



# Whatcom Community Foundation

CONNECTING PEOPLE WHO CARE  
WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER

## Foundation *focus*

Personalized Service  
Local Expertise  
Community Leadership



News from your Whatcom Community Foundation  
<http://www.whatcomcf.org/>

Volume 3, Issue 3  
December 2010

**Welcome!** As the year comes to a close the Foundation board and staff are, in a word, grateful. We are fortunate to live in a community where people care about each other, and work tirelessly to be good stewards of our corner of the world. We thank each of you for what you do to make Whatcom County a more vibrant place, and for making it possible to have a community foundation as a resource. We wish you and yours a healthy, happy, prosperous and philanthropic New Year.

## Highlights



### National Philanthropy Day\*

## Year End Giving

According to the *Chronicle of Philanthropy*, 60% of gifts to charities and non-profits are given within the last six weeks of the year with 40% given on the last two days.

With the variety of community needs, and large number of agencies to address them, how is it possible for a donor to decide which of the many requests to support? It's part of our job here at the Community Foundation to help people who have not yet identified their charitable interests. We start out by using these simple suggestions:



- Make a list of the things you value most in life. What are your interests within a particular field of interest? How have these changed over time?
- Think about organizations and causes that you have supported in the past, through your financial contributions and volunteer activities. What was important about this? What made you feel the best about giving and why did you feel rewarded?
- Ask yourself where you could make the most difference with your resources. You may have a large list of organizations that you support, but where can you make the most impact?
- Decide how much you have to give. Are there other ways that you could give beyond financial resources? We can explore the different types of assets that you could give.
- Determine when it will be best for you to give. Is this a good time for you to invest some of your money for future giving, or can you give money today?
- Choose what you want to support. If you are unsure about this, we can help. We can discuss how to pool your gifts with other donors to fund projects that might otherwise go unsupported. We may also suggest ways to support your field(s) of interest using our time and expertise. We can also help do the research for you to insure that your gift is going to a nonprofit that is a legitimate charity.
- Speak with us about how to give. You have many options. You might also explore legacy planning through the Foundation's [Madrona Society](#) that will make gifts to the community after your lifetime

Please contact us if we can be of any help to you. And one more thing - the Community Foundation would welcome a gift from you to support the leadership work we do in our community. Donations can be made through our website or by mailing a check to our office.

## Celebrate Philanthropy!

National Philanthropy Day (NPD), November 15, is the special day created by the Association of Fundraising Professionals. NPD is devoted to heralding the powerful contributions that the individuals and organizations involved in philanthropy make every day.

We celebrate NPD because of the extraordinary impact of the charitable sector and the increasing role it plays locally and globally. Billions of dollars are given every year. Millions of programs and services administered to those in need, keeping our communities vital. Individuals are connected to causes, and to each other. Civic participation and important societal bonds are created and strengthened through philanthropy as we work to improve the quality of life for all.

Last November's NPD saw more than 125 communities and 50,000 people around the world participate in events and celebrations. (*The Washington state event is the largest in the world!*) The Whatcom Community Foundation and the Moles Family were honored at this year's celebration as the outstanding philanthropic organization and family, respectively, in the state of Washington.

We invite you to please take a minute to watch a short movie commemorating the Foundation's work. [Watch video](#)

We also want to thank all of the outstanding donors, volunteers, corporations, foundations, small businesses, and others who have worked with us to improve our community. The Foundation's honor is only possible because of the role each of

**Make a Donation**

## Charitable IRA Rollover Extended

Congress has extended the *Charitable IRA Rollover* provision section of the 2010 Tax Relief package.

If you are 70½ or older, the *Charitable IRA Rollover* provides a unique opportunity to use retirement plan assets to make a significant gift to a qualified nonprofit organization with no tax on the IRA withdrawal.

Congress has extended the provision through 2011, but if you want to take advantage of this opportunity for tax year 2010, the gift must be delivered to the charity no later than January 31, 2011. Your IRA custodian may require two weeks to complete the transaction, so act soon if you want to initiate a rollover gift for 2010.

The Whatcom Community Foundation is a qualified recipient of your charitable IRA rollover gift.

Rollover gifts do count toward your mandatory withdrawal, but do not count against your maximum personal charitable deduction limitation.

There are many options. More information is available on our website [here](http://www.whatcomcf.org), or contact us at 360-671-6463 or email us at [wcf@whatcomcf.org](mailto:wcf@whatcomcf.org).



**CONNECTS** people who care with causes that matter

**SERVES** as a leader, catalyst and resource for philanthropy

**PLAYS** a key role in identifying and solving community challenges

**CONDUCTS** strategic grant making that benefits all of our community in fields such as social services, education, health, the environment and the arts

**PROVIDES** flexible and cost-effective ways for generous individuals, families, and companies to contribute to their community now and for all time

**SUPPORTS** capital projects benefiting Whatcom County

**MANAGES** charitable funds on behalf of individuals, families and businesses

**WORKS** with individuals, families and companies to leave a legacy of giving

**BUILDS** and holds a permanent and growing endowment for the communities changing needs and opportunities.

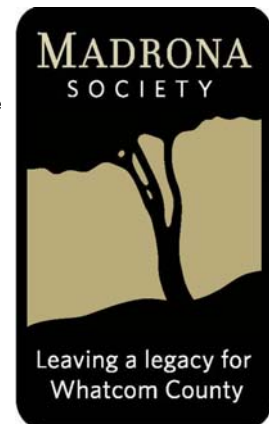
you play in our work. We are proud to join past honorees from Whatcom County: the Haggen and Morse families (Family category), Village Books (owned by Madrona Society members Chuck & Dee Robinson; Small Business), Ander Crabo & Colin Flynn (Youth) and the St. Luke's Foundation (Foundation).



*Whatcom County Contingent at the 2010 AFP Washington's Philanthropy Day Celebration*

Joe & Judy Coons  
George & Mary Ann Drake  
Jean Gorton  
Marge Laidlaw & Scott Wallace  
Terry & Myra Harmer  
Martin & Gail Haines  
John D. Stephens  
Sibyl W. Sanford  
Larry Berghoff  
John Watts & Joan Casey  
Owen Olsen  
Gary & Ann Blanken  
Gail Weiss & Dennis Smith  
Chuck & Dee Robinson  
Stephen A. Peters  
Rick & Linda Luke  
Art & Marti Caputi  
Margaret & Marc Curtis  
Brian & Marya Griffin  
Katti Esp  
Brenda-Lee Karasik  
Francis Joseph Lang\*  
Naomi Wilkins  
Karl & Edwina Kleeman  
Carrie Coppinger Carter  
Daniel Kirkman  
Fredericka H. Bond\*  
Lee Eberhardt & Mauri Ingram  
5 Anonymous

\*Deceased





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[Make a Donation](#)

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