

Community Relief Fund to assist non-profits

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Three Southern Indiana foundations have come together to form a much-needed fund to support non-profit organizations that provide basic needs to families and individuals in Clark and Floyd counties.

The Community Relief Fund will provide additional funding to non-profit organizations that have seen the need for their services significantly increase from area residents experiencing the effects of the U.S. economic crisis. The Paul W. Ogle Foundation Inc., Horseshoe Foundation of Floyd County and the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana are jointly offering this grant program. Contributions from the Ogle and Horseshoe foundations put the value of the fund at \$400,000. The Community Foundation of Southern Indiana will serve as the administrator of the program.

Non-profit organizations may request up to \$20,000. Applications are available on the web sites of the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana,

www.cfsouthernindiana.com, under grants, and the Horseshoe Foundation of Floyd County, www.horseshoefoundation.org. Applications are also available at the Community Foundation's office, 4104 Charlestown Rd., New Albany.

Organizations applying for funds should serve residents of Clark and Floyd counties as a major portion of their work.

"We have seen the needs of many residents in our community increase significantly due to the economic crisis," said Dr. Rita Hudson Shourds, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana. "By offering additional support through the Community Relief Fund, we hope non-profit organizations will be better able to address their growing requests for services."

Applications will be accepted beginning today and will be considered throughout 2009 as funds are available. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application within 15 days of receipt of the application, and funds are expected to be used within 90 days of receipt.

"For our foundations, this is the best way we could provide immediate relief to those who are suffering," said Mark Seabrook, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Horseshoe Foundation of Floyd County. "The expedited process will get the funds to the organizations that need it quickly so that it can be put to good use."

In addition to the money contributed by the foundations, additional donations by businesses, individuals and others will be gladly accepted for the Community Relief Fund. Donations can be made through the Community Foundation's secure web site, www.cfsouthernindiana.com, under how to make a gift, or by mail addressed to the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana.

"There are great needs right here among us," said Kent Lanum, Executive Director of the Paul W. Ogle Foundation Inc. "As a foundation, we're happy to be able to help in a time like this when these funds can make a huge difference in the lives of people in our community."

Individuals who need direct assistance can call 211, the Metro United Way social services information help line which guides callers to organizations that can help them meet their needs, including food pantries and other forms of assistance.

For more information about the Community Relief Fund, call the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana at (812) 948-4662.

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This release was sent to you by Robyn Davis Sekula, working on behalf of the Community Foundation of Southern Indiana. If you have trouble with receiving it or need a copy of our logo, call Robyn at (812) 981-8223 (home) or (502) 608-6125 (cell) for assistance.