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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**  
**February 14, 2011**

### **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION TO AWARD OVER \$15,000 IN GRANTS TO NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS**

Rockford, IL – The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois will award \$15,523 in grants to area Neighborhood Organizations on **Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 5:30 pm.**

**The presentation will take place at a Neighborhood Reception at the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois at 946 N. Second Street, Rockford. Interviews with neighborhood residents and Community Foundation staff will be available.**

*See attached document for a complete list of neighborhood grants.*

The Neighborhood Grants Program is an endowed program of the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois. Since the program's inception in 1995, more than \$470,000 has been awarded to neighborhood based groups and organizations working to improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods.

The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois serves as the area's leading non-profit provider of grants and scholarships, managing assets of \$50 million. The Community Foundation is currently working with community leadership, including the Rockford Area Economic Development Council, to raise \$1 million in pledges for the Rock the Air Scholarship campaign, an initiative aimed at convincing Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University to locate its 3<sup>rd</sup> residential campus in Rockford.

**END**

**Community Foundation of Northern Illinois – Neighborhood Grants Program 2011  
Total \$15,523 (Information supplied from CFNIL grant applications.)**

**5th Ward Neighborhood Watch Association**

5th Ward Neighborhood Watch Association Collaborative Strategic Community Agenda

**GIVE A ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

To establish goals and objectives in the 5th Ward that will motivate citizens to participate in 5th Ward affairs and work as a team in harmony, thereby, improving the conditions for the citizens of the 5th Ward. To make specific recommendations on the course of action required to meet the neighborhood's goals.

**\$756.00**

**Alpine Ridge Neighborhood Association**

Gateway signage

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

The Alpine Ridge Neighborhood Association wants to create and install signage at the neighborhood entrance on Eastridge and Alpine Roads. Four picturesque signs will be mounted on the existing rock walls at the entrance and the neighborhood association name will be mounted on the top of the longest wall which runs along Alpine Road.

**\$1,400.00**

**Calvin Park Boulevard Association**

South Calvin Park Boulevard

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

South Calvin Park Boulevard's land is a triangular median requiring beautification. This property, owned by the city, would be created to mimic North Calvin Park Boulevard's perennial garden on State and Calvin Park. The city removed three overgrown 30' bushes obstructing views to cross from North Calvin to South Calvin in June 2010. It was suggested that if Calvin Park creates a plan, supplies or purchases the materials, the city will allow a planting to beautify this highly visible area.

**\$1,500.00**

**Churchill's Grove, Inc.**

Mulching the Blvd. Trees and creating sustainable endcap gardens

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

Mulch all the trees along Harlem Blvd. with 2 inches of hardwood mulch.  
Mulch the berm at Harlem and John St. Mulch the Camp/Douglas Triangle  
Create 2 sustainable prairie-drought tolerant gardens in the endcaps in the 1500 block of Harlem Blvd.

**\$800.00**

**Haight Village National Register Historic District**

Lamp-post Brackets and Banners

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

Haight Village and the Rockford Historical Society are working together in preparation for a celebration of the 170th anniversary of the 1st Winnebago County Fair and Cattle Show. Through the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois Neighborhood Grants Program, Haight Village will be dressing up the neighborhood with street-corner banners to publicize the upcoming event. The event to be held on October 15, 2011 will be a collaboration of Winnebago County historic organizations to celebrate Rockford area history. After the event the promotional banners will be replaced with banners designating Haight Village and Erlander Museum throughout the year.

**\$2,393.00**

**Natural Land Institute**

Friends of Madigan Creek, Watershed Rehabilitation Project

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

Friends of Madigan Creek (FMC) will enable residents and businesses in the Madigan Creek watershed to share their observations about storm water and creek conditions in their neighborhoods, and to learn best management practices to protect stream banks, reduce flood damages and improve the quality of the water as it enters the Kishwaukee River.

**\$2,000.00**

**North End Square Neighborhood Association**

Beautification of Huffman Boulevard

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

Since 1998 the North End Square Neighborhood Association has established a team of resident gardeners who have planted and tended to flower beds on the end caps on the boulevard from Auburn to Fulton, the southern and northern boundaries of the neighborhood group. These eighteen plots contain a showy mixture of annuals and perennials that brighten our neighborhood and give a great first impression to people travelling one of the gateways to the north side and downtown. Neighbors planning their own displays and working together from April through November experience a real sense of community. Overall, this project has brought us, our neighbors and area residents, a great sense of satisfaction. We like to think this can be interpreted by others as neighborhood that cares, and by extension a city that cares

**\$870.00**

**North Highland Square Neighborhood Association**

Beautiful Thoroughfare

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

We will be coming together to beautify our neighborhood by planting shrubs and perennials around our new neighborhood sign and enhancing Welty Ave through the use of containers on several corners to create charm.

**\$1,980.00**

**Rockford Historical Society**

"Where Rockford Began" The 170th Anniversary of the first County Fair and Cattle Show in Northern Illinois.

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

"Where Rockford Began". Come and celebrate with us the 170th Anniversary of the first County Fair and Cattle Show in Northern Illinois. This event will take place on October 15, 2011, 10am-3pm at Ingersoll Centennial park in Haight Village. Admission is free and open to the public. Hosted by the Rockford Historical Society and Haight Village Historic District. For information call (815) 399-7807

**\$837.00**

**Rockford Neighborhood Network**

Regional Community Leadership Training Institute

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

The Regional Community Leadership Training Institute seeks to train and inspire local, grass-roots leaders who want to make positive changes in their neighborhoods and their communities.

**\$2,500.00**

**Rolling Green Association**

"PLANT THE PARKWAY-PHASE II"

**ONE PARAGRAPH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

Needed: Volunteers to plant and maintain the Eastgate Parkway Garden Entrance to Rolling Green Neighborhood.

**\$487.00**