

Can't We Do Better Than This?

Big donors supply the dollars that fuel congressional campaigns, and in turn they get access to politicians. But that doesn't mean they're happy about it. Research shows them to be strong advocates of campaign finance reform. [12](#)

The Joyce Foundation supports efforts to protect the natural environment of the Great Lakes, to reduce poverty and violence in the region, and to ensure that its people have access to good schools, decent jobs, and a diverse and thriving culture. We are especially interested in improving public policies, because public systems such as education and welfare directly affect the lives of so many people, and because public policies help shape private sector decisions about jobs, the environment, and the health of our communities. To ensure that public policies truly reflect public rather than private interests, we support efforts to reform the system of financing election campaigns.

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Nearly a third of antibiotics produced in the U.S. are fed to animals to help them gain weight. A growing chorus of scientists says it's time to cut back—before antibiotics lose their power to fight disease.

Diseases once thought under control are making a comeback, scientists warn. The World Health Organization last fall reported the global spread of drug-resistant tuberculosis. This past May *The New England Journal of Medicine* documented the emergence of salmonella (which causes food poisoning) that is resistant to several antibiotics. Also this spring the Institute of Medicine warned that more than 90 percent of staph aureus strains, a major cause of hospital-based infections, are resistant to penicillin. The head of the Institute's panel said resistance to antibiotics appears "to be on the verge of desperation" and called for global efforts to fight the problem.

Much of the effort will center on controlling prescriptions for antibiotics in hospitals and doctors' offices. But public health experts are also looking to another source: agricultural use. Of the 50 million pounds of antibiotics produced in this country, over 40 percent is used in animals, according to the *New England Journal*. And while some of that is used to treat animal diseases, the vast majority—80 percent—goes into animal feed, to help chickens, hogs and cattle bulk up for market.

With a one-year Joyce grant of \$110,000, the Union of Concerned Scientists will pull together research documenting the relation between antibiotic-resistant diseases and farm use, and press for policies to safeguard antibiotics for protecting the public health.



Miracle drugs

When they first came on the market a half century ago, antibiotics were hailed as “miracle drugs.” Pediatricians who once watched helplessly as children died of meningitis could now give them a shot of penicillin and send them back out to play. Hospitals could control infections that threatened patients’ lives after surgery. And deadly diseases like syphilis seemed destined to pass out of human history.

But from curing deadly diseases, antibiotics became popular for less serious complaints, from earaches to acne. And it was discovered that antibiotics could not only cure animal diseases but, at lower doses, promote growth in animals.

Such use is especially important in huge, factory-type hog and poultry operations, which increasingly dominate U.S. meat production. Instead of being integrated into broader farming operations, animals by the thousands are raised in confinement and treated with antibiotics to stop the spread of diseases and promote growth.

What concerns scientists is that when animals are treated continuously, antibiotics kill off most bacteria—but not all. Union of Concerned Scientists researcher Margaret Mellon explains: “There’s always that one in a million with the genes necessary to escape. Those will survive and reproduce,” creating a population of bacteria resistant to antibiotics. Moreover, organisms that are resistant to one drug are likely to become resistant to another, and organ-

isms can pass on the resistance to other organisms. When animals are slaughtered, the resistant bacteria—including salmonella—can show up on meat, leading some humans to develop drug-resistant salmonella infections. The *New England Journal* study reports widespread emergence in the U.S. of a strain of salmonella that is resistant to five major antibiotics.

Trouble ahead?

Epidemiologist Fred Angulo of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns that if salmonella bacteria enter the bloodstream—and in about six percent of cases reported to the CDC they do—antibiotics are essential for treating them. If the bacteria become resistant to all antibiotics, patients would be at the mercy of the disease. Other possibilities are equally ominous: resistant genes could pass over to other disease-causing bacteria, or resistant bacteria that are currently harmless to humans could themselves begin causing diseases.

Leading scientists warn that excessive use of antibiotics, especially for promoting animal growth, “presents a growing risk to human health and should be reduced.”

Critics say such concerns are farfetched. Dr. Richard Carnevale, vice president of the industry-backed Animal Health Institute, says in a letter posted on the Institute’s web site that “there is no evidence of any ‘virulent, drug-resistant’ strains of bacteria causing public health problems which are difficult or impossible to treat, and whose evolution can be traced to the use of antibiotics in farming.” Dr. Lyle Vogel, of the American Veterinary Medical Association, is more cautious. “To my knowledge there is no documented case of resistance developed in animals that has caused treatment failure in humans. But the potential does exist, and we are concerned about it.” The AVMA is developing guidelines for “judicious

“Fortunately we still have some antibiotics that work,” says one scientist. “But it’s reckless to continue ... waiting until people have untreatable infections before we make changes.”

use” by its members. Both the veterinarians and the producers argue that antibiotics are important for guaranteeing a safe, abundant food supply.

CDC’s Angulo agrees that the dangers are still more potential than real. “Fortunately we still have some antibiotics that work. But it’s reckless to continue going in the direction [of increasing resistance] and waiting until people have untreatable infections before we make changes. And once we get there, once the diseases are fully resistant, we can’t go back again.”

Leading scientists at a World Health Organization meeting in Berlin last fall said excessive use of antibiotics, especially for promoting animal growth, “presents a growing risk to human health and should be reduced.” Mellon and Angulo want the U.S. to take steps to deal with the WHO concerns. They call for reducing and eventually eliminating the use of antibiotics for promoting animal growth, especially those considered important for human use.

Mellon urges the Food and Drug Administration to start by releasing detailed data about agricultural use of antibiotics, currently a closely guarded industry secret. She especially wants to explore the role of antibiotics in the huge, high-tech hog and poultry operations. Environmentalists have criticized such facilities for a long list of other problems, notably odor and inadequate sewage treatment. “Is this the best way to grow animals?” Mellon asks. “It seems to me it’s fraught with problems.”

Margaret Mellon, UCS, 202.332.0900

Recruiting Teachers

Urban schools in the Midwest are facing a teacher shortage —and a chance to improve the quality of teaching.

Two million new teachers will be needed over the next decade, reports the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future. With teachers' average age at 45, older teachers are set to retire just as rising student enrollments hit the schools. Schools also find it difficult to hold onto teachers: in urban areas, 30 to 50 percent of new teachers may leave in the first five years, according to Recruiting New Teachers, Inc., a national organization working on recruitment, development and diversity issues.

Under a two-year Joyce grant of \$300,000, Recruiting New Teachers will be available to help public schools in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit and Milwaukee improve the way they recruit and develop new teachers. In particular, the organization seeks ways to attract minority young people, people seeking mid-career changes, and teacher aides to the profession.

"Teacher shortages have already reached critical proportions in some fields," says Dr. Elizabeth Fideler, the group's vice president. Filling the gap "isn't simply a numbers game. The teacher shortage is about quality and teacher diversity." Chicago, for example, has a growing number of Hispanic students, but only nine percent of teachers are Hispanic.

Recruiting New Teachers is known for its public service announcements featuring Edward James Olmos, who portrayed a math teacher in the movie "Stand and Deliver," challenging viewers to "Be a teacher. Be a hero." More than one million people have responded by calling 1-800-45TEACH. The group will draw on its experience in California, where it facilitated a task force that drafted a recruitment plan and helped win funding for a beginning teacher



support program. “It is important to have mentors work with new inductees,” says Fideler. “They can be thrown by paperwork and classrooms with bare walls. They need help with putting it all together.”

Recruiting New Teachers will work with Midwestern groups to assess recruitment practices and develop strategic plans for attracting and retaining new teachers for city schools.

Recruiting New Teachers will collaborate with another Joyce grantee in Chicago already working to improve procedures for hiring and retaining teachers. Educators and business executives are collaborating in a project of the Financial Research and Advisory Committee of the Commercial Club Foundation, which applies corporate marketing, recruiting, screening and placement strategies to the search for good teachers. According to senior coordinator Hilton Clark the group is testing an on-line application to screen candidates, then match them with principals and provide on-the-job mentoring.

“Teacher expertise is one of the most important factors in determining student achievement,” according to the National Commission. Both grantees hope that strategies for finding and keeping good teachers that have worked elsewhere will help Midwest schools get ahead of the teacher shortage—and improve the quality of education while they’re at it.

Elizabeth Fideler, RNT, 617.489.6000

Hilton Clark, FRAC, 312.853.9165

Welfare rolls are down, but the overall trends hide real problems that states must address sooner or later.

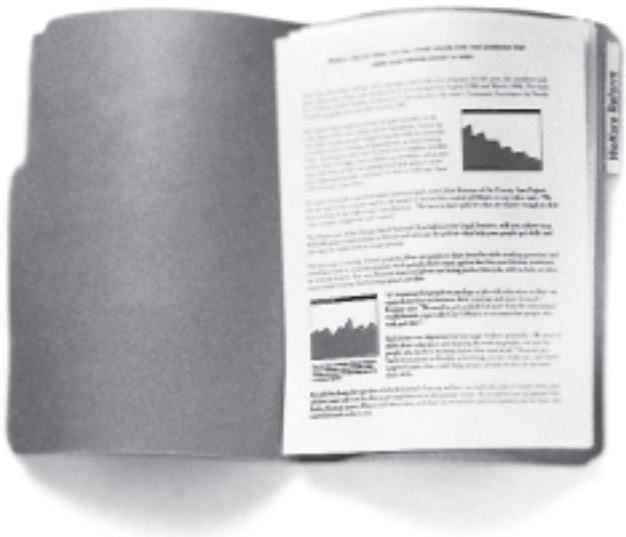
Two years into welfare reform, and a year after states took over programs for the poor, the numbers look good. Nationally, welfare rolls declined by 27 percent between August 1996 and March 1998. The number of Illinois welfare families declined by 17 percent since the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program went into effect in July 1997.

But despite those numbers all has not gone smoothly in the early stages of the vast welfare reform experiment. Illinois figures show as many people dropped from the rolls for procedural reasons (such as missing an appointment) as those finding work. Spending on child care for newly hired mothers fell \$50 million short of budget. And in Illinois as elsewhere, advocates worry that many people now getting hired lack skills to move up to higher-paying jobs—and won't be able to hold onto them if the economy slows down.

It's easier for people to get hired when times are good, notes John Bouman of the Poverty Law Project. But the state of the economy and the job market is beyond the control of Illinois or any other state. "We have to think in the longer term," says Bouman. "We have to have policies that are elastic enough to deal with economic changes we can't control."

The Project, part of the Chicago-based National Clearinghouse for Legal Services, will use a three-year, \$555,000 grant to track welfare in Illinois and advocate for policies that help poor people get skills and jobs that can enable them to escape poverty.

One key issue is training. Illinois' program allows recipients to draw benefits while working part-time and attending school or a training program. Such periods



don't count against the five-year lifetime maximum for drawing benefits. But, says Bouman, many recipients are being pushed into jobs with no help or information about training. And training options are thin.

"It's important for people to package a job with education so they can equip themselves to increase their earnings and move forward," Bouman says. "We need to see a whole lot more from the educational establishment, especially City Colleges, to accommodate people who work part time."

Such issues are important for low-wage workers generally. "We need to think about education and training for working people, not just for people who do their training before they start work," Bouman says. Programs could be improved by offering flexible scheduling, on-site child care, and training to help people gain skills needed for promotion.

Beyond that looms the question of whether people leaving welfare can hold onto jobs in leaner times, and whether some will ever be able to get employment in the private sector. As recipients run up against time limits, Bouman argues, Illinois and other states will have to reconsider publicly funded jobs for those who can't find work on their own.

Under the Joyce grant, the Project will advocate for strong employment-related policies, including access to child care and transportation. And its "Let's Get It Right" initiative will monitor problems implementing welfare reform and work with the state's Department of Human Services to suggest solutions.

[John Bouman, Poverty Law Project, 312.263.3830](#)

Can't We Do Better?



Reformers charge that big money is undermining our politics. They've found an unlikely ally: big donors.

Big donors are highly critical of the current campaign finance system, even as they take advantage of the access their money buys. That's the key finding of the first stage of ongoing research, funded by the Joyce Foundation, of the views of major donors to congressional campaigns, released earlier this summer.

The survey of people who gave more than \$200 (some well into the thousands) to congressional campaigns in the last election found that donations were rewarded with access. Over two-thirds had personally contacted a member of Congress to express an opinion or seek help with a problem, while over one-third had contacted both of their Senators.

U.S. Senator Russ Feingold (D-Wisconsin), co-sponsor of a campaign finance bill that has been blocked in Congress, called the pattern of access "extraordinary." "It shows that campaign contributions at least buy access for donors that is simply not available to average constituents," said Feingold. Indeed, as Georgetown University Professor Clyde Wilcox, one of the researchers, commented, "A higher percentage of these contributors have personally contacted their representatives in the last two years than the percentage of ordinary Americans who even know who their representatives are."

But while major donors benefit from the system, they don't much like the way it works. Three quarters say the system should be either replaced or substantially reformed. Some 80 percent complain that officeholders regularly pressure donors for contributions, and 50 percent acknowledge that contributors pressure officeholders for access and favors. Donors express strong support for such reforms as banning unregu-

lated party funds, known as “soft money,” limiting spending by congressional candidates, and limiting television advertising.

Such support from an unexpected source heartened reform advocates. “The Joyce study illustrates that even active contributors to our campaign system believe it is broken,” said Rep. Christopher Shays (R-Connecticut), co-sponsor of a major reform bill, which passed the House in August. Added Sen. Feingold, “When the players themselves believe that this game must be changed, that gives me confidence that we will ultimately win the fight for reform.”

But David Mason, senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation, was more skeptical. “If you did a confidential survey of officeholders, you would find that they don’t like the current system either,” said Mason, who has been nominated to the Federal Election Commission. “But the problem is deciding what should replace it.” He cited constitutional problems and political uncertainty over how reforms would affect competing interest groups as factors that block reform despite widespread public support.

“If reformers would focus on the major current problem with the system, soft money, they could get broad support from the people who contribute to their campaigns,” says one policy analyst.

Soft money opponents

The finding that major donors favor banning “soft money” drew cheers from those who have been working for such a ban. Investment banker Jerome Kohlberg, who has organized business leaders in his Campaign Reform Project, cited the poll results in a *New York Times* op-ed charging that “the soft money

system—substantial, unregulated contributions to political parties—is bankrupting our democracy.” Federal Election Commission figures released in June showed that the two parties had already raised more than \$100 million in soft money for the November election.

Michael Malbin, guest scholar at the Brookings Institution and a professor at the State University of New York at Albany, said the data show that “if reformers would focus on the major current problem with the system, soft money, they could get broad support from the people who contribute to their campaigns.” Malbin consulted on the bill offered by freshmen in the House of Representatives that would go after soft money, which he calls “the sledgehammer that is used to smash whatever regulations currently exist.”

For reforms to succeed, it's important to understand the people who are being regulated, says one researcher. “One size doesn't really fit all.”

The poll of 1,118 donors to the 1996 congressional campaign, identified by the FEC, took place in late 1997, under a Joyce grant of \$66,850 to Georgetown University. Besides Wilcox, study authors include Professors John Green of the University of Akron, Paul Herrnson of the University of Maryland, and Lynda Powell of the University of Rochester. Another grant of \$70,620 to the University of Maryland will enable the researchers to delve further into who the major donors are, why they give, and how they would react if reforms were enacted.

The first set of results, released in June, show that major donors are overwhelmingly white (95 percent).

Eighty percent or more are male, over 45, college educated, and wealthy, with annual incomes well over \$100,000. But researchers also found important differences. While a majority of donors identified themselves as politically conservative, nearly one-third were liberal Democrats. And donors said they gave for a variety of reasons, not simply for some narrow quid pro quo.

Why they give

Says Wilcox: “Some are mainly motivated by local issues, and they always give to local candidates. Some are very partisan, so they always give to their party’s candidates. Some are motivated by a single issue. Often that’s abortion—but we were surprised by how often social welfare issues came up, especially among Democrats.” Only a minority of donors acknowledged that they gave money in order to secure favorable treatment or advance some economic interest. And some donors favor events that offer a chance to socialize with politicians and other donors.

Researcher Herrnson says the next phase of the study will explore which donors give to which candidates, and what influences them to give—events, personal appeals, or information provided by party leaders or political action committees. And the researchers will examine contributions by donors at the highest levels—those who gave over \$8,000 or contributed to more than eight campaigns—to see what motivates them and whether they get anything in return.

John Green hopes that such differences will help shed light on reform options. “It’s hard to see how reforms can succeed if those who are drafting them don’t understand the people who are being regulated, or if they fail to recognize that different people will respond in different ways. One size doesn’t really fit all.”

Clyde Wilcox, Georgetown University, 202.687.5273;
www.georgetown.edu/wilcox/Joyce.htm

Money and Politics

Campaign Reform Roundup

Illinois, known for weak campaign laws, has passed what one legislator called “the first major piece of legislation on the issue” in over 20 years.

The legislation restricts personal use of campaign funds for noncampaign expenses, outlaws fundraising on state property, restricts fundraisers in the state capital during legislative sessions, and limits gifts to legislators by people lobbying or doing business with the state. In addition, the bill expands the information about political donors that must be publicly disclosed and requires candidates to file disclosure reports electronically, to make it easier to track the flow of money. There are no limits on contributions, however, nor on legislative leaders giving money from their own war chests to fund local races.

The bill, signed by Governor Jim Edgar in August, was hammered out by representatives of both parties with help from Mike Lawrence, associate director of the Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, a Joyce grantee.

The new law “gives us a starting point and puts some definition on what

is illegal behavior,” said Cynthia Canary, director of the Illinois Campaign for Political Reform. “But it does nothing at all to stem the flow of money.” Early estimates put the cost of this year’s statewide campaigns at between \$115 and \$120 million, 30 percent more than the 1994 election. The Illinois Campaign hopes to use the beefed-up disclosure provisions and the candidates’ reports posted on its web site to raise public awareness of the flow of money and build support for broader reform measures.

Other states have also been making progress:

Wisconsin: Reform recommendations made last year by the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Commission, a bipartisan task force appointed by Governor Tommy Thompson whose work was funded by a Joyce grant, were incorporated in a bill introduced in the legislature this spring. But legislative leaders amended the bill to the point that the Commission chairman, Don Kettl, rejected it, as did reformers and editorialists around the state, and the bill was withdrawn. In April, how-



ever, the governor signed another measure providing for electronic filing of campaign reports.

Indiana: The Citizens Action Coalition Education Fund held several town meetings in July to solicit public ideas for reform. Project coordinator Julia Vaughn said the meetings surfaced some innovative ideas but also revealed real anxiety about declining rates of voting: “People think it’s a crisis, and if we don’t stop the downward trend our democracy is gone.”

The group will use what it hears at the meetings as well as in polls of Indiana residents to craft a set of reform proposals, due this fall. “There’s been a lot of activity around campaign reform in the past few years, but very little has actually been done,” said Vaughn. “We hope to find some areas where there’s real consensus and take them to the legislature.”

Ohio: Citizens Policy Center, another Joyce grantee, was invited by lawmakers to provide ideas for legislation man-

dating electronic filing of and Internet access to campaign reports. The Center was pushing legislators to comply with state laws requiring disclosure of the employers of campaign contributors. Such information

“enables the public to see the economic interests supporting candidates,” said Laura Yeomans, the Center’s research director.

The push for reform picked up steam in Akron. The Dollars and Democracy Project, a joint effort of the American Friends Service Committee and several Midwest Catholic dioceses, organized a petition drive to put campaign reforms on the November ballot. The group’s proposals would limit contributions to municipal campaigns, including donations from nonresidents, and mandate disclosure of donors’ addresses and employers. Akron’s mayor named his own task force to devise reform alternatives.

Cynthia Canary,
312.621.9050;
www.ilcampaign.org

Julia Vaughn, Citizen
Action, 317.921.1120

Laura Yeomans,
330.343.9588;
www.ohiocitizen.org

Greg Coleridge, Dollars
and Democracy/Akron,
330.253.7151

Paying for Pollution

Calculating the cost of pollution is a daunting task. But Minnesota has taken it on.

In determining what it costs to generate electricity, utilities and regulators traditionally leave out costs to the environment—including air pollution and global climate change produced by burning coal. In 1993, Minnesota decided to recognize some of those costs, and regulators created a formula to measure them. Now the state's Court of Appeals has backed them up.

"It's the first time the courts have weighed in on the evidence of the air pollution and climate impacts of power plants and found them damaging," said Michael Noble, executive director of Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy, a Joyce grantee.

The case, decided in May, is especially important at a time when legislatures are moving to deregulate utilities. Competition for low-priced power may lead to increasing reliance on cheap but dirty coal generating plants, Noble and others worry. They're working to have such

plants upgraded and to have utilities pay for the pollution they generate—which will make cleaner but more expensive sources, such as wind power, more competitive.

The case grew out of a 1993 law directing state regulators to consider environmental costs in utility planning. An administrative law judge heard expert testimony from industry, health and environmental advocates, including Noble's group as well as the Izaak Walton League and the Environmental Law and Policy Center.

According to Noble, setting costs for global climate change proved especially difficult. In the end, the regulators assigned what Noble called "the most conservative" damage estimate of \$1.5 to \$6 billion annually for the social and economic costs of global warming. The utilities sued, joined by North Dakota, a coal-producing state. The Court of Appeals upheld the Commission's ruling. Utilities have said they will appeal.

Michael Noble,
651.225.1133;
www.me3.org

GrantsApproved

The following grants were approved at the July 30, 1998 meeting of the Board of Directors:

Education

Children's Defense Fund - Ohio
Columbus, Ohio \$349,000

For work to improve public education for Ohio's disadvantaged children (3 yrs.)

Citizens League Research Institute
Cleveland, Ohio \$100,000

To promote accountability to the public for progress on school reform of the Cleveland Public Schools (1 yr.)

Cuyahoga Community College
Cleveland, Ohio \$100,427

To assist the educational technology office of the Cleveland Public Schools in training teachers in grades six through nine to use an Internet-based science and mathematics curriculum (1 yr.)

Family Service of Milwaukee
Milwaukee, Wisconsin \$50,000

For project of the Kids First Coalition to assist the Milwaukee Public Schools in developing and implementing training for school councils recently mandated by the school district (1 yr.)

Greater Cleveland Roundtable
Cleveland, Ohio \$226,470

For activities of the Cleveland Summit on Education to assist the Cleveland Public Schools in implementing the district's decentralization plan, providing training for central office staff, and developing a communications strategy (1 yr.)

Leadership for Quality Education
Chicago, Illinois \$149,050

To assist in the recruitment, startup, and operation of charter schools in Chicago; to evaluate the need for a similar approach in the Chicago metropolitan region; and to assist charter school proponents in Cleveland (18 mos.)

Recruiting New Teachers, Inc.
Belmont, Massachusetts \$300,000

To assist reform organizations in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, and Milwaukee in their efforts to address teacher recruitment and diversity issues (2 yrs.)

**The University of Chicago,
Department of Education**
Chicago, Illinois \$482,000

For the Center for School Improvement's development of a new program for principals and veteran teachers to share information about strategies that improve student achievement (2 yrs.)

**University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee,
Department of Exceptional Education**
Milwaukee, Wisconsin \$104,837

To bring together faculty and administrators from teacher training programs in Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, and Milwaukee to study training programs operating in other cities in order to improve the quality of urban teaching (1 yr.)

Total Education \$1,861,784

Employment

Economic Policy Institute
Washington, D.C. \$100,000

To research and disseminate information about wage levels, income growth, and job retention issues faced by low-wage workers and welfare recipients as they enter the labor market (2 yrs.)

House of Mercy
Des Moines, Iowa \$174,358

For project to determine the effectiveness of job training and placement services for low-income women and incorporate lessons learned into state policy (2 yrs.)

**Indiana University, School of Public
and Environmental Affairs**
Bloomington, Indiana \$300,000

To assess responses to state welfare reform policies by Indiana welfare recipients, nonprofit agencies, and local governments (2 yrs.)

Indianapolis Private Industry Council
Indianapolis, Indiana \$243,323

To determine the most effective ways to help young adults with few job skills to enter and stay in the workforce (2 yrs.)

**National Clearinghouse for
Legal Services, Inc.**

Chicago, Illinois \$555,000

To develop recommendations and advocate for Illinois policies that help low-income job seekers, including welfare recipients, obtain skills and jobs that can move them out of poverty (3 yrs.)

Training, Inc. National Association
Indianapolis, Indiana \$272,212

To determine the most effective ways to enhance job retention and advancement for low-skilled persons (2 yrs.)

**University of Wisconsin-Madison,
Center on Wisconsin Strategy**
Madison, Wisconsin \$150,000

For the Dane County, Wisconsin Jobs With a Future project, to help low-wage workers advance into better jobs and to disseminate lessons learned from the project to policymakers, community groups, and labor unions (2 yrs.)

**Wisconsin Council on
Children and Families**
Madison, Wisconsin \$600,000

For policy analysis and advocacy to improve Wisconsin Works, the statewide welfare program, by increasing access to jobs, training, education, and other supports necessary to help families out of poverty (3 yrs.)

Total Employment \$2,394,893

Environment

American Rivers, Inc.

Washington, D.C. \$166,000

For work with the Environmental Defense Fund to analyze, publicize, and reform inefficiencies in the federal river shipping system that subsidize environmentally harmful projects (1 yr.)

Business and Professional People for the Public Interest

Chicago, Illinois \$120,000

For work with other public interest groups to encourage Illinois transportation officials to adopt measures that reduce demand for new roads, preserving air quality and open space (2 yrs.)

Center for Rural Affairs

Walthill, Nebraska \$349,741

For work to ensure that the conservation titles of the 1996 farm bill are successfully implemented (2 yrs.)

The Delta Institute

Chicago, Illinois \$150,000

To provide information to Great Lakes environmental advocates and policymakers about toxic chemicals that settle into the Great Lakes from the air (18 mos.)

Environmental and Energy Study Institute

Washington, D.C. \$100,000

For its efforts to advance the use of energy efficiency and renewable energy resources for electric energy production (2 yrs.)

Environmental Law and Policy Center of the Midwest

Chicago, Illinois \$360,000

For its work toward better transportation and land-use planning in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin and the development of high-speed rail corridors throughout the region (2 yrs.)

Environmental Law Institute

Washington, D.C. \$143,500

For its work with Resources for the Future to identify the environmental benefits, technical and cost feasibility, and practicality of having electricity-generating facilities switch from coal to natural gas (18 mos.)

Fox-Wolf Basin 2000, Inc.

Appleton, Wisconsin \$66,294

To develop an innovative water pollution control project for the Wisconsin Fox-Wolf Rivers basin and to create the institutional infrastructure to facilitate similar projects elsewhere (1 yr.)

Great Lakes United

Buffalo, New York \$95,000

To strengthen and coordinate citizen action focused on making the water quality of the Great Lakes a priority with policymakers and on preserving the strength of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (1 yr.)

Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minnesota \$926,425

For collaborative efforts with the Clean Air Task Force; Citizens Action Coalition Education Fund; the Hoosier, Michigan, and Ohio Environmental Councils; the Pollution Probe Foundation; and the Wisconsin Environmental Decade Institute to seek to reduce the pollution created when coal is burned to produce electric energy (2 yrs.)

Lake Michigan Federation

Chicago, Illinois \$100,000

To provide leadership on environmental issues in the Lake Michigan region and support to affiliated groups (1 yr.)

Land Stewardship Project

White Bear Lake, Minnesota \$29,300

To plan a study assessing the costs and benefits, both economic and environmental, of standard and alternative agricultural production strategies (1 yr.)

Metropolitan Planning Council

Chicago, Illinois \$250,000

To promote regional transportation policies that address environmental concerns and meet the needs of business and communities (2 yrs.)

Michigan Land Use Institute

Benzon, Michigan \$279,300

For work with the Surface Transportation Policy Project to reform transportation decision-making in Michigan to prevent air and water pollution and the loss of natural areas and irreplaceable farmland (2 yrs.)

Minnesotans for an Energy Efficient Economy

St. Paul, Minnesota \$200,000

For work on tax policies that will discourage air pollution and encourage renewable energy (2 yrs.)

Mississippi River Basin Alliance

Minneapolis, Minnesota \$60,000

To coordinate efforts to build public support for more environmentally sound management of shipping on the Upper Mississippi River (18 mos.)

Sustain

Chicago, Illinois \$250,000

To support the media and public education efforts of national and regional groups working to promote transportation reform policies in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin (2 yrs.)

Tellus Institute

Boston, Massachusetts \$125,000

To help state environmental protection agencies integrate prevention-based approaches to industrial pollution throughout their programs (2 yrs.)

Union of Concerned Scientists

Cambridge, Massachusetts \$110,000

To explore public health and environmental concerns related to the use of antibiotics in large-scale beef, hog, and chicken farms (1 yr.)

University of Wisconsin-Madison,
Robert M. La Follette Institute of
Public Affairs

Madison, Wisconsin \$340,916

To identify the critical policy questions involved with the process of shifting responsibility for environmental quality from the federal to the state level (2 yrs.)

World Resources Institute

Washington, D.C. \$250,000

To work with a group of large corporations to develop the business and financial case for considering environmental and social impacts in corporate decision-making (2 yrs.)

Total Environment \$4,476,476

Gun Violence

Boston University,
School of Public Health

Boston, Massachusetts \$50,000

Planning grant to enable its Join Together organization to explore ways to strengthen the gun violence prevention movement (6 mos.)

Fund for Independent Publishing,
Inc., The New Press

New York, New York \$27,200

To publicize *Making a Killing*, a 1999 book studying America's gun industry (1 yr.)

Iowans for the Prevention
of Gun Violence

Cedar Rapids, Iowa \$100,000

To coordinate efforts with state and voluntary agencies to reduce firearms deaths and injuries in Iowa (2 yrs.)

Minnesota Institute of Public Health
Anoka, Minnesota \$251,844

For continued efforts on policy work designed to reduce and prevent gun violence in Minnesota (2 yrs.)

University of California-Davis,
Violence Prevention Research Program
Sacramento, California \$80,707

To study whether handgun buyers face an increased risk of firearms-related death (1 yr.)

Total Gun Violence \$509,751

Money and Politics

Brennan Center for Justice

New York, New York \$65,000

For research and data analysis in connection with the legal defense of the Federal Election Commission's regulation of political parties' use of soft money contributions (1 yr.)

California Voter Foundation

Sacramento, California \$60,000

To expand its nationwide campaign to promote electronic filing of and Internet access to political finance disclosure records at all levels of government (1 yr.)

Citizen Advocacy Center

Elmhurst, Illinois \$130,192

To analyze the role of campaign contributions in the awarding of local and county contracts in DuPage County, Illinois (2 yrs.)

Money & Politics Iowa

West Des Moines, Iowa \$130,000

To develop a campaign finance database, create a web site, and publish analyses of political contributions and expenditures (18 mos.)

National Voting Rights Institute

Boston, Massachusetts \$250,000

For a litigation and public education program to give legislatures increased authority under the Constitution to regulate campaign finance practices (2 yrs.)

University of Maryland, Department
of Government and Politics

College Park, Maryland \$70,620

To complete a study on the motives, attitudes, and behavior of major donors to congressional candidates (1 yr.)

Total Money and Politics \$705,812

Culture

Museum of Contemporary Art

Chicago, Illinois \$60,000

To present the work of three minority performing artists and to implement a series of related activities designed to increase the diversity of the Museum's audience (1 yr.)

Old Town School of Folk Music

Chicago, Illinois \$175,000

To increase minority participation in music education programs (2 yrs.)

Parkways Foundation

Chicago, Illinois \$125,000

To implement community-controlled cultural programs that would establish sustainable connections between people in three culturally-diverse Chicago neighborhoods and three major cultural institutions (2 yrs.)

Ravinia Festival Association

Highland Park, Illinois \$150,000

To build participation in its programs among residents of the Chicago neighborhood of North Lawndale (2 yrs.)

YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago,
Duncan YMCA Chernin's Center for
the Arts

Chicago, Illinois \$25,000

To assist in the organizational development of a cultural center serving residents of the near west side of Chicago (1 yr.)

Total Culture \$535,000

Total Grants Approved \$10,483,716

ForMoreInfo

Reports, web sites, and information of interest

Money and Politics

The [Brookings Institution](#) is distributing *The Day After Reform*, which surveys campaign finance laws in all 50 states. The book, from the Rockefeller Institute Press, explains such terms as soft money, political action committees, and issue ads, and tracks how reforms work in practice. 800.275.1447; [www.rockinst.org](#)

Education

The [Education Writers Association](#) offers “Education Reform Briefs” to bring reporters up to date on reform efforts nationwide. Issues include charter schools, new teachers, and professional development. (\$3.00) 202.637.9700; [www.ewa.org](#)

Environment

[Wisconsin’s Environmental Decade Institute](#) discusses the health effects of eating fish contaminated with mercury. *Troubled Waters* discusses how mercury ends up in Wisconsin’s lakes, who is most vulnerable, and what can be done. Though the report centers on Wisconsin, it notes that the winds that carry mercury pollution cross state borders. 608.251.7020; [www.wsn.org](#)

[Pollution Probe’s](#) study, *Emissions from Coal-Fired Electric Stations*, estimates emissions from coal-fired power plants in Canada, the Great Lakes and the U.S. Northeast regions. The report calls for government action to improve air quality. 416.926.1043; [www.pollutionprobe.org](#)

Gun Violence

The [Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence’s](#) web site contains news and policy updates, research, statistics, and other items—including a gun violence quiz. 312.341.0939; [www.ichv.org](#)

Employment

The [Chicago Jobs Council’s](#) study of Chicago’s one-stop career centers—employment-related services for both employers and job seekers under one roof—offers insights about how this new system affects low-income, unemployed Chicagoans and the organizations that serve them. *Five Stops on the Road to Improving Chicago’s One-Stops* is available by calling 312.663.0723

The Foundation accepts grant inquiries throughout the year. If you have a question about any of our programs, please call and request a copy of our most recent guidelines or send a letter to the appropriate staff person, whose names are listed below.

Copies of the Foundation's 1997 Annual Report are also available by contacting the Foundation.

Education

Warren Chapman
Reginald Lewis
Peter Mich

Employment

Kara Kellaheer Mikulich
Unmi Song

Environment

Julia Klee
Margaret O'Dell

Gun Violence

Deborah Leff

Money and Politics

Lawrence Hansen

Culture

Ellen Alberding

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The next proposal deadlines are:

December 15, 1998
(for the March 1999
Board meeting)

April 15, 1999
(for the July 1999
Board meeting)

The Foundation recently moved to new offices:

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Work In Progress

Editor: Mary O'Connell
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1998 Gold Medal Winner
Wilmer Shields Rich Award
Council on Foundations