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**NONPROFIT 'NEW GLOBAL CITIZENS' RECEIVES \$1 MILLION FOR SERVANT LEADERSHIP**

*Arizona Community Foundation to manage endowment fund on behalf of Phoenix nonprofit*

PHOENIX—A \$1 million charitable fund has been established at the Arizona Community Foundation by an individual donor to fund the expansion of New Global Citizens' servant leadership training for youth. New Global Citizens is a Phoenix-based nonprofit creating a national movement in which young people are actively trained and mobilized to become the next generation of globally minded leaders, change agents and philanthropists working to solve the world's most challenging problems.

New Global Citizens emphasizes the qualities of "servant leadership" through an experiential learning process in which students are deeply transformed by and trained in the consensus building, facilitation and persuasive speaking skills necessary to inspire and nurture others on their team. They are then given opportunities to lead through awareness campaigns, advocacy and fundraising.

The \$1 million endowment is the result of an individual donor who came to the Arizona Community Foundation with a desire to significantly fund a program in the area of servant leadership. She was particularly moved by the approach, philosophy and definition of "servant leadership" put forth by Robert K. Greenleaf in his 1970 essay *The Servant as Leader*. The concept centers on the notion that the servant-leader is a servant first, and this conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead. "That person is sharply different from one who is *leader* first, perhaps because of the need to assuage an unusual power drive or to acquire material possessions," Greenleaf wrote. He went on to publish further essays, and the servant-

leadership concept is perpetuated through the Indiana-based Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership, an international nonprofit organization Greenleaf founded in 1964.

Working with the Community Foundation's Donor Services and Programs staff, the donor explained her vision of funding a meaningful servant leadership program, specifically in the East Valley, and asked if ACF could help her find such a project. ACF staff worked with national and local experts and invited select nonprofits to propose servant leadership projects for consideration by the donor. Applicants were also required to commit to securing matching funds of at least \$1 million in order to be considered. Working closely together, ACF staff and the donor selected New Global Citizens as the beneficiary of the \$1 million endowment.

"Connecting interested donors with community programs that capture their imagination and passion is at the heart of the services we offer," explains Deborah Whitehurst, interim CEO for the Arizona Community Foundation. "We are thrilled to have successfully connected the donor's generosity and vision to a high-quality program that will benefit people and communities on both a local and global scale."

### **About New Global Citizens**

New Global Citizens is the result of a 2008 merger between Phoenix-based Youth Re:Action Corps and Youth Philanthropy Worldwide, a project of the Community Initiatives Fund of the San Francisco Foundation.

Every fall, NGC recruits and responds to young people across the nation, age 14 to 18, who demonstrate a desire to serve the global community. Believing in the capacity of youth, recruitment and start-up tools are placed in the hands of high school age students to launch an NGC team on their high school campuses or neighborhood community centers. Once formed, teams become educated through NGC training and support resources about the major challenges faced by communities around the world and are exposed to how individuals within these communities are rectifying these challenges through the development of locally-led solutions. One hundred percent of student-raised funds are transferred directly to the partner project/social entrepreneur/grassroots organization they are supporting.

New Global Citizens partners with reputable national and international organizations (e.g. Global Fund for Children, Ashoka, IDEX) that connect student teams to local social entrepreneurs and partner projects in over 20 countries around the world, including the United States, serving their communities in sustainable ways.

During the 2008-2009 program year, more than 70 NGC teams nationwide educated 10,000 community members about pressing global challenges, initiated 35 advocacy initiatives, and raised a total of \$35,000 that was directly invested to support 33 different projects in 26 countries around the world.

As a result of New Global Citizens, 96 percent of participating graduating seniors reported they planned to pursue careers related to global change. Since inception three students launched their own 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations to continue supporting sustainable international development efforts, 15 students received scholarships to pursue related degree programs in the social sector, five students were honored with awards for their global leadership efforts, and one student was selected as a fellow for the Oxfam America Change Initiative.

### **About the \$1 Million Endowment**

Managed by the Arizona Community Foundation, the \$1 million endowment will help New Global Citizens create the first “cluster city” in the country here in the East Valley in the fall of 2011. A “cluster city” is a grouping of 20 or more high school teams within 25 miles of each other. This proximity gives the teams the opportunity to collaborate and feel a sense of a mini-movement in their own area while still understanding they are part of a national program, says Courtney Klein, CEO of New Global Citizens. It also enables NGC to provide centralized support, evaluate program impact in different cluster areas across the country as the program expands, and rally local community support. The development of and lessons from the cluster will dramatically help to kick off NGC’s national expansion.

New Global Citizens had already committed to raising \$1.2 million to strengthen three critical programmatic areas—recruitment, curriculum and the alumni network—before learning of the \$1 million funding opportunity. In being selected, NGC must secure those matching funds

before it can draw down on the \$1 million endowment. In addition to managing the endowment, ACF will also provide a considerable amount of technical assistance and capacity-building to NGC and its staff.

"We are thrilled with what this generous endowment challenge grant means for the work of New Global Citizens," says Esther Hewlett, Chair of the Board for New Global Citizens. "The endorsement of our mission, vision and values gives us powerful leverage as we build our movement across the global community."

*The Arizona Community Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization with four regional offices serving 13 affiliate community foundations. Established in 1978 and certified under the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, ACF is among the top 30 community foundations in the nation with \$450 million in trust and endowment assets. Last year, ACF and its affiliates awarded \$33.7 million in grants and scholarships to more than 3,500 nonprofit organizations, schools and government agencies. More information is available at [www.azfoundation.org](http://www.azfoundation.org).*

*For additional information on the work of New Global Citizens, please write to [info@newglobalcitizens.org](mailto:info@newglobalcitizens.org) or visit [www.newglobalcitizens.org](http://www.newglobalcitizens.org).*