



WHATCOM COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

NEWS RELEASE

January 25, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Whatcom Community Foundation receives \$1 million grant.

Contact Person: Sue Sharpe, Interim Director – (360)671-1165 or (360)739-3027

Whatcom Community Foundation (WCF), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit with the mission of connecting people who care with causes that matter, received a \$1 million grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The Packard Foundation “invest[s] in and take[s] smart risks with innovative people and organizations”. The Foundation granted this award in recognition of the positive impact WCF has made on the Whatcom County Community in its eleven year history and its confidence in WCF’s plans for the future. Funds will support its ongoing efforts to strengthen local not-for-profit services and enhance the community’s quality of life.

“We’re proud of the Packard Foundation grant because it is difficult to secure funds to support organizations, particularly community foundations, in doing their fundamental work and doing it more effectively,” noted WCF president and CEO Calene LeBeau. “Receiving a grant from a foundation like Packard which understands the importance of the services we provide is very gratifying.”

Whatcom Community Foundation offers a variety of valuable services that support local not-for-profit organizations and community projects, including creating agency endowments that provide support to non-profit organizations in perpetuity, receiving bequests from citizens wishing to leave money to benefit Whatcom County and working with community leaders on projects such as the Campaign for the Arts and the Ferndale Library.

This grant to WCF will be used to support ongoing foundation services by creating a Foundation Services endowment and providing funds for current work to build WCF’s capacity, allowing the organization to continue to meet the needs of this rapidly changing community.

-30-

119 Grand Avenue, Suite A, Bellingham, WA 98225 • Phone: 360-671-6463 • Fax: 360-671-6437 • wcf@whatcomcf.org • www.whatcomcf.org



Confirmed in Compliance with
National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations