

communityWORKS challenge

An Opportunity Presents Itself

In June 2003, The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County learned of an interesting and visionary initiative by the Grand Victoria Foundation and brain-child of the Hyatt Development Corporation and Mandalay Resort Group. The five-year partnership, called Communityworks, offered qualifying community foundations an incredible opportunity to not only secure funds for important community initiatives, but to also bolster their impact, leverage and flexibility in serving their communities. The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County is among only 18 in Illinois to be accepted into the program. The potential long-term benefits of this partnership are substantial - as will be the work required to achieve them.

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Building Better Communities by Strengthening Community Foundations

Through *Communityworks*, the Grand Victoria Foundation supports communities by applying regional solutions to systemic problems in three targeted areas:

- **work force development;**
- **land use and protection; and**
- **child care.**

Because they understand and appreciate the important role community foundations play in our communities, the Grand Victoria Foundation determined it could best meet its objectives by working through and strengthening Illinois community foundations.

Additionally, a matching grant component of *Communityworks* offers the potential to establish a substantial permanent endowment to fund initiatives in the three target areas for generations to come. This component requires community involvement and presents myriad opportunities for collaboration.

Communityworks will give citizens a voice in selecting funded initiatives and shaping the future of their communities.

Communityworks: The Challenge

Communityworks can yield amazing rewards. In return, our foundation and community must commit to meeting the program's objectives and time lines. In short, *Communityworks* requires WORK and a high level of community involvement to succeed.

From January 15, 2005, through **April 1, 2006**, we will conduct the *Communityworks* Challenge campaign to secure an additional \$175,000 in pledges to be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Grand Victoria Foundation. This is an ambitious time line, but the incredible opportunities afforded by the *Communityworks* program give us cause to believe community members will share our enthusiasm and commit the funds necessary to meet the *Communityworks* Challenge.

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Seldom does the
opportunity come
along to double
the impact of one's
donated dollars,
as offered through
Communityworks.”

By investing in *Communityworks*, you can be a party to exciting positive change in our community by helping to build a permanent endowment to fund important projects for generations to come. Your pledge will also serve to strengthen your community foundation so it may continue to lead the way for philanthropy and community enrichment. Vital community foundations are essential to vital communities.

To make a pledge

...complete a *Communityworks* Challenge pledge card and mail it to:

The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County
125 N. Water St., Suite 200
Decatur, IL 62523

...or call:

Lucy Murphy, Executive Director

The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County **217-429-3000**

Bruce Nims, Chair

Communityworks Advisory Committee **217-429-5501**

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THANK YOU!

YES!

**I want to help build the
Communityworks endowment.**

I understand my contribution
will be matched dollar-for-dollar
by the Grand Victoria Foundation
when received before May 31, 2008.
**Every dollar given is a two-dollar
investment in our community.**

I wish to pledge \$ _____

Return this card in the envelope provided or
mail to: 125 N. Water St., Suite 200, Decatur
IL, 62523.

The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon
County is a 501 (c) 3 organization. Your donations
are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Name or company name : _____
(as you would like it to appear for donor recognition)

Your name (if different from above): _____ Title: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

Choose a payment method:

- My check for the entire pledge amount is enclosed.
- I prefer a four-year pledge. A check for the first quarter of my pledge, \$ _____, is enclosed.
Please bill me annually for subsequent payments. (Final payment must be received **prior to May 31, 2008**, to receive matching dollars.)
- Other payment option: _____

- I give permission to acknowledge this gift in donor recognition materials.
- I prefer this gift remain anonymous

Signature: _____

Make checks payable to The Community Foundation of Decatur/Macon County.