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Report highlights impact of state's nonprofit sector

LEXINGTON, Ky., (April 15, 2009) – A report released by the University of Kentucky Nonprofit Leadership Initiative highlights the social and economic impact of the state's nonprofit sector. The report is being released as part of Kentucky Nonprofit Week, April 19-25. Kentucky Nonprofit Week is an opportunity to increase the community's awareness of the importance and value provided by Kentucky's nonprofit organizations.

"More Than Charity: Kentucky Nonprofit Report" features the most recent information and statistics on Kentucky's nonprofit organizations.

"This annual report continues to illustrate how vital Kentucky's nonprofit sector is in our Commonwealth, both in services provided and economic impact," said Danielle Clore, director of the Nonprofit Leadership Initiative. "In this economy, the demand for services is hitting many organizations harder than ever before and donations for some are decreasing rapidly. It is critical that community leaders, policy makers, the business community and citizens who are volunteers and donors recognize that the nonprofit sector is an essential partner and often takes the lead in improving the quality of life in communities across Kentucky."

The nonprofit sector in Kentucky comprises a vast and diverse set of organizations that include childcare centers, hospitals, food pantries, educational institutions, theaters, faith-based organizations and environmental, advocacy and civil rights groups.

The report draws on 2006 data that nonprofit organizations are required to file with the Internal Revenue Service, among other sources. Highlights include:

- Kentucky's nonprofit sector grew at a rate of 56 percent from 1996 to 2006.
- In 2006, the sector contributed more than \$13.9 billion to Kentucky's economy, which is nearly 9 percent of the gross state product.
- The value of assets held by nonprofits in Kentucky reached \$20 billion in 2006, which is a 111 percent increase from \$9.5 billion in 1996.
- In 2006, the average charitable contribution of Kentuckians was \$1,007, or 2.2 percent of adjusted gross income. The national average is 2.3 percent.
- Human services organizations make up the largest portion of Kentucky's reporting

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charitable nonprofits at 38 percent.

The Nonprofit Leadership Initiative is an outreach program of the UK College of Agriculture. The initiative's mission is to serve, support and strengthen the nonprofit sector in Kentucky. The initiative provides quality programs and services that encourage nonprofit collaboration, effectiveness, accountability and innovation to strengthen our communities.

The full report, including county specific data, is available at <https://www.kynonprofits.org>.

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UK College of Agriculture, through its land-grant mission, reaches across the commonwealth with teaching, research and extension to enhance the lives of Kentuckians.