



HOLD FOR RELEASE
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**WAYNE COUNTY FOUNDATION TO AWARD UP TO \$150,000
IN MULTIPLE CHALLENGE MATCH GRANTS**

Potential \$300,000 Benefit to the Community

The Wayne County Foundation has announced a matching-grant opportunity for selected organizations in the county as part of its Challenge Match Program. The one-to-one match offers the possibility of generating \$300,000 or more for non-profits in the Wayne County community. It is specifically designed to help organizations cultivate new donors and encourage increased giving from current contributors.

The open call for proposals seeks ideas that will encourage philanthropy throughout the community. The initiatives can be specific projects or programs, or represented in the form of general operating support.

Organizations may apply individually; charitable groups that are not qualified charities must partner with an organization that is. Any charitable not-for-profit organization, school, or government agency in Wayne County is eligible to apply.

A Foundation-supplied cover sheet, a two page summary of the project which includes a plan for raising the matching funds, and a one page summary of the organization's

2012 operating budget must be submitted to the Foundation by August 16 at 4 p.m. The organizations that put forward the most promising plans will be selected to participate in the Challenge Match Program to be held from October 29 to November 9.

“We know similar campaigns have been extremely successful in other communities,” said Steve Borchers, the Foundation’s Executive Director. “We hope to create an opportunity for the organizations to raise significant additional dollars in support of their programs, new initiatives, and/or operational support. Moreover, we hope that it will engage the community.”

The Challenge Match Program is one feature of a larger set of changes to the Foundation’s grantmaking program. A new emphasis to better align the Foundation’s regular, competitive grantmaking cycles with its mission of improving the quality of life and enhancing the spirit of community was implemented earlier this year.

Representatives of organizations interested in submitting a proposal are invited to attend an information meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 10 at the Innovation Center in Richmond. More information may also be obtained by visiting the Foundation’s website at www.waynecountyfoundation.org, contacting Andrea Stuckey at Andrea@waynecountyfoundation.org, or by calling 765/962-1638.

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