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College Forward receives \$210,000 grant to support College Access and Persistence Efforts

Funding Comes as Innovative Nonprofit Reaches New Heights

AUSTIN, TX -- September 15, 2010 -- College Forward, a nonprofit that provides college access and college persistence services to economically disadvantaged students, was awarded \$210,000 by the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation to support the organization's unique programs through the 2010-2011 academic year.

The funds provided by the Dell family foundation will be used to support hundreds of students in Central Texas as they pursue their higher education aspirations, from the high school level through college. The grant arrives as the number of clients College Forward serves grows by nearly 34 percent this year to 1,900 high school students and collegians.

"Thanks to the Michael & Susan Dell Foundation and other committed community partners, we're able to offer free and innovative services to motivated students across the Austin region," said Lisa Fielder, Founder and Executive Director of College Forward. "For the past two years, the foundation has supported our mission to make college dreams come true for economically disadvantaged young Texans. This award demonstrates their commitment to students in our community and throughout the state."

The Michael & Susan Dell Foundation first awarded a grant to College Forward in 2008, and with this year's contribution, have provided a total of \$515,000 to the nonprofit.

ABOUT COLLEGE FORWARD: College Forward provides college access and college persistence services to motivated, economically-disadvantaged students, in order to facilitate their transition to college and make the process exciting and rewarding. We believe that access to higher education is the right of every young Texan. www.collegeforward.org

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