
IN BRIEF

Grant to be used to keep kids in school

Financial services firm JP Morgan Chase recently awarded \$100,000 to the Inland Northwest Community Foundation to be used to address the area's high school dropout rate.

The grant will be passed from the foundation to Priority Spokane, a group that has identified raising the high school graduation rate as a priority, said Mark Hurtubise, foundation president and CEO. It's the first grant to the Priority Spokane effort from a for-profit organization, he said.

Priority Spokane intends to address the graduation rate by focusing on middle school; a study done by Gonzaga University for the group suggests that identifying potential dropouts there and offering more support could help students stay in school in later years.

"The work of INWCF and Priority Spokane is exactly what needs to happen to create transformations in education," Cree Zischke, vice president of the JP Morgan Chase Foundation, said in a news release Tuesday.

Staff reports