



For Immediate Release
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Funeral Service Foundation Awards Twenty Grants in 2006 *Scholarship and Grant Applications Available for 2007*

Brookfield, Wis.—The Funeral Service Foundation (FSF), the “charitable voice of funeral service,” awarded a total of 20 grants and scholarships in 2006. These grants fulfill FSF’s important mission of supporting career and professional development, the support of funeral service and allied professions, public awareness and education, and the improvement of children’s lives.

Funds established by individual donors, groups of donors, and funeral service supply companies make these grants possible.

2006 Grants and Scholarships Awarded

Significant support of funeral service education was demonstrated in 2006 with FSF awarding eight scholarships to mortuary science school students, courtesy of the Keystone Group Holdings Fund and Joseph E. Hagan Memorial Scholarship Fund.

FSF’s Women’s Fund supported professional development for female funeral service professionals by awarding five scholarships to the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) 2006 Professional Women’s Conference. In addition, FSF’s Funeral Service Management Fund funded the internationally renowned author and speaker, Ernesto Poza, at the NFDA 2006 Family Business Conference.

Two scholarships were awarded from Homesteaders Life Company’s Daniel M. Voecks Memorial Fund, to allied professionals attending the Association of Applied and Therapeutic Humor’s annual conference. These individuals will learn how to apply humor therapy when serving families with children in end-of-life situations.

FSF made several grants to support the improvement of children’s lives in 2006. The Milso Industries & Pontone Family Fund supported children’s bereavement programs at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx, New York; the FSF Disaster Relief Fund supported Hope for Tsunami, an organization serving children affected by the Southeast Asian tsunami; and the FSF Children’s Fund made a grant to the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, a children’s museum in Gulfport, Mississippi, for rebuilding after Hurricane Katrina.

To support consumers with questions about funerals, the Schoedinger Funeral & Cremation Service Fund made a grant to the Funeral Service Help Line, administered by NFDA. This toll-free help line offers consumers information on arranging a funeral and grief support, and allows them to address concerns about funeral service experiences when necessary.

2007 Scholarships & Grants Available

Applications for 2007 scholarships for mortuary science school students are now available and can be downloaded at www.funeralservicefoundation.org. Applications are due in April, 2007.

The FSF Board of Trustees is in the process of identifying specific program areas for grantmaking in 2007. Requests for proposals will be available for grant seekers in April, 2007 at www.funeralservicefoundation.org. For more information on submitting grant proposals, contact FSF at 877-402-5900.

You can help make more giving possible!

The Funeral Service Foundation accepts tax-deductible donations at any time. More than 130 major donors, consisting of funeral directors and funeral service supply companies, have pledged over \$4.2 million to FSF's endowment. Other donors have given to specific funds within the foundation that support certain areas (general operations, women in funeral service, disaster relief, children, etc.)

If you are interested in giving at any level and would like more information, please contact FSF at 877-402-5900.

The Funeral Service Foundation is a national public grantmaking organization that provides resources for career and professional development, the support of funeral service and allied professions, public awareness and education, and the improvement of children's lives. A 15-member Board of Trustees representing both funeral directors and allied professions oversees activities. For more information, visit www.funeralservicefoundation.org.

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