

Media Announcement For Immediate Release

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TITLE: 2011 Spirit of Philanthropy Awards Presented

WV Grantmakers recognizes outstanding volunteers, staff, and communities that inspire philanthropy

The West Virginia Grantmakers is pleased to announce its 2011 honorees for their Spirit of Philanthropy Awards Program.

The Spirit of Philanthropy awards program was initiated in 2007 to honor outstanding volunteers, staff members, and critical impact programs that truly strengthen philanthropy in the Mountain State.

“Everyday hundreds of people in WV volunteer their talents to make our state a wonderful place to live. This year’s Spirit of Philanthropy winners are stellar examples of those people who strive to meet the needs of others as they promote charitable giving in their communities,” shares Kim Barber Tieman, chair of the WV Grantmakers’ review committee and a program officer with the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation.

The awards recognize people, corporations, and foundations from all walks of life who inspire and contribute through their own philanthropic giving and grantmaking across West Virginia. The nominations process is initiated in the late spring each that invites the public to nominate examples or great leadership in the generosity.

The WV Grantmakers presents three Spirit of Philanthropy awards which includes: Volunteer Leadership, Staff Leadership, and Critical Impact.

The 2011 honorees include:

Volunteer Leadership:

Mrs. Arlene Kuryla of Ripley, WV. A founding member of the Jackson County Community Foundation which is an affiliate of the Parkersburg Area Community Foundation also known as Our Community’s Foundation.

Staff Leadership:

Mrs. Mary Witten Wiseman of Huntington, WV. Mary Witten has served for 18 years as the President of the Foundation for the Tri-State Community based in Huntington, WV and Ashland, KY. Mary Witten has been a self-less leader in building their region’s community foundation and especially a strong legacy for their future.

Critical Impact:

The Tucker Community Foundation was honored for their unique grantmaking project called Run for It. Receiving the award on behalf of the Tucker Community Foundation was Development Director Diane Hinkle and Board Member Mariwyn Smith. The Tucker Community Foundation

“We are thrilled to recognize these amazing individuals who exemplify philanthropy and inspire others through their generosity and the impact they are having in their community,” says Paul Daugherty, President of the WV Grantmakers.

The WV Grantmakers is the state association of private, family, corporate, and community foundations which is committed to its mission of Strengthening Philanthropy in the Mountain State. WV Grantmakers is one of 35 regional associations in the country. For more information about the WV Grantmakers or to nominate someone for the 2012 awards program, visit www.wvgrantmakers.org or cal 304.517.1450.