KEY FACTS ON COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

September 2007

OUTLOOK FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GIVING

Community foundations account for 1 percent of all U.S. grantmaking foundations but almost 9 percent of giving. In 2006, their estimated giving rose 13.2 percent to a record \$3.6 billion—surpassing independent and corporate foundations but falling below the estimated increase for operating foundations. Contributing to the faster growth in community foundation giving has been strong asset growth, new gifts and bequests from donors, and exceptional disbursements from donor-advised funds. Community foundations have benefited from three consecutive years of double-digit growth in assets, while the assets of independent and corporate foundations have risen annually at single-digit rates. Relative to other types of foundations, community foundations benefit from having a broad pool of individual donors who can respond quickly to economic upturns and also balance out those that have reduced giving. Donor-advised funds maintained by community foundations may also be seen as a less costly and time-consuming alternative to setting up an independent foundation. The funds can also provide the means for donors with multiple philanthropic vehicles and giving priorities to more easily segment their giving.

Looking ahead, three-fifths (60 percent) of community foundations responding to the Foundation Center's annual forecasting survey expected to increase their giving in 2007.¹ Most of these funders anticipated giving increases in the 1 to 5 percent and 5 to 10 percent ranges. Yet this potentially positive finding was tempered by the 29 percent of community foundation respondents that expected to reduce their giving in 2007.

Three out of five surveyed community foundations expected to increase giving in 2007; nearly three-tenths anticipated reductions

Note: A total of 832 foundations responded to this question.

1. For more details see S. Lawrence, A. Austin, and R. Mukai, *Foundation Growth and Giving Estimates: Current Outlook*, The Foundation Center, New York, NY, 2007.

Inflation-adjusted community foundation giving has increased nearly fivefold since 1990

Note: Figures estimated for 2006.

After inflation, community foundations reported fastest cumulative growth in giving since 1990

Note: Figures estimated for 2006.

¹Percent change in constant 1990 dollars based on annual average Consumer Price Index, all urban consumers (Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of February 2007).

Since 1990, community foundations have increased their overall share of foundation giving

Note: Based on total giving by 71,095 grantmaking private and community foundations. Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100.

SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Change in Community Foundations, 1990 to 2005

	1990	2005	% Change	
			Current	Constant ¹
No. of Foundations	328	707	115.5	
Total Giving	\$495,886	\$3,217,048	548.7	334.2
Total Assets	\$6,622,440	\$44,583,970	573.2	350.5
Gifts Received	\$609,391	\$5,586,604	816.8	513.5

Note: Dollars in thousands.

¹Percent change in constant 1990 dollars based on annual average Consumer Price Index, all urban consumers (Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of February 2007).

Community foundation giving represented close to one-tenth of total foundation giving in 2005

Note: Based on total giving by 71,095 grantmaking private and community foundations.

Half of community foundations reported less than \$10 million in assets in 2005

Percent of Number of Foundations

Note: Based on 707 grantmaking community foundations.

More than three-fifths of community foundations reported less than \$1 million in giving in 2005

Percent of Number of Foundations

Note: Based on total giving by 707 grantmaking community foundations.

The Midwest accounted for close to half of community foundations in 2005

Note: Giving includes grants, scholarships, and employee matching gifts; excludes set-asides, loans, PRLs, and program expenses.

¹Number of community foundations includes one foundation located in Puerto Rico and one in the Virgin Islands.

Community Foundations by State, 2005

¹Number of community foundations includes one foundation located in Puerto Rico and one in the Virgin Islands.

Top 25 Community Foundations by Total Giving, 2005

Foundation	State	Total Giving ¹	Assets	Gifts Received	Fiscal Date
1. Greater Kansas City Community Foundation	MO	\$140,702,000	\$1,013,035,000	\$157,300,000	12/31/2005
2. New York Community Trust	NY	\$136,970,963	1,897,604,374	126,518,677	12/31/2005
3. Greater Houston Community Foundation	TX	\$109,144,475	199,126,686	152,970,092	12/31/2005
4. Peninsula Community Foundation ²	CA	\$92,331,777	614,336,446	63,219,720	12/31/2005
5. California Community Foundation	CA	\$91,367,805	1,152,601,808	466,617,193	6/30/2006
6. Community Foundation for the National Capital Region	DC	\$91,235,382	346,982,198	80,688,350	3/31/2006
7. Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta	GA	\$89,391,237	638,817,268	105,617,249	6/30/2006
8. Chicago Community Trust	IL	\$75,988,536	1,503,994,247	81,325,064	9/30/2005
9. Community Foundation Silicon Valley ²	CA	\$75,366,593	760,821,244	140,184,428	6/30/2005
10. San Francisco Foundation	CA	\$68,100,000	883,443,000	70,888,000	6/30/2006
11. Cleveland Foundation	OH	\$66,421,855	1,716,136,165	29,029,674	12/31/2005
12. Columbus Foundation and Affiliated Organizations	OH	\$65,626,215	850,089,853	67,974,224	12/31/2005
13. Boston Foundation	MA	\$63,914,314	769,807,869	73,560,736	6/30/2006
14. Communities Foundation of Texas	TX	\$59,931,000	699,873,000	73,397,000	6/30/2006
15. Foundation for The Carolinas	NC	\$59,551,103	424,272,918	64,829,466	12/31/2005
16. Omaha Community Foundation	NE	\$53,598,735	393,005,266	53,617,510	12/31/2005
17. Marin Community Foundation	CA	\$51,649,386	1,125,930,427	40,303,555	6/30/2006
18. Baltimore Community Foundation	MD	\$46,272,563	166,036,468	19,475,619	12/31/2005
19. Seattle Foundation	WA	\$45,948,620	473,444,919	60,596,389	12/31/2005
20. San Diego Foundation	CA	\$43,516,000	484,163,000	37,005,000	6/30/2006
21. Oregon Community Foundation	OR	\$40,478,757	850,034,138	74,255,623	12/31/2005
22. Minneapolis Foundation	MN	\$37,154,937	654,649,964	21,777,780	3/31/2006
23. Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee	TN	\$35,063,130	368,437,097	44,710,301	12/31/2005
24. Saint Paul Foundation	MN	\$34,675,706	617,910,511	24,925,219	12/31/2005
25. Dayton Foundation	OH	\$33,858,562	298,963,813	61,275,205	6/30/2006

¹Includes grants, scholarships, and employee matching gifts; excludes set-asides, loans, PRLs, and program expenses.

²In 2006, the Peninsula Community Foundation and the Community Foundation Silicon Valley merged to become the Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

Education and human services were the top priorities of community foundations in 2005

Note: Based on a sample of 88 larger community foundations.

¹Includes Civil Rights and Social Action, Community Improvement and Development, Philanthropy and Voluntarism, and Public Affairs.

²Includes 0.5 percent of community foundation grant dollars awarded for the social sciences.

Community foundations provided larger shares of their funding for human services, the arts, and religion than other foundations in 2005

Note: Based on a sample of 1,154 larger foundations, including 88 community foundations.

¹Includes Civil Rights and Social Action, Community Improvement and Development, Philanthropy and Voluntarism, and Public Affairs.

Community foundations allocated a larger share of their grant dollars for operating support than did foundations overall in 2005

Note: Based on a sample of 1,154 larger foundations, including 88 community foundations. Approximately 26 percent of community foundation grant dollars could not be identified by type of support.

¹Includes endowment funds.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GIVING PATTERNS, 2005

The larger community foundations included in the Foundation Center's 2005 grants sample² were more likely than independent and corporate foundations to provide funding for human services, the arts, and religion. Much of the larger share of support for human services reflected giving for multipurpose programs, which include a broad range of services to individuals and families. By target population group, community foundation giving primarily benefited the economically disadvantaged and children and youth—consistent with independent and corporate foundations. Nonetheless, community foundations gave proportionately more than foundations overall for people with disabilities, the aging, crime or abuse victims, and substance abusers.

2. The Foundation Center's 2005 grants sample database includes all of the grants of \$10,000 or more awarded by 1,154 of the largest U.S. foundations, including 88 community foundations. The overall sample accounted for roughly half of grant dollars awarded by the nation's more than 71,000 grantmaking foundations.

Community foundations prioritized giving for children and youth and the economically disadvantaged in 2005

Note: Based on a sample of 1,154 larger foundations, including 88 community foundations. Chart includes selected beneficiary groups representing at least 1 percent of community foundation grant dollars. Figures represent only grants awarded to groups that could be identified as serving specific populations or grants whose descriptions specified a benefit for a specific population. These figures do not reflect all giving benefiting these groups. In addition, grants may benefit multiple population groups, e.g., a grant for homeless children, and would therefore be counted more than once.

Source for all data: The Foundation Center

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