



Community Foundation
FOR PALM BEACH AND MARTIN COUNTIES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nonprofit Organizations Earn Some “Green” for Going “Green”

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties and the Quantum Foundation joined other sponsors in recognizing nonprofits at an awards luncheon April 15

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (April 22, 2009) – Several nonprofit organizations in Palm Beach and Martin Counties that have worked to become more “green” while providing valuable community services received recognition for their “green” efforts at the 2nd Annual Nonprofits Going Green Awards Luncheon, held recently at the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

The 2nd Annual Nonprofits Going Green Contest honored the work of 20 nonprofit organizations in Palm Beach and Martin Counties working to make a difference while becoming more environmentally sustainable. Nonprofit organizations received special grant awards and other prizes in recognition of the greening of their operations and programs due to the generous donations of the contest’s sponsors: The Environmental Endowment Fund of the Community Foundation, The Quantum Foundation, The Office Depot Foundation, Citigroup and Starbucks. The luncheon’s Master of Ceremonies was Anchor Chandra Bill of WPTV NewsChannel 5. Winning nonprofit organizations received cash and donated prizes in a wide range of categories including Most Green with the Least Green, Sustainability Leader, Least Wasteful, Energy Saver, Greenraiser and Judges’ Green Harvest. Prizes ranged from \$4,000 to gift baskets of organic, green products from Starbucks.

“The Community Foundation understands that “going green” is not just a fad but a necessary process of transforming the way we live, work and build communities. Nonprofits often serve as incubators and educators for positive changes in our community,” said Leslie Lilly, President and CEO of the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. “However, nonprofits are concerned about fundraising in a challenging economy and how to juggle being “green” amongst many competing priorities. The 2nd Annual Nonprofits Going Green Contest and Program aimed to provide all nonprofits incentives, tools and resources to ‘go green’.”

Nearly 60 nonprofit organizations applied from throughout Palm Beach and Martin Counties. Applications were received from a wide variety of nonprofit organizations – from organizations with budget sizes of \$10,000 to over \$10 million in a diversity of sectors including health, human services, education, religion, arts, housing

and the environment. The organizations were judged for the environmental sustainability they achieved beyond their mission.

“We at Quantum were pleased to co-sponsor this contest, to recognize the creative efforts of the Community Foundation to promote environmental stewardship in south Florida, to celebrate the work so many area nonprofits are doing to go green, to call attention to our own Gold LEED-certified building as a demonstration of what is possible, and to inspire others to join us all in implementing the strategies, large and small, needed to assure healthier communities in the future,” said Paul Gionfriddo, President of Quantum Foundation.

“The Office Depot Foundation applauds the Community Foundation’s leadership in encouraging nonprofit organizations in our community to operate in an environmentally sustainable manner,” added Mary Wong, President of the Foundation. “We are committed to enhancing the ability of nonprofits to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible, and going ‘green’ clearly helps to meet both of those goals.”

Among the goals of the contest was to raise the awareness of all nonprofits of how to become more sustainable. The awards luncheon featured “green tips” and profiles of some of the winning organizations for all nonprofits to learn from. The Community Foundation will also be designing a process for supporting nonprofits in Palm Beach and Martin Counties to become green certified. Over 92% of nonprofits who entered the contest this year indicated an interest in being certified as a green nonprofit and articulated a need for technical support in these efforts.

A complete list of awardees follows. Photos from the contest and ceremony and green tips and resources for nonprofits (including some from the winning applications) have been posted online at www.yourcommunityfoundation.org/green.

The awards contest and its nonprofit winners are also featured in the debut of YourPBC.org, a new "digital public square" that launched this week with “Communities Going Green” as its featured topic. To learn more visit www.yourpbc.org/green.

The Nonprofits Going Green Contest is the latest in a series of initiatives supported by the Community Foundation’s Environmental Endowment Fund. This week area schools were honored at the Green Schools Recognition Awards Luncheon on April 21. Later this month, an important report on water resources in Palm Beach and Martin Counties will be released, also sponsored by the Fund.

To learn more about the Nonprofits Going Green program, visit www.yourcommunityfoundation.org/green or contact Daryl Houston, Program Officer at the Community Foundation at (561) 659-6800 or dhouston@cfpbmc.org. For more information about the Community Foundation’s environmental initiatives, please visit its website at www.yourcommunityfoundation.org/environment.

2nd Annual Nonprofits Going Green Award Winners

Most Green with the Least Green: Awarded to organizations with an annual budget of \$500,000 or less for greatest increase in energy savings accomplished through the most cost-efficient means.

- **Grand Prize Winner (\$4,000): Quantum House** for its holistic and cost effective approaches of involving board members, volunteers and families served in energy efficiency, waste reduction and water conservation efforts.
- **First Runner Up (\$2,000): Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens** for comprehensive efforts to restore native habitats, conserve water, and eliminate need for pesticides on their property.
- **Honorable Mention (Starbucks Green Basket): The Annie Appleseed Project** for their minimal impact operations and outreach on healthy environmentally sustainable lifestyles.
- **Honorable Mention (Starbucks Green Basket): Dress for Success** for their dedication to putting one person's waste to work for those less fortunate.

Sustainability Leader: Awarded to organizations with an annual budget of more than \$500,000 for greatest increase in energy savings accomplished through the most cost-efficient means.

- **Grand Prize Winner (\$ 4,000): Palm Beach Zoo** for taking a comprehensive strategic planning and implementation approach and particular innovation in waste reduction throughout operations, sustainability in retail items.
- **First Runner-Up (\$1,500): Norton Museum of Art** for also a comprehensive and consistent approach including with a high priority on employee incentives, waste reduction, water conservation and ensuring a healthy indoor environment.
- **Honorable Mention (Starbucks Green Basket): Planned Parenthood of South Florida and the Treasure Coast** for involving all staff in their "greening" initiatives.
- **Honorable Mention (Starbucks Green Basket): St. Peters Catholic Church** for a truly astounding comprehensive effort led by two high school youth members of the church

Least Wasteful: Awarded to an organization that has demonstrated most comprehensive efforts for reducing, reusing and recycling waste.

- **Grand Prize Winner (\$2,000): Habitat for Humanity of South Palm Beach County** for reducing the disposal of construction related debris
- **First Runner Up (\$750): Lighthouse Center for the Arts** for their creative re-use of materials as well as comprehensive recycling and reduction initiatives.
- **Honorable Mention (Starbucks Green Basket): Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse** for their comprehensive paper reduction initiatives that resulted in a reduction of over \$2,200 in office expenses over a 7 month period.
- **Honorable Mention (Starbucks Green Basket): Summit Christian School** for involving the whole school – headmaster, operations, teachers, parents and students in waste reduction and recycling efforts that has resulted in a 1/3 reduction of waste generation.

Energy Saver: Awarded to organizations for greatest increase in energy savings accomplished through the most cost-efficient means.

- **Grand Prize Winner (\$1,500): St. Peters Catholic Church** for the comprehensive approach to energy conservation and efficiency led by two high school student members.

- **First Runner Up** (\$500): **Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County** for their combination of low-cost efficiency retrofits and consistency and creativity in reminding staff to turn off lights and office equipment.
- **Honorable Mention** (Starbucks Green Basket): **Take Stock in Children** for a focus on saving money through no cost behavior changes.
- **Honorable Mention** (Starbucks Green Basket): **Summit Christian School** for its combination of low cost retrofits and “Hit the Switch” poster contest.

Greenraiser: Awarded to organizations for most successful efforts to market their organization and/or raise money while promoting environmental sustainability (e.g., green events or auctions).

- **Grand Prize Winner** (\$1,500): **American Heart Association** for a focus on green events from choosing green venues and caterers to invites to awards and recycling logistics.
- **First Runner-Up** (\$250): **Council on Aging of Martin County** for engaging more donors in a capital campaign by making it a LEED certified facility.
- **Honorable Mention** (Starbucks Green Basket): **Peer Support Network** for launching its seed card fundraiser.
- **Honorable Mention** (Starbucks Green Basket): **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Palm Beach County** for its “Think Big, Go Green” awareness-raising through green activities and education month.

Judges’ Harvest: Awarded to organizations that the Judges' feel deserve recognition for their dedication and commitment to going green.

- **Grand Prize Winner** (\$500): **Boys & Girls Club of Martin County** for the launching of its “Green Certified Club” at each of its locations

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About the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties connects people who care with causes that matter. Since 1972, The Community Foundation has granted over \$4.5 million in scholarships to over 1,200 students and \$74 million to nonprofit organizations in the community. The Foundation accepts contributions in support of community initiatives, special projects and permanent endowment. Income from endowment is used to make grants and award scholarships primarily in Palm Beach and Martin counties. To learn more, please visit www.yourcommunityfoundation.org.