

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Squeaky Wheel Adventures Completes 5 Great 2009 Trips With Maine Foster Children And Receives 2 Grants Towards The Future.

Surry, ME – December 14, 2009 - Squeaky Wheel Adventures (SWA), a Maine based tripping camp for children in foster care, kinship care and adopted, completed five exciting trips this past summer. These trips took Maine kids all across New England in their 1963 eco-friendly 40' bus with such stops as; horseback riding in Vermont, the Mt. Washington Cog Railroad, Walden Pond and Six Flags Amusement Park. This summer was the most extensive to date and has left the organization feeling excited for the future of their program. "We have held on to a vision of what we hoped our program could offer and those goals were realized this summer.", says Bryan Wolf, President of SWA.

SWA received **two grants** this fall, including a \$5,000 grant from the **Maine Charity Foundation Fund of the Maine Community Foundation**. These grants are for rebuilding the bus' engine, trip funding for Maine trips during the 2010 summer and expansion of their program to Florida next winter. "Our 1963 bus has worked extremely well for us and having a rebuilt engine is one of the last steps in its complete overhaul." Bryan Continues, "The new engine will provide us with the opportunity to expand our trips to destinations such as a New York City and Boston."

These grants are instrumental for SWA to be able to cover the approximately sixty (60%) percent of its operating budget that it needs to raise in order to subsidize camper fees. The Department of Health & Human Services offers limited camp funding to kids in care but it is necessary for SWA to provide the balance. "It is grants like these that allow small organizations like SWA to provide valuable programs that may otherwise not be possible.", Bryan states. "We are beginning to receive public support now that our organization is becoming known and we will in the future need to rely less on grant funding."

SWA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit Maine licensed, insured and inspected **tripping camp for kids in foster care, other out-of-home care and adopted** which utilizes their custom converted eco-friendly 1963 40' transit bus for our exciting and educational multi-day road trips which uniquely blend fun, adventure, self exploration, and environmental education and stewardship. Their **vegetable oil, solar & Hydrogen powered bus** serves as a working model for kids to see, experience and explore alternative energy and its impact. These trips also provide a wonderful **opportunity for brothers and sisters that are not living together** to spend time with each other. SWA programming is designed to educate and strengthen participants connections to themselves, each other and our world. Their trips offer experiences that encourage self growth and confidence building which will last a lifetime.

For more information about SWA visit their website www.SqueakyWheelAdventures.org or call 207.664.0233. You can also follow SWA on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Surry-ME/Squeaky-Wheel-Adventures/59880669397>

For more information on the Maine Community Foundation visit the Foundation's website at www.mainecef.org or call 877.700.6800.

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