

Catholic Community Services

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Contact: Mary Marshall
503-485-5964
mmarshall@ccswv.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES AWARDED GRANT TO ENHANCE CUSTOMER COMMUNICATION AND INDEPENDENCE

(April 24, 2009 Salem, OR): Catholic Community Services announced today that **M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust** has awarded a challenge grant for \$125,000 to support **improving communication and personal independence for customers through an information technology upgrade.**

“We are very grateful to the Murdock Trust for their generous consideration of those we serve. In this electronic age it is important for our customers to be able to access internet technology. When this funding is matched, we will be able to improve communications for our adult customers with developmental disabilities. Improved connections to families and community leads to greater self-determination,” stated Jim Seymour, executive director of CCS.

Receipt of this M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust grant will allow CCS to improve services to adults with developmental disabilities by using technology to improve social integration, as well as customer health and safety. The grant will increase staff ability to track customer safety plans and medical records electronically. It will improve customer safety by allowing cross-county tracking of providers, and augment the customer’s ability to learn more about care providers before engaging their services.

The ISN Support Services Brokerage, a partnership of CCS and Chehalem Youth & Family Services, serves more than 700 adults with developmental disabilities, and the eight family-like CCS Paragon Homes provide 24/7 care for 39 adults who are medically fragile and have developmental disabilities.

M. J. Murdock Charitable Trust’s mission is to enrich quality of life in the Pacific Northwest by providing grants to organizations that seek to strengthen the region’s educational and cultural base in creative and sustainable ways.

Catholic Community Services was founded in Salem in 1938. Today, CCS employs 250 members of our community and offers more than 20 programs with a focus on Home, Family, and Ready-for-Life services. CCS is nationally accredited for Child and Family Services, Group Living Services and Behavioral Health Services by the Council on Accreditation, the nation’s largest and most respected social services accrediting body.

For information about Catholic Community Services, please call 503-393-2843 or visit www.ccsww.org. ###