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GRANTS AND GIVING

Giving by U.S. foundations up 11.7 percent

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Giving by U.S. foundations rose by 11.7 percent, to an estimated \$40.7 billion, in 2006, and is expected to show double-digit growth again this year, according to a new report from the Foundation Center.

The New York-based research group attributed last year's results to more than the usual suspect, a strong stock market. Other factors included higher payout rates by many newer foundations, especially those set up by younger donors less interested in endowing their philanthropies than in "passing through" money to grantees.

The report also noted the continuing impact of pharmaceutical foundations. Most were established within the last decade for the purpose of distributing products to needy patients. The 12 pharma foundations provided \$3.2 billion of in-kind support in 2005, the most current year for such data, up 90 percent from the 2004 level.

The report also found that the rate of giving by all corporate foundations slowed in 2006, growing by 6 percent, to an estimated \$4.2 billion. In 2005, corporate giving jumped by 16.5 percent, partly reflecting aid to natural-disaster victims.

The center said that 60 percent of foundations surveyed expected their giving to rise in 2007 from 2006 levels, and 49 percent expected that increase to be by more than 10 percent.

Grants: McCormick Tribune Foundation has approved more than \$2.7 million in grants to Chicago-area groups. The largest grant is \$580,000 to a Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago fund that helps military personnel who have lost limbs in conflict use advanced prosthetics. Another \$300,000 will go to the Partnership for New Communities, a coalition involved in transforming public housing and revitalizing communities in Chicago.

Oak Brook-based Opportunity International said it will expand its microfinance services in Malawi and Mozambique using two grants totaling \$1.35 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

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New York-based Weigl Publishers Inc. has donated more than 33,000 of its educational books to 87 Chicago public schools. The donation, valued at about \$1 million, was made through Rock for Reading and Book Worm Angels, two Chicago non-profits.

The Searle Funds at the Chicago Community Trust gave Northwestern University \$1 million to renovate and expand Searle Hall, the building at 633 Emerson St. in Evanston that houses the University Health Service. Northwestern also said that a "significant" gift from Gordon and Carole Segal, co-founders of the Crate and Barrel housewares chain, will be used to establish the Segal Design Institute.

The Lake Forest-based John and Editha Kapoor Charitable Foundation is offering \$300,000 over three years to Des Plaines-based Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. The gift will be used to expand the charity's services to families waiting to adopt children.

Harris Bank is giving \$150,000 to North Central College to help fund the school's \$29.2 million Concert Hall and Fine Arts Center, under construction in Naperville.

Jewel-Osco gave \$25,000 to the Chicago-based A Silver Lining Foundation to help test a program to provide free mammograms to medically underserved women in this area.

People: Friends of the Chicago River hired Ozana Balan for the new position of manager of its McCormick Tribune Bridgehouse and Chicago River Museum. ... Kenneth Gladish, former CEO of Chicago's YMCA of the U.S.A., is the new director of the Grantmaking School of the Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Mich. ... Julie Peterson is leaving the University of Michigan to become vice president for communications at the University of Chicago, effective July 1. ... Ann Kisting is the new vice president of marketing and development for Special Olympics Illinois. ... Joyce Carson joined Howard Brown Health Center in Chicago as chief financial officer. ... Mark Booth and John Brian Weber joined the founder's council of Rainbows, a Rolling Meadows group that provides grief support and crisis programs for youths. ... Tim Calkins joined the board of Chicago-based Teen Living Programs

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