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NEWS RELEASE

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For more information

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Community Steps Up to Fund Summer Playground Program

VANCOUVER, Wash. – The Parks Foundation announced today that, thanks to tremendous community support, the Evergreen Summer Playground Program that helps Fourth Plain area residents take back their park, is now fully funded for summer 2013.

“We asked the community to step up and they did – we are very grateful,” said Vancouver Mayor Tim Mayor Leavitt. “We are so fortunate to have a community that gives back – and that takes care of its own,” he said

The Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation program, which receives no City funding, helps local families through healthy, safe, hands-on activities that create a positive presence at an inner city park where the alternative might be more crime or gang activity.

“The generosity of our local businesses and donors is remarkable,” Cheri Martin, Executive Director of the Parks Foundation. “This park program in particular makes such a difference in the lives of kids and families living in Vancouver’s inner city,” she said.

Corporate donors the United Way, Comcast, Beaches Restaurant, and the Audigy Group provided \$12,000 in sponsorship support for the program. At the March 20 State of the City Address Mayor Leavitt issued a call for help in funding the program. The community stepped up to meet the challenge contributing the additional \$3,000 necessary to fully fund the program.

The program provides a five day per week, four hour per day, drop-in playground program for elementary age children living in in the Fourth Plain corridor of west central Vancouver. The program features staff-led games, sports, music/dance, and arts & craft activities for sixty children each weekday for seven weeks in the summer.

For more information about the program and/or to donate, please contact the Parks Foundation office at 487-8370 or online at <http://www.parksfoundation.us/special-projects/evergreen-park-playground-program>

About the Parks Foundation

The Parks and Recreation Foundation of Vancouver and Clark County was established in 1999 to accept and administer donations, gifts and bequests for the enrichment and enhancement of our communities' parks, trails, and recreational programs.

The mission of the Parks Foundation is to raise funds through public and private partnerships for parks, trails, and recreational programs throughout Clark County. The Foundation is a 501 C 3 non-profit corporation and all gifts are tax deductible. The Foundation is governed by a board of directors comprised of local citizens who oversee, invest and administer donations made to the Foundation.

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