



October 13, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GIFFORD FOUNDATION CREATES RESOURCE SHARING WEBSITE FOR COMMUNITY

(Syracuse, NY) The Gifford Foundation has launched **Giffordslist.org**, a free resource sharing website for the Central New York community (www.giffordslist.org).

Administered by the Foundation, the site will offer opportunities for Central New York nonprofits, businesses and individuals to exchange resources, information and services. Any organization that registers with Giffordslist may post items that are either available or needed, offered for free or for sale. In addition organizations may share information on events, trainings, grant opportunities, personnel needs, etc.

Recent offerings on Giffordslist ranged from foosball tables to computers to Christmas and Halloween decorations. Events and services include grant writing, fundraising events, workshops and trainings. "Often we are contacted by companies wanting our advice on where to donate equipment – and just as often we hear from organizations that they need items," notes Kathy Goldfarb-Findling, executive director. "This website enables these types of exchanges to happen more efficiently. In addition organizations also are learning to 'think outside the box' when it comes to assets to share – for example, nonprofits might have meeting space for rent, or are looking to split accounting services." By January a calendar module and searchable database of

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programs will also be available. Currently individuals may register through their companies or on a case by case basis by contacting the Foundation.

Giffordslist is based on a template created by iWasteNot Systems, a family business that supplies web-based surplus materials exchanges in communities across North America. The system is designed to make creating and operating a materials exchange as simple, inexpensive and effective as possible. iWasteNot Systems has modified their template to accommodate the needs of the Central New York nonprofit community – this version was developed specifically for the Gifford Foundation and is the first use of the system for nonprofits in North America.

During a two-month beta testing period over 35 local nonprofits were invited to post items, services or events. An incentive grant of \$3,000 was offered to the organization that posted or exchanged the most items. The winner, Literacy Volunteers of Greater Syracuse, has been delighted with the utility of the site. “The exchange is fun in that you can negotiate interesting trades and many items are posted for free. LVGS obtained a laptop and other items at no cost. You never know if another organization has something extra that they are willing to trade,” states Donna Valerino, LVGS executive director. “In this struggling economy, Giffordslist provides a venue to maximize the collective resources of the local nonprofit community.”

Another incentive is being offered for the next three months, and is open to all users. Any organization that completes five successful exchanges on Giffordslist will be rewarded with lunch for their staff (up to 50 people), courtesy of the Foundation.

“The website is accessible, interactive and searchable,” states Goldfarb-Findling. “We are hopeful that its use will encourage collaboration and create stronger, more efficient organizations that are better able to serve their constituencies.”

Giffordslist
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