



\$250,000 Nursing Grant Awarded IPCF/Mennonite College of Nursing

Thanks to a \$250,000 grant to our Foundation and the Mennonite College of Nursing from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation, September will see us kick off an exciting new initiative to work on the Nursing shortage problem in Central Illinois.

The grant is designed to help the Nursing College network extensively with resources in our area to develop or increase two programs. The first is an accelerated nursing program which enables non-traditional students (those who already have a bachelor's degree) to complete the usual 2 year RN program in one year. The second effort will expand Mennonite's Nursing Doctoral program, because part of the nursing shortage is not having enough Nursing Professors to train the record number of applicants.

Both programs will focus efforts on training more nurses for long-term care facilities, expected to be a growing need as our population ages. Illinois Prairie Community Foundation will coordinate the grant and is working hard to develop additional community resources to help with these programs.

Illinois Prairie Community Foundation

**New address: 204 N. Prospect
Rd. Suite 205, Bloomington, IL
61704**

New Phone: 662-4477

New Fax: 662-5577

Fell Foundation Offers \$25,000 Challenge Grant

The Fell Foundation challenges friends and supporters of the Community Foundation to become members or supporters of the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation Founders Fund which directly assists with the administrative costs of the IPCF.

The Fell Foundation will match dollar for dollar the first \$25,000 of new money (not previously pledged) coming into the Founders Fund this fall.

Thanks to several generous donors, we are already half way there! To date, we have raised \$13,600. Please consider making a pledge or a one time gift to the Founders Fund by check or through your Donor Advised Fund.

Founders Fund Gift Giving Categories are

_____Members – pledge \$1000 (or more) a year for a period of 5 years.

_____Friends of the Founders Fund – pledge \$500-\$999 a year for a period of 5 years.

_____Founders Fund Supporters – make contributions of any amount in response to our annual appeal.

We gratefully acknowledge generous gifts from the following donors in August to date:

**Anne Nolte
Carol Reitan
Tom Shea
Elizabeth Weir
Drake Zimmerman**

This challenge is part of the effort that has enabled us to simplify our fund structure to 1% for all funds over \$20,000.

Summer Brings Many Changes for Your Community Foundation

Illinois Prairie Community Foundation is “On the Move” in more ways than one.

First, we have changed locations, thanks to a generous donation of free office space from **First State Bank in Bloomington**. We are currently in temporary space on the 2nd floor at the bank’s location at 204 Prospect in Bloomington.

Thanks to Steve Ladage of Cornerstone Builders, Spencer Vatterrodt, Associated Contractors, and Ron Master from Masters Electric who donated all of the construction for our new permanent office space, also on the second floor; we will soon be moving to that space.

We’re working on signs to help you find us, but we welcome you to stop by and see the new office. Just remember to give us a call first, to make sure someone will be in.

Stillwell Resigns; Myra Gordon Named Acting Executive Director

Myra Gordon, Vice President of the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation Board and a long time community activist assumed the position of Acting Executive Director of the Foundation upon the resignation of Michael Stillwell in late July.

Gordon, who retired a year ago from State Farm, has previous not-for-profit administrative experience as the Executive Director of Operation Recycle during the years it was a full-time community recycling center. She is also a past president of the McLean County League of Women Voters, former treasurer of the Illinois Recycling Association and a board member of the Ecology Action Center.

Special thanks to Commerce Bank for their donation of free office space to the Community Foundation during the past 8 years.

Our Newest Project Fund

Building a Monument to Jesse Fell

Judy Scott and the Fell Park Neighborhood Association want to celebrate Jesse Fell’s 200th birthday in a very special way...by erecting a monument to Fell in Normal’s Fell Park in 2008. The Town of Normal is refurbishing the rest of the park, but suggested that the neighborhood group create a fund at Illinois Prairie to bring their dream of a monument to reality.

The neighborhood association plans to raise \$30,000 for the monument over the course of the next year and to dedicate the monument at a special birthday celebration for Jesse Fell in 2008. They welcome donors to send contributions to the “Fell Park Monument Fund” here at the Foundation. And we welcome the Association as our newest Partner Fund.

11 Organizations Selected to Develop Stafford Grant Proposals

The Grants Committee of Illinois Prairie met in August to review requests from 29 organizations to be considered for the Foundation’s Marion McDowell Stafford Grant program. 11 organizations were selected by the committee to submit full grant proposals. The Foundation will announce grant winners in October.

On the Move Campaign Helps With Foundation Moving Expenses

We are most appreciative of the response to our “On the Move” campaign which we initiated at the beginning of the summer to help us raise some of the costs of moving our office. A special thank you to these “On the Move” donors:

**Charles and Maxine Bolen
George and Myra Gordon
Bill and Jean Hammitt
Miriam Lapham
Doris J Lewis
Gretchen Monti
Ann Nolte
Nancy Ridenour
Jerry and Carole Ringer
Ruel and Judy Wright
Robert and Marilyn Sutherland
State Farm Classic Organizing Group
Elizabeth Weir
Eva and Mark Wyman**