

# THE LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

AN AFFILIATE OF  
THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST

## 2007 INVESTING IN LAKE COUNTY'S NOT-FOR-PROFITS

1. **The Donors Forum Library and Philanthropy Center at the College of Lake County** opened its doors in January, 2006. This extension of The Donors Forum of Chicago, a regional association of grant makers, provides access to searchable databases, periodicals and books to help not-for-profits increase their knowledge of governance, philanthropy and fundraising.

The Lake County Community Foundation has made a grant to The Donors Forum to provide information and training in fundraising and board governance, and provide "clinic" time for grantee organizations and applicant organizations of the Lake County Community Foundation. The goals of the training are to 1) help organizations expand their prospects of potential funders with an emphasis on diversified funding; 2) to strengthen organizational management and governance; and 3) to provide tools and resources to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of their organizations.

2. **The Executive Service Corps of Chicago (ESC)** was formed in 1978 by retired professional and business volunteers. Its mission is to enhance people's lives by helping to improve the management and governance of nonprofits, schools and governments through the use of highly trained volunteers. ESC services are provided by about 250 volunteer consultants, each of whom have had a proven career in management and have also received comprehensive and ongoing professional development training from ESC in consulting methods and best practices.

As part of Lake County Community Foundation's investment in assisting local not-for-profits build their infrastructure ESC will receive a grant to develop and implement a series of roundtables for executive directors of 12 Lake County organizations. The Roundtables will provide an opportunity for nonprofit leaders to build a strong professional network and benefit from the advice and counsel of experienced managers and consultants. It also provides a forum where participants can discuss critical issues in an atmosphere of professionalism and confidentiality. Most importantly, it provides a place for leaders to share concerns and insights with peers.