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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEED MONEY TO HELP PROMOTE SCHOOL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY?

Schools can now apply for Schools on the Move Grants.

October 27, 2008, Charleston, WV - West Virginia schools that need money to help promote physical activity for students, staff and families can now apply for Schools on the Move Grant through West Virginia on the Move (WVOM). Grants are available for up to \$5,000 each for up to ten schools.

In the past three years, WVOM has awarded twenty five Schools on the Move Grants to twenty four schools in nineteen counties. Previously awarded projects have included construction of school walking tracks, a gymnasium climbing wall, bicycling club activities, and family fun and exercise nights. To apply schools must plan to make at least two school environmental changes that will improve physical activity opportunities or participation levels of students, staff, and families during the 2009-2010 school year.

Lynn Dawson Uglund, a volunteer and parent at Kanawha County's Chamberlain Elementary, a previous grant award winner, said, "We made huge improvements to our playground and walking track using the Schools on the Move Grant money. Both students and the community have truly benefited. It was easy to apply and I'd encourage any school that has a plan to get their kids moving to consider applying for this grant. "

Schools on the Move Grant Applications and information can be obtained at www.wvonthemove.net. The deadline for submitting a Letter of Intent to Apply is December 15, 2008. Applications are due February 15, 2009.

An information session and grant workshop for the Schools on the Move Grant program will be held on November 7, 2008, in Canaan Valley, West Virginia from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The session is offered during the West Virginia Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (WVAHPERD) Conference, November 6-8, 2008. For conference information go to www.wvahperd.org.

WVOM is a non-profit organization that promotes a physically active lifestyle for all West Virginians by providing leadership, technical expertise, and collaboration with the goal of reducing the prevalence of chronic disease.

This is the fourth year of the Schools on the Move Grant Program. Funding is provided by The Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and West Virginia University Children's Hospital Foundation. For more information visit www.wvonthemove.net or call Shannon C. Holland, WVOM Executive Director at 304.345.1235.

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