FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR MOST PROGRAM AREAS CONTINUED TO RISE IN 2005

Funding by larger private and community foundations continued to grow in 2005, albeit at a more moderate pace than in the prior year. Among the close to 1,200 largest U.S. foundations included in the Foundation Center’s annual grants sample, grant dollars rose 6.1 percent between 2004 and 2005, from $15.5 billion to $16.4 billion. The number of grants awarded increased at a more modest 3.5 percent, from 126,497 to 130,961.

Among major subject areas, international affairs, development, and peace experienced the fastest growth. Support for the field reached a record $591.2 million in 2005, boosted by giving in response to the late 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster and by large grants for international development. Only three out of ten major subject areas failed to register increases in funding in the latest year. Still, for nearly all fields, the number of grants awarded grew less than did grant dollars.

For more information on this report, published in February 2007, contact Josie Atienza, Assistant Director of Research, at (212) 620-4230 or jsa@foundationcenter.org. “Highlights of Foundation Giving Trends” can be downloaded at foundationcenter.org.

1Includes Civil Rights and Social Action, Community Improvement and Development, Philanthropy and Voluntarism, and Public Affairs.
CHANGE IN GIVING, 2005

- Giving by sampled foundations rose 6.1 percent to $16.4 billion
- Number of grants increased 3.5 percent to 130,961
- Number of grants of $10 million or more grew by one-third, while the total value declined 8.5 percent

GIVING BY SUBJECT FOCUS

- Seven out of ten major fields showed increases in grant dollars in 2005
- International Affairs and the Environment showed largest gains in funding
- Education and Health benefited from largest shares of grant dollars
- Human Services led by share of number of grants

GIVING BY RECIPIENT ORGANIZATION TYPE

- Grants in the 2005 sample benefited 53,361 unique recipient organizations
- Largest share of funding targeted educational institutions
- Human service agencies ranked second by grant dollars

GIVING BY TYPES OF SUPPORT

- Capital support’s share of grant dollars rose to 18.5 percent, following five consecutive years of decline
- General support reached $3.3 billion in 2005, but share slipped to 20 percent
- Program support’s share of grant dollars declined to just under 45 percent
GIVING FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

◆ Children and youth accounted for largest share of grant dollars and grants in 2005

◆ Funding for the economically disadvantaged declined to $2.6 billion, down from a record $3.1 billion in 2004

◆ Among beneficiary groups, single parents, substance abusers, and military & veterans experienced fastest growth in giving in the latest year

INTERNATIONAL GIVING

◆ International giving held steady at $2.8 billion in 2005

◆ Majority of international funding supported U.S.-based programs

◆ Foundation giving for overseas recipients reached a record $1 billion

GIVING BY THE 100 LARGEST FOUNDATIONS

◆ Health, International Affairs, Environment, Social Sciences, and Science received bigger shares of 2005 grant dollars from the largest foundations

◆ Smaller funders targeted greater shares of support for Arts and Culture, Human Services, Education, Religion, and Public Affairs/Society Benefit

2005 Sampling Base

The Foundation Center’s circa 2005 grants database includes all grants of $10,000 or more awarded by 1,154 of the largest U.S. foundations—including the largest ten funders in each state—and reported to the Center between October 2005 and September 2006. Grants were awarded primarily in 2005 or 2004. These grants totaled $16.4 billion and represented roughly half of total grant dollars awarded by all U.S. independent, corporate, community, and grantmaking operating foundations. See Appendix A in Foundation Giving Trends, 2007 Edition, for more detailed sampling information.

Health showed fastest annual rate of growth in grant dollars between 2002 and 2005

Source: The Foundation Center, Foundation Giving Trends, 2007. Based on a sample of over 1,000 larger foundations. Includes subject areas accounting for at least 5 percent of grant dollars or grants.

1Includes Civil Rights and Social Action, Community Improvement and Development, Philanthropy and Voluntarism, and Public Affairs.
**GIVING BY FOUNDATION TYPE**

- Independent foundations allocated the largest shares for Health, the Environment, Science, and the Social Sciences.
- Corporate foundations provided the biggest shares of giving for Education, Public Affairs/Society Benefit (including federated funds), and—for the first time—International Affairs, reflecting support provided in response to the late 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami disaster.
- Community foundations gave proportionately more to Human Services, Arts and Culture, and Religion than other types of grantmakers.

**GIVING BY FOUNDATION REGION**

- Northeastern foundations provided the largest share of grants in 2005 sample; the Northeast region also accounted for the biggest share of dollars received.
- Northeastern, Midwestern, and Southern grantmakers favored support for Education; Western foundations awarded the largest share of their grant dollars for Health.

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