

## For Immediate Release

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### **W.H.O. Foundation Awards Grant to the SEDOL RAPP Group**

Gages Lake, IL March 25, 2011–The W.H.O. (Women Helping Others) Foundation, BeautiControl’s charity of choice has awarded the SEDOL (Special Education District of Lake County) with a \$5,900 grant. SEDOL was one of W.H.O.’s selected 11 of 2011 to receive a grant this year. W.H.O. received over 400 applications.

“After reviewing SEDOL’s grant submission, it was clear this is an organization that is truly helping the communities of Gages Lake,” said Cindy Turek, Executive Director of W.H.O. “In the spirit of W.H.O.’s mission, and by the grace of the power of its many contributors, we are pleased to help make a difference – one organization at a time.”

RAPP (Relatives as Parents Program) Coordinator, Linda Amundsen expressed her appreciation and excitement upon hearing that SEDOL was receiving this grant.

“When I first heard that The SEDOL Foundation was receiving The W.H.O. grant I called our secretary and we cried tears of joy! I have such an appreciation and love for the grandparents and children that attend this group and I felt a sense of relief and joy that we have been recognized in such a wonderful way.”

SEDOL was established to support special needs children and help them develop to their full potential. This includes providing physically, mentally and emotionally challenged children up to age 22 with educational opportunities appropriate to each child’s needs.

The RAPP program was designed in particular to help the grown number of grandparents raising special needs grandchildren in the area.

With help from organizations like the W.H.O. Foundation, the SEDOL RAPP Group is able to continue their programs and meet the grandparents’ and children’s needs.

“The W.H.O. grant funds will be used for costs associated with the continuation of our group. For example, for the children’s activities we often need supplies for arts, crafts, gym equipment, or cooking,” said Amundsen. “For the grandparents’ portion of the group we might have speaker fees. The money will also help pay for our monthly dinner and with transportation costs. We have several families that cannot attend without prearranged transportation.”

#### About the SEDOL RAPP Group

SEDOL provides both funding and guidance for a wide range of supplemental resources and activities not covered by tax dollars. And, with the availability of exciting new technologies and other enabling resources, there is a growing opportunity to make a real, positive difference in the lives of the children and their families. The SEDOL Foundation seeks to provide resources for the development of innovative programs and practices, encourage programs that prepare students with special needs for successful transitions into the community, support the development of informational networks for families of children with special needs, and promote a positive image of children with special needs and the programs that serve them.

#### About the W.H.O. Foundation

Established in 1993, the W.H.O. Foundation is committed to encouraging women everywhere to help others through community service, supporting organizations dedicated to the needs of women, children and families in crisis. W.H.O. has been enlightening, educating and empowering women and families for nearly 17 years, and has awarded over 4 million dollars in grants.

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