

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Media ContactTracy A. Walker
(313) 559-2552
pr@medf.net**Minerva Education and Development Foundation in Race for
\$250,000 Chase Community Giving Grant***Charity asks supporters to vote on Facebook, now through September 19*

DETROIT – The Minerva Education and Development Foundation—a non-profit that funds education, health, and arts initiatives with emphasis on serving youth, seniors, women and girls—is competing with charities nationwide for a portion of \$5 million in grants as a participant in the Chase Community Giving program. Supporters can help MEDF just by voting for the foundation through the Chase Community Giving program on Facebook between September 6-19.

“We are excited about this opportunity to receive up to \$250,000 and by what it means for the community. We could increase access to education and economic development programs at a time when they are needed most. We could also pass on our passion for philanthropy by providing youth with opportunities to contribute to our community,” said Lois Elizabeth Bingham, president. “We are celebrating our 20th anniversary, and a grant of any amount would be a wonderful gift that would allow MEDF to meet needs in metro Detroit for years to come.”

Established in 1992, the Minerva Education and Development Foundation has awarded more than \$400,000 in scholarships and grants to individuals and community organizations that provide intergenerational community services, education, economic development, health, and arts programs. MEDF also funds initiatives that support the development of leadership skills for girls and women, and a variety of college scholarships.

Through the utilization of social media networks, the Chase Community Giving program has directed more than \$20 million toward charities nationwide, putting the power to bring positive change across the nation into the hands of those who need it most. Chase is continuing the popular program this year, giving hundreds of additional charities, including the Minerva Education and Development Foundation, the opportunity to win grants to further their mission.

The Fall 2012 round of the Chase Community Giving program benefits smaller and local charities by limiting nominees to 501(c)(3) charities with operating budgets under \$10 million. The top vote-getting charity will receive \$250,000; the remaining 195 top charities will earn awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000, for a total of \$5 million dollars in grants.

The Minerva Education and Development Foundation asks the Detroit community for its support. You can help the foundation receive up to \$250,000 by visiting <http://www.facebook.com/ChaseCommunityGiving> and casting your vote. Chase customers can cast a second vote for the Minerva Education and Development Foundation at <http://www.chasegiving.com>.

To learn more about the Minerva Education and Development Foundation or how you can get involved, please contact Lois Elizabeth Bingham at (313) 433-MEDF (6333) or president@medf.net.

About the Minerva Education and Development Foundation

The Minerva Education and Development Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Michigan non-profit corporation. Established in 1992 by the Detroit Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., its mission is to improve the quality of life in metropolitan Detroit by supporting and initiating educational and economic development programs that foster community growth. For more information, visit <http://www.medf.net> or call (313) 433-MEDF (6333).

About Chase Community Giving

Chase Community Giving is a grant program inspiring a new way of corporate philanthropy by letting participants vote to help determine which small and local non-profits will receive donations from Chase. The program has given away more than \$20 million in grants to charities nationwide, with emphasis on many issues, including animals and the environment; education; health; military and veterans; poverty; and the arts. To learn more about the program, visit <http://www.facebook.com/ChaseCommunityGiving>.

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