

Donor issues \$100,000 challenge

The Columbian

An anonymous donor has lent urgency to the Clark College Foundation's year-end fundraising push with a challenge grant.

The \$100,000 will spice up solicitations to be mailed Monday to about 19,000 donors, said Lisa Gibert, foundation president and chief executive officer.

New donations will be matched dollar to dollar, and may be earmarked to specific programs or scholarships. The deadline is **ON THE WEB** Dec. 31.

The pledge could produce as much as \$200,000. That's about 20 percent of monetary contributions in an average year for the Clark fund, Gibert said.

"This is a big help to us. We haven't had a challenge match in some time," Gibert said. "I'd like to stimulate some giving out there" to the point of surpassing the match, she said. "In my perfect world, it'd be wonderful to say, (the \$100,000) wasn't enough."

Gibert has been reshaping foundation strategy and objectives, trying to nurture a local "culture of philanthropy," she told Clark College trustees on Monday. Not that former tactics have served Clark poorly. By last June 30, the foundation held total assets of \$76.5 million.

For more information, visit www.clarkcollegefoundation.org