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Industry Newsmakers

Howard Shiffman Acquires Purchasing Partners of America

On October 2, 2009, Purchasing Partners of America (PPA) announced its private acquisition by one of its founding members, Howard Shiffman, M.A., who is also the current chief executive officer of Colorado-based Griffith Centers for Children. Mr. Shiffman seeks to expand PPA's national membership of non-profit organizations, to bring in community-minded, for-profit business members, and to develop a new business plan for PPA's vendor offerings.

Mr. Shiffman, one of the original innovators behind PPA, will formally retire as chief executive officer of Griffith Centers in May 2010. During his 34 years with Griffith Centers, Mr. Shiffman has served in various leadership roles including president of the Colorado Association of Family and Children's Agencies, a board member of the Child Welfare League of America, and co-chair for Griffith Centers' National Advisory Committee on Public Policy. PPA operates as a subsidiary of United Social Enterprises, Inc., which is also owned by Mr. Shiffman.

PPA, founded in 1999 by five Colorado non-profit organizations, serves non-profit organizations and a growing number of for-profit businesses interested in supporting the non-profit sector. PPA seeks national contracts with vendors of food, office supplies, and technology, for its members. Members of PPA seek the best prices and services from vendors, and hold PPA accountable. PPA's vendors work directly with members and offer the PPA-negotiated group price.

For more information, contact: Howard Shiffman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Purchasing Partners of America, Post Office Box 27765, Denver, Colorado 80227; 303-881-6528; Fax: 303-986-1174; E-mail: HowardShiffman@purchasingpartners.org; Web site: www.purchasingpartners.org.

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