

Children's fund names groups receiving money

The Portland Children's Investment Fund last week allocated \$2 million to 11 after-school and mentoring programs.

Half the allocation will go to organizations with annual revenues less than \$1 million, with the other half awarded to organizations with annual revenues of more than \$1 million. The grants will be disbursed during a 36-

month period from July 2005 through June 2008.

The organizations receiving investments are:

- ◆ Portland Impact, \$315,000
- ◆ The Boys and Girls Aid Society, \$220,000
- ◆ Friends of the Children, \$164,466
- ◆ Start Making a Reader Today (SMART), \$150,718
- ◆ Urban League of Portland, \$115,621
- ◆ Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Metro Portland, \$263,565
- ◆ Community Cycling Center, \$180,000
- ◆ Girls Inc. of Northwest Oregon, \$166,366
- ◆ Portland House of Umoja, \$150,000
- ◆ REAP, \$150,000

- ◆ Chess for Success, \$101,250

The after-school programs target fourth- through eighth-graders; mentoring programs serve youths ages 5 through 18. Program goals are to provide after-school alternatives, promote academic achievement, reduce the number of juveniles victimized by crime and increase graduation rates. The fund was established by a five-year levy passed by Portland voters in 2002.

It previously allocated \$6.2 million for organizations serving children in these areas during the past few years. It has also granted approximately \$6.7 million for early childhood programs and \$3.1 million for child abuse prevention and intervention programs.

More information can be found at www.childrensinvestmentfund.org.

— Susan Green

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