



Advancing social justice
for LGBT communities
in the Upper Midwest

**NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release**

Contact: Alfonso Wenker,
Director of Development and
Communications

612 870 1806, 651 353 0853 cell lawenker@PFundOnline.org

PFund Foundation announces \$89,500 in LGBT Grants

14 groups funded to advance social justice for LGBT people in the Upper Midwest

(December 15, 2011) –PFund Foundation, the only Minnesota-based foundation dedicated exclusively to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) equality, today announced it has awarded \$89,500 in grants for its 2012 grant cycle.

Grants were awarded to 14 non-profit agencies serving LGBT and allied populations across Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The foundation maintained its grantmaking levels and even awarded three \$10,000 grants, the first time in its history to do so.

“The power of a gift from PFund is that it represents the combined giving of multiple members of the Upper Midwest’s LGBT communities. Community members then come together to determine how to disperse those collected gifts,” remarked, Kate Eubank, executive director. “A grant from PFund represents more than the dollars, it represents a community vote of confidence and encouragement to carry the work forward.”

2012 grantee partners:

Creating power through community—as a result of organizing, events and the arts.

20% Theatre Company, Minneapolis, Minn. (\$5,000)
Bisexual Organizing Project, Minneapolis, Minn. (\$5,000)
Proud Theater, Monona, W.I. (\$3,000)
RARE Productions, Minneapolis, Minn. (\$7,500)
Twin Cities Black Pride, Minneapolis, Minn. (\$5,000)

Ensuring access, safety and security—in such places as schools, health providers, and housing.

Avenues for Homeless Youth GLBT Host Home Program, Minneapolis, Minn. (\$4,000)
Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools, Madison, W.I. (\$5,000)
GLBT Youth in Iowa Schools Task Force, Des Moines, I.A. (\$4,000)
Lutheran Social Service – Together for Youth, Duluth, Minn. (\$8,000)
Minnesota Transgender Health Coalition, Minneapolis, Minn. (\$5,000)
Trans Youth Support Network, Minneapolis, Minn. (\$10,000)

Achieving equal rights—through advocacy and civic engagement.

Freedom, Inc., Madison, W.I. (\$10,000)

Project 515, Minneapolis, Minn, (\$8,000)

Shades of Yellow, Saint Paul, Minn. (\$10,000)

Grants to organizations are funded by individual contributions and PFund’s endowed funds, such as the Communities of Color Endowment, Chenoweth Human Rights Fund, Steve Endean Fund for Public Policy and Activism and the Dennis Kienitz Memorial Fund for the Arts, among others.

“We are inspired by the grassroots and emerging groups whose work on the ground is vital to addressing issues of justice,” said Kayva Yang, program officer. “PFund is honored to support our 2012 grantee partners, and we look forward to learning from their visions and strategies to make lasting impacts.”

As a foundation committed to community-based philanthropy, PFund grants are determined by a committee made up of the broad range of the LGBT and allied communities it supports. This year’s diverse committee consisted of both PFund board members and community members.

More information about funded organizations can be found at www.PFundOnline.org/grantees.html.

###

About PFund

PFund Foundation is a community foundation that advances social justice for LGBT communities in the Upper Midwest by providing hands on assistance to organizations, funding systems change work, developing leaders, inspiring giving, and convening & reporting on issues of importance for our communities. Established in 1987 as Philanthrofund Foundation in Minneapolis when four friends pooled \$2,000, PFund is now supported by thousands of individuals in dozens of states who have created a vibrant and vital community foundation that celebrates and strengthens our communities. PFund is one of only a handful of foundations in the nation created specifically by and for LGBT communities. PFund envisions a time when LGBT people are celebrated and live free from discrimination, violence, invisibility and isolation. Today, PFund manages nearly \$1 million in assets, enjoying the support of committed donors and dedicated volunteers from LGBT and allied communities. More at PFundOnline.org.