



# Whatcom Community Foundation

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: **Whatcom Community Foundation Included in Two Top 100 Lists**

Bellingham, WA - The Whatcom Community Foundation has earned spots on two prestigious Community Foundation Top 100 Lists that were released on June 9<sup>th</sup>. There are more than 700 community foundations in the United States; of these, the Whatcom Community Foundation ranked sixth on the list of most active grantmakers and 75<sup>th</sup> on the list of most gifts per capita.

According to Foundation President & CEO Mauri Ingram, "These rankings are evidence that our community and our community foundation have a bias for action: we put a greater percentage of our funds to work each year than many of our peers. The gifts per capital ranking speaks volumes about the generosity of our donor community."

In 2010, the Foundation awarded 310 grants in excess of \$1.4 million to 127 not-for-profit organizations that serve the residents of Whatcom County. The Foundation also received 838 gifts totaling over \$5.2 million and created fourteen new funds.

Foundation Board Chair Joyce Pedlow said, "We have long known that we live in one of the most generous communities in the nation, a fact these lists support. It goes to show that we have a great deal of heart. We truly care about our neighbors and the place we call 'home.' As a community, we give where we live."

The lists were released by CF Insights, which compiles and distributes data and information on finances, operations and best practices for community foundations nationwide. CF Insights was established by FSG, which consults foundations on how to accelerate their social impact, and the national association Council on Foundations.

The Whatcom Community Foundation, named Most Philanthropic Organization in 2010 by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Washington Chapter, has been a force for improving lives and promoting philanthropy throughout Whatcom County for 15 years. The Foundation has made more than 2,600 grants totaling in excess of \$10.5 million in support of causes ranging from education and health care, to the arts and the environment. Grants are generated by the more than 180 funds that comprise the Foundation's endowment, established and advanced by area individuals and families.

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