

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grants Awarded by the Faye McBeath Foundation

Milwaukee, Wisconsin – March 2011. At their first meeting of 2011, the Faye McBeath Foundation Trustees awarded grants totaling \$300,000 announced Sara E. Aster, Chair. Highlighted awards demonstrate the breadth of the Foundation's interests in the welfare of children and illustrate strategies to improve the scope and quality of educational opportunities for young people:

- ☞ A grant was awarded to the **Hmong American Peace Academy**, a promising MPS Charter school, to provide students with "educational backpacks" to extend their school day to afterschool or home settings in an effort to extend learning for a student body that currently does not have a functional library or media center;
- ☞ Funds were awarded to the **Milwaukee Public Library Foundation** for the Library's summer reading program – included are a substantially enhanced program that has a stronger emphasis on family and community participation, in an effort to increase summer reading and reduce the loss of reading skills over the summer;
- ☞ Support was provided to **St. Marcus School** as we join other funders in assisting the College Prep Center to expand their computer lab and enhance its impact on students by improving grades to help graduates achieve success in high school.

Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

Alverno College, Milwaukee, WI – \$5,000 for the Bonnie B. Cleary Memorial Endowed Scholarship. This gift is in memory of Foundation co-founder Catherine Cleary.

Badger Association of the Blind, Milwaukee, WI - \$50,000 for the Vision Campaign that expands facilities, services and the reach of the newly-expanded organization.

Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Milwaukee, WI - \$60,000 for the Nonprofit Management Fund of Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Washington Counties. This fund, now in its 17th year, is a partnership involving over a dozen private funding partners, ranging from Bradley Foundation to United Way of Greater Milwaukee.

Hmong American Peace Academy, Milwaukee, WI - \$25,000 for Transition Academic Support project as described above.

House of Peace, Milwaukee, WI - \$15,000 for Healthy Food Distribution project to test and refine the idea of distributing healthier food to those whose health challenges limit their diet.

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI - \$15,000 for the Institute for the Transformation of Learning for the Summer Reading Project. This effort, in its second year shows promise to both help 3rd and 4th graders learn to read, but also to demonstrate techniques that could possibly be used in other settings.

Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, Milwaukee, WI - \$35,000 for a further enhancement of the Milwaukee Public Library's Summer Reading program, Milwaukee's only citywide summer reading initiative.

Planning Council for Health & Human Services, Milwaukee, WI - \$30,000 to evaluate the MPS -Youth Agency Mental Health Partnership that will expand community and family services in 3 Milwaukee Public Schools.

St. Marcus School, Milwaukee, WI - \$50,000 for the College Prep Center, including both program support and funds to build a computer lab in the expanded school campus.

Wisconsin Center for Nursing, Inc., Milwaukee, WI - \$15,000 for capacity-building support for state implementation of the Institute on Medicine Report and possible WI formation of a Regional Action Coalition.

The Foundation also updated its guidelines, elected officers and took steps to reduce administrative expenses. Officers for 2011 remain the same as last year and are: Sara E. Aster, Chair; P. Michael Mahoney, Vice Chair and Mary T. Kellner, Secretary.

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, the Foundation's website. The Foundation's 2011 funding guidelines, a catalog of grant announcements, and the 2010 annual report (available online in April) are also maintained on the site.

Niece of Lucius Nieman, the founder of *The Milwaukee Journal*, Miss Faye McBeath established the Foundation in 1964 to be devoted entirely to the welfare of the people in the community. The Foundation has awarded nearly \$44 million to nonprofit organizations, principally in the four-county metro Milwaukee area. By December 31, 2014, the Foundation will have dispersed all of its assets, as directed by Miss McBeath.

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