



# NEWS RELEASE

---

**THE SOUTH DAKOTA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION - March 23, 2009 – 10:30 AM Release**

**CONTACT: Bob Sutton, President**  
207 E. Capitol, PO Box 296  
Telephone - (605) 224-1025  
FAX - (605) 224-5364

## **South Dakota Community Foundation Launches Enhancement Initiative for South Dakota's Nonprofit Sector**

*\$2 million grant from Bush Foundation will assist nonprofits across South Dakota*

**March 23, 2009, Sioux Falls, SD** – The South Dakota Community Foundation announced a statewide capacity-building initiative today that will benefit nonprofit organizations across South Dakota. Assisted by a \$2 million grant from the St. Paul, MN-based Bush Foundation, the South Dakota Community Foundation will provide training, education and resources to increase nonprofit capacity, improve nonprofit boards, increase nonprofit revenues and strengthen the nonprofit sector as a whole. The South Dakota Community Foundation estimates more than 1,000 nonprofit executives, board members and staff will be reached through this initiative.

“Nonprofit organizations operating throughout the state provide key services to keep South Dakotans, and their communities, healthy and vital,” said Bush Foundation President Peter C. Hutchinson. “The Bush Foundation formed this partnership with the South Dakota Community Foundation to provide training and support that will allow these nonprofits to become more effective in engaging with their communities to solve problems.”

“The Bush Foundation grant provides South Dakota’s nonprofit entities with a tremendous opportunity to build for the future,” said South Dakota Community Foundation President Bob Sutton. “This new program includes grants to assist nonprofits directly, convening groups of nonprofits for capacity building workshops, and a collaborative effort to re-launch the South Dakota Nonprofit Association for sustaining a technical assistance framework.”

Christine Sorenson, Chair of the South Dakota Nonprofit Association, added, “The South Dakota Non-profit Association is ready to go to work for the non-profits of the state with these funds. We have been planning and meeting for many years and the association is ecstatic to finally take the next step. We hope to link nonprofit organizations, businesses, associations and government, and provide the collective voice for every non-profit statewide.”

Through the leadership of an advisory council consisting of nonprofit leaders from across South Dakota, the South Dakota Nonprofit Enhancement Project will actively engage in capacity building activities through 2010. Upon completion of the funding stage, a full evaluation of the program and its effectiveness will be conducted.

**Bush Foundation** was established in 1953 by 3M executive Archibald Bush and his wife Edyth. The Foundation strives to be a catalyst to shape vibrant communities in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota by investing in courageous and effective leadership that significantly strengthens and improves the well-being of people in these three states. For more information visit [www.bushfoundation.org](http://www.bushfoundation.org).

The **South Dakota Community Foundation** is a public non-profit organization established in 1987. The Foundation commingles money from 490 funds for investment and administration purposes. Earnings from more than \$50 million are available for distribution for non-profit, charitable and scholarship purposes. For more information on the South Dakota Community Foundation, contact our office at 1-800-888-1842.