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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Midlands Community Foundation Awards Grants Totaling \$187,999**

Papillion, Neb., July 9, 2007 – Midlands Community Foundation has awarded grants totaling \$187,999 to nine Sarpy and Cass County organizations including Alegent Health Midlands Hospital, Visiting Nurse Association, Papillion-La Vista Community Theatre, American Cancer Society, Gretna Public Schools, Sarpy County YMCA, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Plattsmouth Volunteer Rescue Department, and Gretna Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.

Through its grants program, Midlands Community Foundation places an emphasis on prevention and education. The Foundation has a strong commitment toward programs benefiting health, art, culture, community, economic development, education, and human services. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded gifts totaling millions of dollars.

“We are pleased to be able to provide financial support to these worthy non-for-profit organizations for their programs or projects which will enhance the quality of life for the residents of our community,” said Tonee Gay, Executive Director. “We are honored to be of service to one of the fastest growing areas in the state of Nebraska.”

The mission of the Midlands Community Foundation is to serve the health and well being of communities in Sarpy and Cass counties through contributions to benefit non-profit and service organizations in these areas.

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