

1200 Foundation awards two new grants

An East Bay non-profit founded by Piedmont resident Lester Ellis has continued its mission of supporting economic independence among low-income residents of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

The 1200 Foundation, under the leadership of Piedmont residents Anne Frizell, its President, and Marcia Shrago, the Grants Coordinator, announced in late July the awarding of two new \$5,000 grants to non-profit groups Wardrobe for Opportunity (based in Oakland and Pleasant Hill) and Opportunity Junction (based in Antioch).

Wardrobe for Opportunity furnishes professional attire and career support for low-income job-hunters in the Bay Area. The organization functions in tandem with over 100 community agencies, hundreds of clothing donors and about 200 active volunteers. Since 1995, it has readied more than 13,000 individuals for the professional Bay Area workplace – including nearly 2,000 clients last year alone.



Wardrobe for Opportunity's Interim Executive Director Michelle Augenstein (middle) accepts a \$5,000 check from Anne Frizell (left), President of the 1200 Foundation and from Grants Coordinator Marcia Shrago.

Opportunity Junction combats poverty by helping low-income Contra Costa residents develop the skills and self-esteem to support themselves and their families. The group provides paid internships, alumni services and computer training, and combines technology, literacy

and personal development with real-world seasoning to place people on the path to economic independence. This is the second grant awarded to the group by the 1200 Foundation.

To learn more about the 1200 Foundation visit www.12foundation.org.