Sharing the rich experience of contributing

Improving the community

Advancing our profession
Over the past several years, the PLUS Foundation has successfully worked as the philanthropic and community outreach vehicle of the professional liability industry. With the financial support of our corporate sponsors, and the tremendous efforts of our industry professionals, we have together performed many good works across the United States of America. During 2009 we helped the less fortunate, provided financial support for higher education, funded graduate work, promoted diversity and brought our members together for a variety of volunteer events.

As a PLUS or PLUS Foundation board member for the past decade, I can share that one of the consistent and longstanding desires of the leadership has been to engage a broader section of our membership in giving back to our community. Our success in that goal has been steadily growing, and in 2009 we reached new heights. On a local chapter level we hosted 11 events and through the Chapter Charity Grant program we gave $90,000 to local charities selected by our members. Similarly, at the PLUS Annual Conference in Chicago, we set a new Conference Cause record with 115 volunteers showing up at the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

The PLUS Foundation also continued our work with academia in 2009 through our Graduate Grant program. We provided grants to six schools, funding research on topics such as securities class action settlements and an examination of professional liability related to health care delivery.

In 2009 the Foundation expanded our Diversity efforts with a focus on promoting women’s leadership in our industry. At the PLUS Annual Conference we had our inaugural Women’s Leadership Initiative session featuring Aon’s CFO, Ms. Christa Davies. This was the Foundation’s first step toward a broader diversity effort.

The Foundation also had great success with fundraising events in 2009. Our 8th Shots for Charity hockey tournament was held in February, with nearly 200 attendees and $37,000 raised for the Foundation’s programs. We also put on our first annual Chips for Charity poker tournament in November, with nearly 200 attendees and over $60,000 raised for the Foundation’s work. The Foundation continues to host outstanding fundraising events, working to maintain sufficient revenue in these challenging financial times.

As we look to 2010, we see a still fragile economy, a competitive professional liability marketplace, and members and member companies with a myriad of financial challenges laid out before them. The PLUS Foundation will continue to find innovative ways to raise funds to support your charitable programs. I say “your”, because this is your organization. As we undertake these initiatives, we do it on your behalf and hope to have your involvement and support. Whether that support is financial, or it is manifest in the giving of your time at one of our volunteer events, we hope that 2010 will see all PLUS members support the Foundation.

Jeffrey P. Klenk
PLUS Foundation
President 2010
Travelers
Chapter Charity Grants
The most tangible and effective giving often happens at a local level. Through Chapter Charity Grants, the PLUS Foundation supports the efforts of individual PLUS Chapters throughout the United States and Canada—enabling members to make connections with each other and make a difference in their community at the same time.

Conference Cause
Each year, thousands of PLUS members gather for an event that is considered the industry's leading professional conference. The PLUS Foundation uses this opportunity to engage volunteers and raise funds to support a local charity in the city hosting the conference.

Disaster Relief for PLUS Members
When major disasters affect PLUS members and their families, the PLUS Foundation is there—providing emotional and financial support after tragedies such as Hurricane Katrina and 9/11.

Minority Intern Grant Program
This program sponsors high performing college students in internship positions within PLUS companies—to promote diversity and recruit new talent into the professional liability industry.

Women’s Leadership Initiative
Recognizing that women are underrepresented in the industry, particularly at senior levels, this initiative will create opportunities to network and learn, and raise corporate awareness of the value of diversifying leadership.

Graduate Study Grant Program
To further research in the field of professional liability and encourage young scholars, our Graduate Study Grant Program supports graduate and Ph.D. level students with research assistance grants.

Gilmartin
At a time when higher education has become more expensive—and perhaps important—than ever, this program provides four-year college scholarships to children of PLUS members and PLUS sponsor company employees.

Shots for Charity
Since 2002, this popular event has become a great opportunity for PLUS members to have fun and get physical in support of a great cause. The annual hockey game and fundraiser is held in conjunction with the annual PLUS D&O Symposium.

Chips for Charity
This poker tournament is all about fun and games, a new fundraiser held at the PLUS Annual Conference. We look forward to continuing this as a tradition into the future.
From national events like Shots for Charity and Conference Cause to local chapter grants and volunteer programs, we are making connections and making things happen—all across North America.
OUR 2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• The Chapter Charity Grant and Volunteer Program supported 22 charities across the U.S. and Canada with $90,000 in grants. Eleven chapters held charitable events that engaged 171 volunteers in good works.

• The Greater Chicago Food Depository was selected as the Conference Cause in 2009. A record 115 PLUS members and colleagues volunteered for a total of over 350 hours of work in the warehouse. The charity was awarded a $30,000 grant.

• A new Women’s Leadership Initiative was launched with a guest speaker session at the PLUS Annual Conference. The Foundation will continue to create opportunities for women to network and learn from the experience of others, and will raise corporate awareness of the value of developing and diversifying leadership.

• 10 graduate students at 6 universities received $35,000 in funding for research of professional liability topics through our Graduate Study Grant Program.

• 8 Children of PLUS members and PLUS sponsor company employees received $10,000, four-year college scholarships through the Gilmartin Scholarship program.

• 7 high-performing college students participated in our Minority Intern Grant Program, taking internships with 5 PLUS companies. Since the program’s inception, over 100 intern placements have been sponsored.

• Chips for Charity, a new poker fundraising event, hosted over 250 players at the PLUS Annual Conference in Chicago and raised $60,000 for the PLUS Foundation. Shots for Charity hockey game and party continued into its eighth year, raising $37,000 for the Foundation.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
WHERE CONTRIBUTIONS WENT IN 2009

CONTRIBUTE WITH CONFIDENCE

Since 1998, the PLUS Foundation has established a solid track-record of identifying appropriate endeavors, organizing successful initiatives, distributing gifts responsibly and ensuring that all expectations and standards are faithfully met. Through solid planning and efficient administration, we ensure that the resources we receive are put to the best possible use.
We are also indebted to our Board of Directors for their generous contributions and their able guidance and leadership as we strategically expand the Foundation’s influence and impact.

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OUR PEOPLE

The PLUS Foundation would not exist without the generosity of our major sponsors; our corporate supporters, large and small; and the individual contributions of time, resources and talent from hundreds of PLUS members and volunteers.

We sincerely thank you.
Philanthropy
Diversity & Outreach
Education & Research
Awareness & Recognition

To get involved with the PLUS Foundation or contribute to our programs, talk to us at a PLUS event, give us a call, or visit us online.

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