



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **GREAT-WEST LIFE & ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY ANNOUNCES GRANT WINNERS IN NEW PROGRAM TO FUND LOCAL EDUCATION IN COLORADO**

GREENWOOD, VILLAGE, Colo., May 26, 2011 – Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company (Great-West) announced the 25 Colorado public school teachers who will receive \$5,000 grants under the company’s new *Great-West Great-Teachers<sup>SM</sup>* financial literacy grant initiative. The program is a new signature community support initiative designed in partnership with the Colorado Jump\$tart Coalition to help promote financial education among students in Colorado’s P-12 public schools. The grants will be used during the 2011–2012 school year to purchase supplies, further teachers’ financial education, fund field trips, and/or initiate other financial education activities and programs in the classroom.

The teachers receiving grants are:

- Patricia Anderson-Dwyer, Kendrick Lakes Elementary
- Nicole Beauvais, Pikes Peak BOCES School of Excellence
- Karen Bentz, Littleton Academy
- Kristin Bernstein, Eldorado Elementary
- Kirsten Bloomfield, Pioneer Elementary
- Kristi Brunink, Evergreen High School
- Bonnie Enright, Eaglecrest High School
- Melanie Fenner, Northridge High School
- Heather Greenwood, Arapahoe High School
- Ruth Hartvigson, Jefferson County Public Preschools
- Ryan Hewitt, Colorado Springs Early College
- Della Hoffman, Place Bridge Academy
- Barbara Kidder, Fruita Middle School
- Kristin Kinner, Pioneer Elementary
- Jay LeBlanc, Littleton Academy
- Robert Letter, Peak to Peak High School
- Cindy Loehr, Arrowhead Elementary
- Linda Pfeiffer, Walt Clark Middle School
- Lindsay Redd, Fruita Middle School
- Lisa Schaeffer, Haxtun High School
- Pamela Scott, Redlands Middle School
- Lisa Sitzmann, Parker Core Knowledge Charter School
- Corrina Smith, Crossroads Transition Center
- Patricia Stevens, Sagewood Middle School
- Jill Wilson, Glenwood Springs High School

As required by state legislation enacted in 2008, new Personal Financial Literacy (PFL) expectations for grades P–12 were adopted by the state of Colorado in December 2009. Colorado House Bill 08-1168 requires PFL standards to be implemented in all public schools for the 2011–2012 school year.

PFL grade level expectations are intended to provide students with the essential knowledge and skills that will enable them to manage personal checking, savings and investment accounts; design and maintain a household budget; manage personal debt and personal credit options; understand consumer credit and finance; and develop and evaluate risk-management strategies.

“As a leading financial services company, we are pleased to help address one of the pressing educational issues facing our nation today – financial literacy,” said Mitchell Graye, president and chief executive officer of Great-West. “By assisting teachers with financial education programs in their classrooms, we hope to empower the next generation with the financial knowledge needed to create a stable future for themselves and their families.”

CJ Juleff, executive director of the Colorado Jump\$tart Coalition, said “We are proud to partner with Great-West to assist teachers in the development and implementation of personal financial literacy curricula. The Colorado Jump\$tart Coalition is excited by the caliber of the winning grant applications and appreciates the efforts of teachers across Colorado to bring personal financial literacy into their classrooms.”

**About Great-West** – Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company, headquartered in metro Denver, serves its customers through a range of group retirement savings products and services, individual life insurance and

annuities, and business-owned life insurance. It is an indirect, wholly owned subsidiary of Great-West Lifeco Inc. and “A Member of the Power Financial Corporation Group of Companies®.”

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