

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Grants Awarded by the Faye McBeath Foundation**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin – October 2009**...At the fall 2009 meeting, the Faye McBeath Foundation Trustees awarded 11 grants totaling \$250,000, announced Sara E. Aster, Chair. Grants support projects in the Foundation's 5 priority areas: children, aging and elders, health, health education, and civic and governmental affairs. Highlighted awards demonstrate the breadth of the Foundation's interests and varied strategies to improve the welfare of children:

- ☞ Support for a Drop-in Center for homeless youth or those in crisis can get something to eat, a chance to shower, do laundry or seek specific support services at **Pathfinders**;
- ☞ A performance evaluation of Project Lead the Way will track short and long-term benefits of this nationally recognized, evidence-based instructional program being offered at several **Milwaukee Public Schools**;
- ☞ Funding for a hands-on, outdoor Natural Playground at **Riveredge Nature Center** will give children an area to explore and experience nature in an open-ended manner;
- ☞ Support for the Family Focus Program at the **Betty Brinn Children's Museum** will encourage families and children to experience exhibits and programs.

Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

**ABLE, Inc, Milwaukee, WI** - \$20,000 for the Library Services Committee project to expand information, referral and use of services that assist the blind and visually impaired residents of the Greater Milwaukee area. This is a joint initiative of 5 organizations.

**Alzheimer's Association of Southeastern WI, Milwaukee, WI** - \$20,000 will support new office and community resource space, specifically to assist in the creation of an expanded resource center for caregivers and families.

**Aurora Sinai Medical Center, Milwaukee, WI** - \$45,000 for improvement of access to health services for the uninsured in conjunction with Bread of Healing Clinic, including a cooperative effort to share medications, an evaluation of their care and support for renovation of a patient care space.

**Betty Brinn Children's Museum, Milwaukee, WI** - \$10,000 for Family Focus, a project that extends the museum's resources to central city families and children, in cooperation with area nonprofit organizations.

**Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Milwaukee, WI** - \$25,000 over two years for the Nonprofit Management Fund - to support the BoardStar project with its mission to increase the involvement and capability of the Boards of nonprofit organizations in the greater Milwaukee area.

**Milwaukee Public Schools Foundation, Inc., Milwaukee, WI** - \$20,000 for a third-party evaluation of an expansion of Project Lead the Way, a very promising initiative to engage and improve teaching and learning in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) subjects in MPS middle and high schools.

**Milwaukee Riverkeeper, Milwaukee, WI** - \$10,000 for Water Advocacy Institute for Seniors, which trains older adult volunteers in water quality.

**Neighborhood House of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI** - \$25,000 for the International Learning Center serving refugee and immigrant families from several ethnic communities.

**Pathfinders, Milwaukee, WI** - \$35,000 for a Drop-In Center for Homeless and Exploited Youth, to help support renovation and service delivery.

**Rebuilding Together Greater Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI** - \$35,000 for Emergency Home Repair, targeting older homeowners in Milwaukee.

**Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg, WI** - \$5,000 for a Natural Playground for this Washington County nature education center.

The Foundation's Trustees meet four times each year to consider applications and award grants. Additional information on the Foundation is available through contacting staff or consulting [www.fayemcbeath.org](http://www.fayemcbeath.org), the Foundation's web site. The **2008 Annual Report** has been posted to the Foundation website. We now "print on demand" - if you would like a copy, please contact the Foundation.

Like many others, the Faye McBeath Foundation has been affected by recent economic events. We have fewer dollars available - in calendar 2008, the Foundation awarded just over \$1.5 million in grants; in 2009 the amount available is under \$1.1 million. Our dedication to our mission, guidelines and review criteria is heightened and our decisions reflect our reduced resources. We strive to support projects that best match our guidelines, review criteria and vision to improve the community.

The Foundation relocated in 2009 and is housed, along with Greater Milwaukee Foundation, at 101 West Pleasant Street, Suite 210 in Milwaukee, WI 53212. Phone, fax, email and internet contact information remain the same.

Niece of Lucius Nieman, the founder of *The Milwaukee Journal*, Faye McBeath established the Foundation in 1964 to be devoted entirely to the welfare of the people in the community. The Foundation has awarded in excess of **\$41 million** to nonprofit organizations, principally in the four-county metro Milwaukee area. By 2014, the Foundation will have dispersed all of its assets, as directed by Miss McBeath.