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Community Foundation Recognizes Board Emeriti

SPOKANE, WA, October 26, 2009 – In order to honor all community leaders who served on the Board of Directors of the community foundation since its inception in 1974, Inland Northwest Community Foundation (INWCF) will begin to officially recognize Board and Chairmen Emeriti and has launched a campaign to celebrate 35 years of community leadership. Beginning in December 2009, the names will appear on INWCF's Web site, in the INWCF fiscal year 2010 annual report, as well as in special promotional materials.

Criteria for the community foundation's Honorary Directors were first defined in 1992 to include past Board Chairmen (or Presidents as they were called prior to 1992) and extraordinary donors. Those donors included: Neal Fosseen (former Spokane Mayor); Mary C. Heath (who also served as Board President in 1975-1976); Robert Neill (who established several endowed funds to benefit the public library and citizens of Pullman); Gerald Lawson (who donated a significant piece of real estate to develop Lawson Gardens in Pullman); Helen Hazen Rymond (who also served as a Board member in 1992); and Sam and Betty Leuthold (who transferred their private foundation to provide an unrestricted benefit to the region). No new names had been added to the list since 2004.

A review of past Board minutes and annual reports generated a total of more than 100 Directors to be recognized. "These community leaders have made it possible for the Foundation to benefit thousands of people in our region. They awarded more than \$37 million in grants during 35 years of service," says INWCF President & CEO Mark Hurtubise.

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 manages more than 265 funds valued at \$50 million and has awarded \$37 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 the Inland Northwest, contact Director of Gift Planning PJ Watters or Marketing & Communications Associate Sarah Bain at 509-624-2606.