president. "Ken will be difficult to replace, but this is a great opportunity to bring in someone with new perspectives who can build on what Ken has accomplished," said Ottum.

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