

**For Immediate Release:**  
January 2, 2007

**For more information contact:**  
Anne S. Weekley  
Vice President, Communications  
(313) 961-6675

**The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan Awards \$200,000 in Grants for Blood Disorder Research**

*Grants will fund research in Myelodysplastic Syndrome and other malignant blood disorders*

*Detroit* – The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan recently awarded four grants totaling \$200,000 to researchers at three institutions from the Foundation’s J.P. McCarthy Fund to support research in malignant blood disorders. Named in honor of the legendary radio show host, the J.P. McCarthy Fund supports charitable organizations and activities in the study, research and treatment of blood disorders, including Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), a rare blood disorder that claimed the life of J.P. McCarthy.

Researchers and institutions receiving grants are:

- Dr. H. Joachim Deeg – Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, *Seattle*
- Dr. Michelle Le Beau – University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine, *Chicago*
- Dr. Seth Corey – University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, *Houston*
- Dr. Laurence J.N. Cooper – University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, *Houston*

The recipients were chosen following an extensive application review by a panel of peer reviewers that included physicians and researchers from around the country. Dr. Melvin Lester, J.P. McCarthy’s physician during his illness and a family friend, oversaw the selection process.

MDS is a rare blood malignancy in which the production of blood cells by the bone marrow is disrupted. The only known cure is a stem cell transplant, though donor stem cells are not readily available. J.P. succumbed to MDS just six weeks after he was diagnosed.

After his death, McCarthy's wife Judy founded the J.P. McCarthy Foundation in 1996 to raise funds for MDS research at major universities and medical centers across the country. In 2004, the foundation became a fund of the Community Foundation. The Foundation provides professional and administrative support to carry out the original foundation's mission. Additional information about the J.P. McCarthy Fund of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan is available on the Community Foundation's Web site, [www.cfsem.org](http://www.cfsem.org), or by calling (313) 961-6675.

The **Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan**, founded in 1984, is a permanent community endowment built by gifts from thousands of individuals and organizations committed to the future of southeast Michigan. The Foundation works to improve the region's quality of life by connecting those who care with causes that matter. The Foundation supports a wide variety of activities benefiting education, arts and culture, health, human services, community development and civic affairs. The Foundation has assets of \$500 million and, since its inception, has distributed more than \$240 million through more than 25,545 grants to nonprofit organizations throughout Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe, Washtenaw, St. Clair and Livingston counties.

###