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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Donor's \$1 Million Legacy Will Benefit Local Nonprofits**

SPOKANE, WA, *1.18.2012*— Inland Northwest Community Foundation (INWCF) is pleased to announce a new \$1 million fund that will benefit nonprofit organizations in Spokane and throughout INWCF's 20-county region. The James W. & Betty E. Crow Endowment Fund was established at INWCF with a \$1,016,277 gift from the estate of long-time Spokane resident James Crow, who died June 9, 2011 at the age of 95. The annual distribution from this fund will benefit three Spokane nonprofits in perpetuity: Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery, Spokane Guilds' School and Neuromuscular Center and Inland Northwest Community Foundation for its discretionary grants program.

James Crow was born and raised in Gooding, Idaho. After returning from World War II in 1945 with a Purple Heart, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the Mediterranean Theater Ribbon with six battle stars, James and his wife Betty settled in Spokane. Crow was the inventor of a seed separating machine which he put to profitable use in his seed processing business, Crow and Company.

"Mr. Crow was a remarkable individual who touched many lives as an inventor, a businessman, a husband and a war hero," says Mark Hurtubise, President & CEO of INWCF. "It is an honor and a privilege for all of us at INWCF to be entrusted with the proceeds of his lifework and to carry out his philanthropic legacy long into the future."

Founded in 1974, INWCF serves 10 Eastern Washington counties and 10 North Idaho counties to foster vibrant and sustainable communities in the Inland Northwest. The community foundation currently manages 320 funds valued at more than \$67 million and has awarded \$40 million in grants and scholarships since its inception, positively impacting thousands of lives in this region.

For more information on INWCF and its work in Eastern Washington and North Idaho, contact Molly Sanchez, Director of Community Engagement, at 509-624-2606.

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