



*Frank H. Morris
Humanitarian Award
winner Hattie Miller
of Princess Anne, (l)
is pictured with
Susanne Morris, a
former Community
Foundation board
member and widow
of the late
philanthropist, Frank
Morris.*

**FOUNDATION
CELEBRATES
GROWTH AT 22nd
ANNUAL MEETING**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -

Outstanding volunteers, organizations recognized

(November 3, 2006) -- Over 250 people who care about helping improve the lives of fellow citizens on Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore gathered to celebrate record levels of charitable giving at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore's (CFES) 22nd annual meeting and awards luncheon at The Fountains Conference Center in Salisbury.

The Foundation reported on its activities during the past year in support of nonprofit organizations, in providing scholarships, nonprofits support programs and other initiatives to improve the quality of life for citizens of Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties. Since its founding in 1984, the Community Foundation has distributed \$23.6 million in grants to support charitable programs in the region.

Board chairman Gregory L. Stein presented the annual report to the community noting that during the past fiscal year the Foundation set a new record in grant making by distributing \$2.6 million through 844 grants to the community. Stein also noted that during fiscal 2006 the Foundation's assets had grown to \$56.4 million, with \$3.6 million being received in new gifts from donors. The Foundation currently holds 373 charitable funds to benefit the community and has assets of \$59.9 million.

During the annual meeting, Melody Nelson of Princess Anne was elected to a three-year term on the Community Foundation's Board of Directors.

The highlight of the annual meeting is the presentation of honors and awards. Stein presented the 2006 Chairman's Award to France E. Smith, of Salisbury. Smith served on the Community Foundation Board of Directors from 1997-2002.

Stein said, "Smith generously gave his time to several standing committees and his expertise in investment finance made him an excellent source of knowledge for his role on the Foundation's Investment Committee." Stein also praised Smith for being an effective advocate for the Community Foundation, establishing many new relationships that established their own permanent legacies at CFES.

France Smith was also recognized for establishing multiple endowment funds at the Community Foundation including funds that support the Foundation's operations and help to provide grants for community needs.

Gregory Stein (l) presents the Community Foundation 2006 Chairman's Award to former Board Member and an effective advocate of the Foundation, France Smith (r).



Two other major Foundation Awards were also announced --- the Award of Excellence honoring Richard A. Henson that recognizes an outstanding local nonprofit organization, and the Frank H. Morris Humanitarian Award for an individual who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to the community.

Easter Seals of Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore was honored as the Henson Award recipient for this year's outstanding nonprofit organization in the region. Easter Seals was founded almost 100 years ago and now has over 500 affiliates nationally. In 1996 Easter Seals opened a n out-patient rehabilitation facility in Salisbury.

Today over 350 children and their families and adults with disabilities in this region benefit from the services of the Salisbury Easter Seals facility. Today children can receive physical, occupational and speech therapy within a short drive of home or school from the only pediatric rehabilitation center of the Eastern Shore.

Easter Seals also provides children with disabilities with camping and recreation programs at a 250-acre fully accessible facility on the Eastern Shore of Maryland near Chestertown. During the past year over 13,800 persons on the Delmarva Peninsula received referral resources, public information, advocacy and professional education services from the Easter Seals of Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The Community Foundation's 2006 Morris Humanitarian Award was presented to Miss Hattie Miller of Princess Anne for her extraordinary lifelong volunteer service. Miss Miller was described as "an angel who is among us," during the announcement of the Morris Award.

Judy Hunt-Harris, volunteer coordinator for Coastal Hospice, described Miss Miller as someone who, "selflessly gives of her time, energy and skills to the community and hospice patients. She sits with patients in their home and at our in-patient facility. Hattie is a highly skilled listener with a friendly and calming personality that provides comfort and care to both the patient, and their family, without judgment."

Hattie Miller is a "top notch recruiter" who invites prospective volunteers to her home for socials allowing time to share volunteer opportunities with her guests. In addition, she also

in involved in many fund raisers. Miss Miller was praised as someone, “who has touched the lives of those with serious or terminal illnesses, and those just needing a special friend to help improve their lives.”

Because of her lifelong commitment to volunteer service the Tri-County area is better off as a result of Hattie’s efforts. She is also known for her generous contribution of time and talents to her church and the Princess Anne community.

The purpose of The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore is to empower donors to make a profound difference in the quality of human and community life in Maryland’s Lower Eastern Shore, today and tomorrow.

As a community foundation, CFES makes grants and provides leadership in five key areas: arts and culture, health and human services, education, historical preservation, and the environment. The Foundation also provides community leadership through local initiatives, charitable partnerships and nonprofit support programs.

CFES has been an effective steward of the community’s charitable resources since 1984, inspiring philanthropy in the Maryland counties of Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester. For more information about the Community Foundation visit the Foundation’s web site at www.cfes.org, or phone 410-742-9911.



The Easter Seals of Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore was nonprofit organization honored as the 2006 recipient of the Henson Award of Excellence. Pictured (l to r) are: Gordon Gladden, Henson Foundation; Easter Seals representatives Bev Ward, Ford Waggoner, Pam Reuther, Randy Clour, Ernie Mathews, and Community Foundation President Spicer Bell.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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