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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAP for Nonprofits Establishes Community Realignment Fund

MAP for Nonprofits announced today the creation of a community fund dedicated to helping struggling nonprofit organizations save vital human services through realignment or merger options. The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation's gift of \$40,000 per year for the next two years is the lead gift in what will be a \$200,000 Community Realignment Fund.

The purpose of the Fund is to help small human services organizations access MAP's Project ReDesign services, through which they explore a full range of realignment and merger options aimed at preserving services for the community's most vulnerable members. "We are very pleased to be working in partnership with MAP for Nonprofits as our nonprofit community navigates through these uncertain and challenging economic times," said Amy Crawford, executive director of The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation. "This Fund will provide immediate opportunities for critical services to our community's most vulnerable citizens to be preserved even while some organizations down-size, refocus or close their doors."

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Nonprofit organizations are facing increased demand for services while financial resources are tightening. Changes in government contracts and philanthropic giving have greatly affected nonprofit organizations. “MAP is well-positioned to conduct this work having piloted the development of Project ReDesign for the last two years,” said Judith Alnes, executive director of MAP.

Project ReDesign facilitates and leads nonprofit organizations through an asset-based planning and decision-making process to preserve vital community services. Project ReDesign uses a ten-step approach to help organizational leaders and their board members evaluate and implement changes in their structure in order to preserve services and gain greater financial stability. This work may result in the combining of organizations via a merger, transferring a program(s) to another organization, joint ventures, creating a parent-subsidiary relationship, or dissolution.

While The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation’s contribution is the lead gift to the Fund, MAP seeks contributions from other funders over the next year to fully capitalize the Fund. Proceeds will enable 25-40 nonprofit organizations to use Project ReDesign’s services. Small nonprofit human service organizations with annual revenues under \$1.5 million will be eligible to access the funded services. The nonprofit will also be expected to contribute 10-20 percent toward the full cost of the realignment project.

The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation supports efforts that address the unmet human and social needs of individuals, families and communities that have the least access to resources. MAP for Nonprofits is a nonprofit management service organization that provides board recruitment services and management consulting to Twin Cities’ area nonprofit organizations.