



CENTER FOR NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT
strong nonprofits build strong communities

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For Immediate Release
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NEW INITIATIVE HELPS NONPROFITS DEVELOP EARNED INCOME BUSINESS VENTURES

Dallas, Texas – The **Center for Nonprofit Management** in partnership with **Community Wealth Ventures, Inc.** is pleased to announce the launch of the North Texas Community Wealth Initiative, an exciting three-year project to help nonprofits increase mission impact and financial self-sufficiency through earned income business ventures.

The three-year, \$1.5 million Initiative consists of four components:

- The North Texas Community Wealth Collaborative is an intensive business planning process that will assist a select group of high-performing nonprofit organizations in developing and growing earned income ventures.
- The Community Wealth Collaborative alumni services will provide ongoing business coaching and training to those nonprofit organizations that graduate from the Collaborative to assist them in the first critical year of business plan implementation.
- A series of community workshops will build awareness and educate the broader nonprofit community in the Dallas/Fort Worth metropolitan area about earned income.
- The partnership between Community Wealth Ventures, Inc. and the Center for Nonprofit Management will allow the Center to develop its infrastructure to support social enterprise in North Texas.

The initiative will begin with the 10-month North Texas Community Wealth Collaborative. The program was launched at an information session on Wednesday, June 13.

The Collaborative, funded by the **Meadows Foundation**, **Amon G. Carter Foundation**, **Harold Simmons Foundation** and several anonymous sources, will help participants complete a business plan and launch or grow a viable business. Participating organizations benefit from intensive, customized assistance from experienced business consultants, which results in a focused business plan to guide the growth of the enterprise. The revenue generated from the business provides the nonprofit organization with an opportunity to reduce dependency on funders and grow programs and services to fulfill its mission.

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“Nonprofits around the country are embracing social enterprise as a strategy to produce unrestricted income to increase financial self-sufficiency and mission impact,” said **Cynthia B. Nunn**, president of the Center for Nonprofit Management. “We’re excited to partner with Community Wealth Ventures, Inc. and the Collaborative funding partners to be able to offer this innovative program to nonprofits in North Texas.”

Through a competitive application process, six to eight nonprofits in the North Texas metropolitan area will be selected to participate in the first North Texas Community Wealth Collaborative. Selected applicants must be high-performing organizations with viable business opportunities and must exhibit a commitment to earned income or market-based ventures. Organizations will be selected for the Collaborative in September 2007 and the project will begin in October 2007.

The community workshops educating the North Texas nonprofit community about social enterprise will take place in spring of 2008. The workshops will be free and open to the public.

For more information on the North Texas Community Wealth Collaborative, visit http://www.cnmdallas.org/community_wealth.aspx or call 214-826-3470, ext. 244.

*The mission of the **Center for Nonprofit Management** is to build a stronger community by increasing the performance and impact of nonprofit organizations. Fulfilling its mission since 1980, the Center for Nonprofit Management annually helps the staff and boards of more than 1,300 nonprofit organizations develop better management and governance skills through consulting, technology and education and training programs. Visit www.cnmdallas.org for more information on the Center.*

***Community Wealth Ventures (CWV)** is a consulting firm that works to generate new resources for the social sector using business ventures and corporate partnerships. It is a subsidiary of a nonprofit anti-hunger and anti-poverty organization, Share Our Strength. Community Wealth Ventures provides consulting services for a broad range of clients in the nonprofit, corporate, and foundation communities. In addition to North Texas, CWV has also implemented Community Wealth Collaboratives in Springfield-Boston, Baltimore, Cleveland, Hartford, Newark, San Antonio, and Washington DC. CWV is currently providing a 6-month intensive business planning workshop series in Tyler, Texas. Visit www.communitywealth.com to read more about the firm and this project.*

*The **Meadows Foundation** is a private philanthropic institution established in 1948 by Algur H. and Virginia Meadows to benefit the people of Texas. The Foundation strives to exemplify the principles of its founder in addressing basic human needs by working toward the elimination of ignorance, hopelessness and suffering, protecting the environment, providing cultural enrichment, encouraging excellence and promoting understanding and cooperation among people. Visit www.mfi.org for more information.*

*The **Amon G. Carter Foundation** is a private non-operating foundation incorporated in 1945 by Amon G. Carter and his wife, Nenetta Burton Carter. Primary fields of interest include the arts; education; health and medical services; human and social services; programs benefiting youth and elderly; civic and community endeavors that enhance quality of life. For more information, visit the Foundation’s web site at www.agcf.org.*

*The **Harold Simmons Foundation**, established in 1988, is based in Dallas, Texas. The Foundation is funded by Contran Corporation, a multinational, diversified company engaged in the chemicals, wire and steel manufacturing, titanium metals, ergonomic products, and hazardous waste management industries. The Foundation makes grants in the areas of medical research, health and human services, including programs targeting high-risk youth and families, as well as for educational, cultural and civic improvement programs, primarily in the Dallas, Texas area.*

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