

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### *Community Foundation Awards Over \$220,000*

**Greencastle, IN – December 4, 2009** – An early morning crowd celebrated the Putnam County Community Foundation’s 2009 fall grant awards at the Area 30 Career Center, where it was announced that more than \$220,000 was awarded from the Community Foundation’s unrestricted endowments in 2009. More than \$57,000 was awarded this fall to new grantees. Elaine Peck, Executive Director, thanked Old National Bank for sponsoring the event and recognized individuals and organizations who have given unrestricted gifts to the Community Foundation, making these grants possible. “Without individuals and organizations such as Dave and Lynn Bohmer, Art Evans, the Lyon Family, Howard Moore, and Old National, the Community Foundation would not be able to have the impact in the community that it does today.” Phyllis Rokicki, Chair of the Community Foundation’s grants committee also thanked donors to the unrestricted endowment, noting that due to their generosity, the Community Foundation has awarded more than \$1.8 million in unrestricted grants since inception.

Each year the Community Foundation awards grants in the spring and fall for charitable projects that improve the lives of Putnam County citizens. Three different types of grants are awarded: Community Grants, Endowment Builder Grants and Youth Philanthropy Grants. Each has its own application and requirements.

The fall 2009 Community Grants recipients are:

\$10,000	Area 10 Agency, Rural Transportation Program	To match federal grants and enable the purchase of a new Rural Transit bus that will be exclusively for the Putnam County fleet.
\$500	Central Elementary Book-It Club	Purchase books for the students in the club at Central Elementary to increase their exposure to reading and academic materials. This grant was made possible by the Dr. Robert Farber Endowment for Education.
\$1,000	Habitat for Humanity of Putnam County	To purchase materials for their next home project in Bainbridge.
\$3,000	Hope Haven Horse Farm	To provide scholarships to mentally and physically challenged students in Putnam County for therapeutic riding lessons.
\$5,000	Knoy Resource Center	To support the programs of the Knoy Resource Center that increase educational attainment in Putnam County.
\$150	Mental Health America of Putnam County	To support the “bully proof your child” program.

\$1,000	Putnam County Museum	To publish the book entitled, "Peeler Pottery: How Appealing." The Museum will be selling this book to raise money for their programs and feature the Peelers, two prominent local artists.
\$1,000	Return-A-Gift	To purchase holiday gifts for underprivileged children in Putnam County.
\$1,500	St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Non-food Pantry	To purchase non-food items for monthly distribution to needy families. This grant was made possible by the Putnam County Relief Fund, which was established by an anonymous donor to support urgent human relief allow the community to respond to tragedy and economic or community strife. The donor is currently matching gifts to this fund.

Endowment Builder grants totaled \$33,116.39. These awards match contributions to a charity's endowment, where the Community Foundation contributes one dollar for every two dollars contributed by the public. That means that this fall's grants created the potential for nearly \$100,000 in endowment for these recipient organizations. Eligible organizations include any 501(c)(3) non-profit, church or unit of government. An endowment is an important part of a diversified funding stream necessary for a charitable organization's long-term success.

The fall 2009 Endowment Builder Grant recipients are:

Fillmore Christian Church	\$15,616.39
Greencastle High School Band	\$3,000
Greencastle Rotary for the Putnam County 4-H Fairgrounds	\$4,000
Hope Haven Horse Farm	\$4,000
Putnam County Comprehensive Services	\$5,000
Putnam County Soil and Water Conservation District	\$3,000

Youth Philanthropy Grants awarded totaled \$1,000.00. These grants are for youth-led community service projects. The fall 2009 Youth Philanthropy Grant recipient is:

\$1,000.00	St. Andrew's Church Non-Food Pantry	For the Youth Philanthropy Committee to purchase items for the pantry from local retailers and then participate in a service project sorting and bagging items, so the organization can be ready on their distribution day.
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*The Putnam County Community Foundation is a nonprofit public charity established in 1985 to administer funds, award grants and provide leadership, enriching the quality of life and strengthening community in Putnam County. The Community Foundation administers nearly*

*200 funds for donors supporting a variety of charitable causes. For more information about the Community Foundation grants programs or to inquire about a grant application, please contact Eric Wolfe at 765-653-4978 or visit [www.pcfoundation.org](http://www.pcfoundation.org).*

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