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## **Social Venture Partners Continues to Grow and Give –\$26.5 Million in Grant Investments Made to More than 300 Nonprofit Organizations**

**BOULDER, Colorado** (June 17, 2008) – Social Venture Partners International (SVPI) announced its latest numbers associated with organizational growth and grantmaking. Since its formation in 1997, the Social Venture Partners network contributed more than \$26.5 million in grant investments to more than 300 nonprofit organizations.

SVP Boulder County makes grant investments and provides professional skill and expertise to nonprofit organizations while also serving as a catalyst for individual, engaged philanthropy. Current investees, i.e. organizations receiving funding from SVP Boulder County, include Intercambio de Comunidades, Colorado Youth Program, The Women’s Wilderness Institute, Growing Gardens, and Longmont Children’s Council.

“A key differentiator for SVP as a grantmaker is that we are committed to strengthening and supporting the long-term capacity of a nonprofit organization to fulfill its mission,” explains Jennie Arbogash, Executive Director for SVP Boulder County. “We make multi-year financial and human resource commitments and we educate our partners about philanthropy and how to best address the needs in the community. In short, Social Venture Partners is not about funding short-term projects or programs – we know it takes more than that for an organization to thrive.”

SVP Boulder County, a fund of The Community Foundation, is one of 25 affiliates within the Social Venture Partners network of organizations in the United States, Canada and Tokyo. More than 1,900 partners (members) contribute to their communities by making strategic and effective investments of time, money and professional expertise in local nonprofit organizations.

“We have expanded our impact beyond nonprofit grant investees this year,” says Arbogash, “by offering educational seminars on capacity building topics such as marketing, fundraising, and effective management. These seminars are available to all Boulder County nonprofits at no cost.”

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The SVP model of philanthropy was created in 1997 in Seattle, Washington. As interest in this new approach to philanthropy grew, Social Venture Partners organizations began developing throughout North America. By 2001, a loose network had formed, and Social Venture Partners International (SVPI) was created to support and advance this network. According to SVPI, the network is experiencing substantial yet organic growth via word-of-mouth marketing alone. Five new affiliates joined the network in the last 18 months and there has been a 14 percent increase in total partners (members) between 2007 and 2008.

“These numbers support our belief that the Social Venture Partners model is not just working,” says Ruth Jones, Executive Director at Social Venture Partners International,” but that the SVP model is appealing to both budding and seasoned philanthropists.”

### **About SVP Boulder County**

Social Venture Partners Boulder County, a fund of The Community Foundation, strengthens organizational capacity and sustainability of local nonprofits while inspiring philanthropy and volunteerism in our community. We engage in philanthropic education and invest in innovative nonprofit organizations using an entrepreneurial model that pools the financial, professional, and human resources of our partner members. To learn more about SVP Boulder County, please visit [www.svpbouldercounty.org](http://www.svpbouldercounty.org).

### **About Social Venture Partners International**

Social Venture Partners International (SVPI) is the membership association for Social Venture Partners – an international network comprised of more than 1,900 accomplished individuals who combine their professional skills and financial contributions with a passion for philanthropy. Partners belong to local SVP affiliates and SVPI supports each affiliate by providing technology, professional development, an annual conference and peer networking opportunities designed to share knowledge and promote best practices throughout the network. The Social Venture Partners network currently has 25 affiliates located throughout the United States, Canada and Tokyo. To learn about starting an SVP affiliate in your city or for more information on Social Venture Partners, please visit [www.svpi.org](http://www.svpi.org).

**About The Community Foundation:** Established in 1991, The Community Foundation Serving Boulder County is a foundation established by the community to serve the community. The Community Foundation is one of about 700 foundations across the country dedicated to improving the quality of life for local communities. Its assets, which total \$40 million, represent nearly 200-plus funds established by local families, individuals and corporations. From those assets, the Foundation makes grants to nonprofit groups working in the arts, civic engagement, education, the environment, and health and human services. Since the inception of its grant program in 1992, The Community Foundation has distributed \$26 million to nonprofits. In addition to financial support, the Foundation fosters the health and viability of Boulder County’s nonprofit sector by offering a variety of programs to build capacity and the organizational structure of charitable organizations. For more information, visit [www.commfound.org](http://www.commfound.org).

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