



October 1, 2009

Dear Members & Friends:

On behalf of The Box Project board of directors, I am excited to share our latest terrific news: we have recently merged with the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi (CFNM).

Early this year, The Box Project board began exploring potential partnerships that would ensure the long-term sustainability of our mission and programs while allowing us to achieve the economies of scale and synergies of working with a like-minded organization with a similar mission. Another key goal was for us to move our offices closer to the recipient families that we serve.

CFNM met all of our criteria and exceeded our expectations. They are a well respected and established nonprofit located right in Mississippi—where over 80% of The Box Project recipient families currently live. They service eight counties in Mississippi, (Coahoma, DeSoto, Marshall, Panola, Quitman, Tallahatchie, Tate and Tunica) and their commitment to education, health and young people is in alignment with The Box Project mission statement. This merger gives us the unique opportunity to bring our corporate offices close to many of the people and communities that we serve and potentially offer additional CFNM services to our members.

CFNM is financially stable and has a unique commitment from the Maddox Foundation, which matches endowed funds dollar for dollar-- essentially doubling the value of those donations, and thus stretching the reach of what those dollars can accomplish. You can read more about CFNM at www.cfnm.org.

We believe that this merger will increase the financial vitality of both organizations and will allow our missions and services to complement each other as they continue to evolve and grow. The Box Project is now a CFNM program, but we will continue to support each of our existing services areas (including Mississippi, Maine, Appalachia, South Dakota and Florida) in our mission of assisting families in poverty in rural America. Our new contact information is:

The Box Project
c/o Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi
315 Loshier Street
Hernando, MS 38632
1-800-286-9928
info@boxproject.org

We hope that you join us in welcoming this wonderful new opportunity to “encourage and enrich the lives of families and individuals living in poverty”.

Sincerely,

Rachel E. Santa
President of the Board

To encourage and enrich the lives of families and individuals living in poverty in rural America by establishing meaningful relationships, promoting education, and offering material aid.