

PRESS RELEASE

**For immediate release:
May 21, 2008**

For more information contact:

Tina Vlachos, Young Professionals of Vancouver, 360- 241-3721,

tina.vlachos@countryfinancial.com

Brandi Stewart-Wood, SWWDC, 360-567-3170, bstewart-wood@swwdc.org

SWWDC recipient of funds to be raised at YPOV event in November

The Young Professionals of Vancouver has selected the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council as the recipient of funds to be raised at its first annual fundraiser.

The *Reach for the Stars* scholarship dinner and silent auction aims to raise \$10,000 to fund two college scholarships for low-income youth enrolled in the Youth Workforce Program which is funded by SWWDC and administered by Educational Service District 112.

The fundraiser will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2008 starting at 6:00 p.m. with a cocktail hour at the Downtown Vancouver Hilton. Tickets are \$50 a seat and may be purchased by contacting Tina Vlachos at (360) 241-3721.

YPOV President Tina Vlachos said, “As young professionals and future business leaders of Southwest Washington, our organization is committed to continued growth and development of the Vancouver workforce. We want to give back to our community and we see college scholarships for disadvantaged youth as a way to do this.”

The YPOV scholarship is designed to provide assistance to a Clark County youth who may not otherwise have adequate resources to attend college. It is targeted toward low-income students who have overcome significant barriers to achieve academic success.

“The SWWDC is extremely honored to be the recipient of YPOV’s 2008 fundraising efforts,” said Kay Dalke, SWWDC Youth Council Chair. “These scholarships will open doors for two young people for whom college may not ever have seemed like a real opportunity.”

Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council

The Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC) provides leadership and resources to increase economic development with a trained and productive workforce in Clark, Cowlitz, and Wahkiakum Counties. Led by a diverse board of representatives from business, labor, community-based organizations and government agencies, the SWWDC responds to the unique needs of our greater community. For more information about SWWDC, visit www.swwdc.org.

Young Professionals of Vancouver

Young Professionals of Vancouver was established in 2006 to provide a place for young professionals to connect, network, and socialize. The group meets the first Wednesday of every month at 5:30 to a local hot spot. For more information about the Young Professionals of Vancouver, visit <http://www.youngprofessionalsofvancouver.com>.

###