

For immediate release
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Richard King Mellon Foundation provides funding for ASSET Inc. new business systems

PITTSBURGH – ASSET (Achieving Student Success through Excellence in Teaching) Inc. recently received a \$250,000 grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation to help support ASSET’s new business systems.

“This grant is especially important now during this time of our unprecedented growth because it allows us to upgrade our infrastructure systems in order to continue providing unparalleled service to member school districts here in the region and new members across Pennsylvania,” said Dr. Reeny Davison, ASSET Inc.’s executive director. “We are deeply grateful to the Richard King Mellon Foundation for its long-standing support.”

For 60 years the Richard King Mellon Foundation has maintained a commitment to southwestern Pennsylvania. The Trustees have shown a preference for supporting established organizations with specific objectives, and for partnering with other donors rather than solely underwriting the entire total cost of projects. The Trustees believe that this policy allows the Foundation's funds to benefit the largest number of people. In 2006, Trustees approved grants totaling \$86,995,705.

ASSET Inc. is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to continuously improve teaching learning through science education. ASSET currently serves more than 150 school districts, charter and private schools impacting 4,400 teachers and 180,000 students across Pennsylvania. Established in 1994 by Bayer Corporation and several community partners, ASSET also received substantial funding from the National Science Foundation. Today ASSET has achieved sustainability as a fee-for-service organization with ongoing support from several local and national foundations and corporate partners. Through a \$13.5 million appropriation in the FY 2007/08 state budget, the Pennsylvania Department of Education is partnering with ASSET Inc. to improve elementary science education statewide.

For more information on Richard King Mellon Foundation, visit <http://foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/rkmellon>

For more information on ASSET Inc., visit www.assetinc.org or call 412-481-7320.