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**D.C. Region Funders Announce \$300,000 Funding Pool and Networking Opportunities for Prince George's County Nonprofits**

LANDOVER, MD – Washington Grantmakers and the Prince George's Community Foundation announce the public launch of the "Partnership for Prince George's County" – the county's first true alliance of funders, nonprofits, government and religious organizations. The launch event will take place on **Jan. 30, 2008**, at **8:30 a.m.** at the Tree Tops Atrium, 8181 Professional Place, Landover, Maryland.

Speakers will include: David Harrington, *County Council Chair*; Tamara Lucas Copeland, *President – Washington Grantmakers*; Artis Hampshire Cowan, *Board President – Prince George's Community Foundation*; Desiree Griffin Moore, *Executive Director – Prince George's Community Foundation*; and, E. Kim Rhim, *Executive Director - The Training Source, Inc.*

The Partnership is comprised of a network of community stakeholders and a funding collaborative charged with building the capacity of the nonprofit community in the County. In 2008, the funding collaborative expects to award \$300,000 in grants, with grant sizes ranging from \$2,500 to \$50,000. The grants will strengthen the ability of nonprofits to achieve greater performance and impact both individually and collectively in the County.

The Partnership is the product of a series of Washington Grantmakers forums that identified a number of worrisome trends in the County, including that: community needs throughout the County outpace nonprofit ability to meet them; the nonprofit sector is largely absent from discussion about how public dollars are spent; County nonprofits raise less than 13% of their income from private foundations, the lowest in suburban Maryland; and, County nonprofits have too few connective advocacy agencies to raise their visibility and drive a shared social agenda.

"The Partnership is an example of what can happen when funders come together and work collaboratively with the community," says Tamara Lucas Copeland, President of Washington Grantmakers. "By bringing stakeholders together in an honest dialogue, we were able to create a shared vision for a vibrant nonprofit sector in Prince George's County."

Founding members of the funding collaborative include: Consumer Health Foundation; Councilmember David Harrington; Corina Higginson Trust; Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation; Kaiser Permanente; Philip L. Graham Fund; Prince Charitable Trusts; Prince George's Community Foundation; The Schimel Lode; Wachovia; and the Washington AIDS Partnership.

For more information, contactCarolynn Mambu at (202) 939-3433, or visit <http://partnershippgc.org/>.

MORE

**About:**

*Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers* is a network of funders, partnering with nonprofits and governments, that is committed to improving the region by touching lives and changing communities through effective and efficient grantmaking.

*The Prince George's Community Foundation*, a regional affiliate of the Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, supports nonprofit organizations and the nonprofit sector in growing Prince George's County. Among other projects, The Foundation houses and administers the National Harbor Community Outreach Fund.

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