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Benevolent Breaks New Ground

 Posted by [Michele L. Larimer](#) on December 21, 2011 at 2:02pm

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New Site Helps Low Income Individuals Advance Towards Financial Stability
 Small dollar donors can select the individuals they want to help at [benevolent.net](#)

Benevolent is a social networking site designed to foster individual giving to meet individual needs - connecting those who face a hurdle along their path to stability and success with those who wish to help. Benevolent breaks new ground by providing the ease of personal connection coupled with the security of a trusted validation process.

A local philanthropic startup, Benevolent - which is a not-for-profit organization - launched its pilot in early December across the Chicago area. Benevolent is partnering with direct-service nonprofits across the area to identify, validate, and manage the meeting of needs for low income individuals who face specific one-time challenges.

Megan Kashner, Founder and CEO, shares:

"I always say I'm a Social Worker first. As we develop the Benevolent platform and community, though, I've had the opportunity to bring both my social service background as well as my MBA skills to bear. If we can use these two competencies and focuses to bring support to core needs for individuals, we'll have achieved something both remarkable and sustainable."

About

Benevolent is an online platform that uses the power of personal storytelling to motivate small-dollar donors to select and support those whom they wish to help overcome a hurdle. The new website, still in early development, provides clarity and assurance with regard to each need listed and a strong validation process safeguards donor's giving and ensures direct impact.

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