

MORE THAN \$25 MILLION FUNDED SINCE 1997

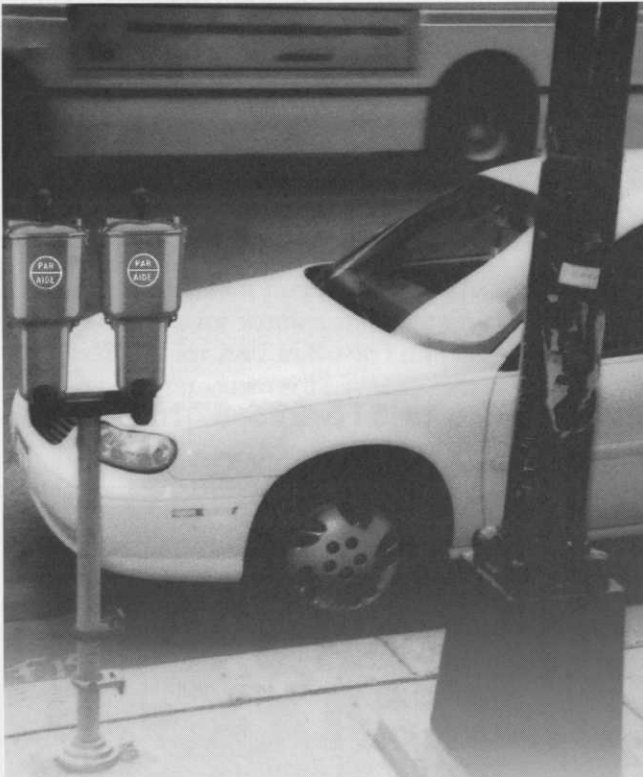
# USGA Awards Nearly 2 Million in Grants

Colorado Springs, Colo. - With nearly \$2 million awarded by the United States Golf Association at its first Foundation Grants Committee meeting of 2002, the Association has passed the monetary halfway mark in its 10-year, \$50-million commitment to the game of golf, which was launched in 1997.

A total of 62 grants were awarded to programs in 27 states totaling \$1,809,925 as part of the USGA "For the Good of the Game" Grants Program. Including grants awarded at the first 2002 meeting, total giving since 1997 has surpassed \$27 million. A projected 37,000 economically disadvantaged youths in these USGA-supported programs will be given an opportunity to learn and grow through the game of golf.

Born out of a belief that the game can positively impact people's lives, the Grants Program was established as a way to help make golf more affordable and accessible to people facing economic and physical challenges.

Of the 62 grants awarded so far in 2002, 53 will support junior golf programs for economically disad-



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## IN MINNESOTA

**Minnesota PGA Scholarship Fund**  
Detroit Lakes - \$4,500

**Physically Limited Golfers Association**  
Maple Plain - \$5,000

**Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board**  
Minneapolis - \$15,000

vantaged youth.

One such program is Mid-South Junior Golf Association (MSJGA) of Memphis, Tenn., which was awarded \$50,000 for junior golf instruction, course access and education. Founded in 1991 to expose inner city youth to the game of golf at no cost, the MSJGA program now reaches hundreds of youth in the Memphis area. The organization recently started The First Tee of Memphis with plans to construct a new youth facility that will serve as MSJGA's home. The new youth golf learning facility will also be supported by the Bridgestone/Firestone Foundation, among others.

Another program offering junior golf to urban youth is the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce Charity Foundation's Urban Youth Golf Program (UYGP), a previous USGA grant recipient. Granted more than \$200,000 since 1993, the UYGP has provided instruction and access to approximately 1,000 youths annually. Teaming up with the Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Department in 1997, the program operates out of the newly built, USGA-supported Tregnan Golf Academy at Griffith Park, providing the youth in Los Angeles' urban areas with \$1 green fees. At the recent 2002 Grants Committee meeting, an additional \$50,000 was awarded to UYGP for instruction.

Other grants made continue the Foundation's outreach to programs for individuals with disabilities, caddie and occupational programs for economically disadvantaged youth, and for the development of non-profit beginner-friendly golf facilities.

Grant awards to programs for individuals with disabilities included a \$20,500 commitment to The Forum Health Hillside Rehabilitation Hospital (Warren, Ohio).

This grant will support instruction and course access for more than 150 adults and children with disabilities from hospitals throughout northern Ohio. In addition to the creation of the USGA Resource Center for Individuals with Disabilities, more than \$1.5 million has been awarded to programs for individuals with disabilities in the last five years. For more information on the Resource Center, please visit the Web site at <http://golfcenterdisabilities.usga.org>