



**For Immediate Release**

October 7, 2009

***\$428,000 IN GRANTS AWARDED BY CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION***

**Phoenix, AZ**— Attended by over 200 principals, pastors, grant writers, agency representatives and Foundation volunteers. *Partners in Community – Working Hand in Hand* was the theme for the October 6, 2009 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Grants Luncheon, held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. An event marked by spirited optimism, the Catholic Community Foundation (CCF) presented 72 awards totaling \$428,000.

“The Foundations mission is to carry on the work of Christ by fostering philanthropy”, explains Maureen Adams, Chairman of the Foundations volunteer grant committee. “Funding important charitable works in our diocese is one of the ways we continue to work tirelessly in support of this mission.” As part of its on-going commitment to good stewardship, the CCF personally recognized its recipients for their work by handing out checks at the reception which were presented to Catholic schools for tuition assistance, parishes for Christian formation and other Catholic agencies in support of communications and work among the poor.

This year, 32 Catholic schools were awarded a total of \$255,000 for tuition assistance for needy students. That’s an increase of nearly \$30,000 over last year’s grants. Cumulatively, since the year 2000, the foundation has awarded \$4.2 million through this program.

With the exception of Work among the Poor, grants are competitive and awarded after careful review of individual applications. In a year of economic upheaval, Foundation assistance was in great demand.

Applications for 2010 grants are available online and are due November 15, 2009.

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The Catholic Community Foundation is an independent, non-profit charitable organization that supports the religious, educational and philanthropic objectives of the Diocese of Phoenix. Founded in 1983, the Foundation provides an invaluable opportunity for individuals, families and organizations to leave a legacy of giving to support future need in perpetuity. The Foundation currently manages endowment funds for 150 agencies, including 70 parishes and 41 schools, and promotes charitable giving by Catholic families through family funds, special events and special projects. **For more on the Catholic Community Foundation, visit [www.ccfphx.org](http://www.ccfphx.org).**

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