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NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Mauri Ingram or Pamela Jons (360) 671-6463

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **Alcoa Receives Outstanding Philanthropic Award**

It is with great pleasure that the Whatcom Community Foundation congratulates Alcoa of Washington for receiving the 2011 Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation award. This honor is bestowed annually by the Association of Fundraising Professionals – Washington Chapter in recognition of a corporation's philanthropic excellence and dedication to community well-being.

“We are thrilled to be this year's award recipient and take great pride in fulfilling our role as a generous and caring corporate citizen and neighbor,” said Barry Hullett, Alcoa Intalco Works Plant Manager. “This tribute is a testament to the company's strong culture of giving whether through volunteer hours, employee contributions, corporate gifts or foundation grants. It's such a pleasure to extend a hand and help out.”

In the last five years, Alcoa of Washington has distributed \$1.4 million in grant funds to organizations as diverse as Boys & Girls Clubs, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association and the Performing Arts Center of Wenatchee. In the last year alone, an estimated 75 Ferndale and Wenatchee employees provided 3,750 volunteer hours or almost 94 weeks' worth of work and leveraged \$18,750 in matching corporate foundation donations. Company employees gladly gave their time, expertise, and talents to build community gardens, minister to the sick, restore miles of streamside habitat, provide meals and shelter for the homeless, and teach adults to read.

Moreover, community events like the Human Race, Jingle Bell Run, Relay for Life, and Alzheimer's Walk can always count on an enthusiastic team of participants from Alcoa. The company clearly recognizes that the success of its business is directly connected to the strength of the communities in which it operates. In working alongside their neighbors, Alcoa understands the intrinsic value of helping those around them.

“Our partnership with Alcoa has proven instrumental in boosting student success at Bellingham Technical College,” notes AFP award nominator, Patty McKeown. As BTC President she's seen firsthand the impact of Alcoa's giving. “When the College decided to move forward with plans to equip a renewable energy lab, Alcoa and the Alcoa Foundation responded with a generous grant to purchase state-of-the-art equipment that will benefit multiple degree program students. They've also provided scholarships, internships, event sponsorships and employee participation on program advisory committees.”

Whatcom Community Foundation President Mauri Ingram added, “One of the things that distinguishes Alcoa's brand of philanthropy is their approach. They thoughtfully consider *all* the ways in which they can support the community work they care about: financially, in kind through volunteer time and materials, and mobilizing the larger Alcoa staff networks of family and friends. That's a powerful combination. It builds lasting relationships with local nonprofit organizations and deepens the community knowledge of Alcoa staff. It's a partnership approach.”

Alcoa of Washington joins an illustrious list of previous award winners including The Boeing Company, Microsoft Corporation, Starbucks Coffee Company and Costco. The company will be honored for its philanthropic contributions at a gala luncheon on November 18th at the Westin Hotel in downtown Seattle.

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119 Grand Avenue, Suite A | Bellingham, WA 98225 | tel: 360-671-6463 | fax: 360-671-6437 | www.whatcomcf.org

