



For Immediate Release
Note: Photos available.

Ann Arbor's Rishi Moudgil Wins Grand Angel Award for Volunteer Work that Benefits Michigan's Children

Blue Cross Presents Award and \$5,000 Contribution to K-grams Founder

DETROIT, Nov. 18, 2002 –An Ann Arbor resident and University of Michigan graduate who pairs young children with college-student mentors received this year's Grand Angel award from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. *K-grams* founder Rishi Moudgil accepted the Grand Angel trophy and a check for \$5,000 Friday night at a gala celebration that was kicked off by the Radio City Rockettes and emceed by FOX-TV2's Rhonda Walker.

"I never expected to be honored this way," said Moudgil. "This donation will help support our plans to continue and to expand our program. My dream is to expand *K-grams* and have chapters at colleges and universities throughout the state."



The Caring for Children Angel Awards, sponsored annually since 1999 by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, is a statewide recognition program that honors individuals who distinguish themselves through outstanding volunteer work that benefits Michigan's children. This year a panel of judges from across the state rated 88 nominations to select four runners-up and the Grand Angel.

Founded in 1998, *K-grams* is a program that matches K-5 students with college student pen pals so they can develop an ongoing mentoring relationship with good role models. *K-grams* is currently in six schools in Ann Arbor, two in Willow Run and two in Metro Detroit and reaches about a thousand elementary school students each year.

The other four Angel finalists each received a trophy and a check for \$1,000 to take back to their nonprofit organizations. They are Mott Children's Hospital's Dr. Barbara Adams, who works with juvenile arthritis patients; registered nurse Ellie Mruzek, who helps children grieving over the loss of a loved one; 71-year-old Juanita Newton, who works to help develop safe places for neighborhood children to play and learn; and Oakwood Hospital's Dr. Barbara Youngs, founder of a program to families of severely disabled children with medical, social and psychological issues.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, a nonprofit corporation, provides health care benefits to 4.8 million members through a variety of plans: Traditional, Blue Preferred and Community Blue PPOs, Blue Choice Point of Service, and the Blue Care Network HMO. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network are nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. For more information, visit www.bcbsm.com.

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