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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GIFFORD FOUNDATION RETIRING AT END OF 2010

(Syracuse, NY) The Board of the Gifford Foundation announces that Executive Director Kathy Goldfarb-Findling will be retiring at the end of the 2010 calendar year. Goldfarb-Findling has been with the organization since 1999, first as the Program Director, and then as Executive Director since June of 2000. During her tenure the Foundation began to focus its grantmaking on specific areas of investment creating a model for long-term commitments in neighborhood revitalization efforts and nonprofit capacity building.

“During the past ten years, Kathy Goldfarb-Findling has been synonymous with Gifford,” states M. Catherine Richardson, board chair. “Her wisdom, vision and imagination have enabled the Gifford Foundation to have significant and lasting impact, far beyond our relatively small grantmaking dollars. While we will miss her greatly, her belief in building the capacity of all, including our board and our staff, gives us great hope for a smooth transition.”

Programs and projects that were initiated under Goldfarb-Findling's guidance include both the Southside and Near Westside Neighborhood Initiatives, ADVANS (Advancing and Developing the Value and Assets of Nonprofits in Syracuse), support for the first community based effort to develop

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the Partnership to Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence, the Farm Fresh Mobile Market, Giffordslist.org and the IDEAS Collaborative (Initiative to Develop and Engage Audiences in Syracuse.) There are many other individuals and small organizations who owe their growth and success to Goldfarb-Findling's commitment to change and organizational support at all levels. She serves or has served on numerous boards of nonprofits in the community, ranging from The Spanish Action League to the Oneida Community Mansion House.

“This has not been an easy decision for me, my work at the Foundation has been tremendously rewarding and challenging,” notes Goldfarb-Findling. “But now seems to be the perfect time to make my exit. As I look around our community, new and creative leadership is everywhere and I am excited by the prospect of the future that lies before us.”

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