

Grants of \$55,905 Support Summer Opportunities for Children across Western North Carolina

(June 10, 2010) — With the end of the school year upon us, children are looking forward to summer and enriching experiences made possible through Summertime Kids grants from The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina. These grants will enable hundreds of children to participate in programs ranging from summer art and craft camps at Penland School of Crafts in Mitchell County to the summer reading program at the Polk County Public Library.

A total of \$55,905 in grants has been awarded to 31 nonprofit organizations or public agencies that serve less fortunate children living in the 18-county mountain region. Specifically, the program targets low-income children, children living in remote or rural areas, children with disabilities or children who have suffered from neglect or abuse. An entire list of grants by county is attached.

The funding decisions were made with the assistance of young philanthropists, ages 13 to 17, who worked with The Community Foundation staff to learn how to make effective grants. The teens read and evaluated grant proposals and made funding recommendations.

“Summer is a time when memories are made, interests are ignited, imaginations catch fire and possibilities often seem endless. These grants help make experiences possible for children who otherwise might not have a chance to participate in some of the wonderful opportunities nonprofits bring to our communities,” said Elizabeth Brazas, president of The Community Foundation. “We believe that every child should look forward to the summer, no matter what their financial situation or physical abilities.”

The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina promotes and expands regional philanthropy and develops funds that address changing needs and opportunities in the 18 counties of Western North Carolina. CFWNC has awarded more than \$100 million in grants to nonprofit organizations and public institutions since 1978.

Visit The Community Foundation’s website at www.cfwnc.org to learn how the Foundation helps donors, nonprofits and communities in our region.