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Redmond Businessman gives “People’s Stimulus” to help boost local economy

Redmond, WA – July 27, 2009 - John Noble is not waiting for the Federal Stimulus plan to fix the economy. He is taking a more hands-on approach and starting his own. Inspired by the story of Alabama pharmacist Danny Cottrell who handed out \$16,000 in \$2.00 bills to his employees to spend in the community, Noble immediately saw a way to do his part. He handed out his own stimulus package and his company launched a website www.PeoplesStimulus.org to motivate others to do the same.

“We want to change the discussion about the economy to one of hope and action,” says Noble, Partner of Washington Commercial Painters of Redmond. “In the construction business especially, there has been so much doom and gloom, that when we heard Danny’s story, we were inspired to act.” Noble gave each of his employees \$50.00 in \$2.00 bills with the only direction they spend the money in the local economy. A note attached to each \$2.00 bill invites business owners to do the same. His company has given \$20,000 so far, and will give the third round next month. Noble is one of several business owners who were encouraged by the actions of Cottrell. “I liked the fact that with a People’s Stimulus Package you go to the bank, get the \$2.00 bills and the money can be circulating in the economy tomorrow. Plus, it is a kick to see the reactions as business people take the \$2.00 bills – some have never seen them, and most tills don’t have a place for them – so they do make an impression!”

Imagining the impact of a larger grass roots effort, Noble’s company created a website www.PeoplesStimulus.org. The goal is both to encourage others to take part and track the results of the People’s Stimulus Package. The website contains a “Pledge to Help” page with a “How To” section, for companies interested in getting involved with their own People’s Stimulus Package. Prior to launching the website, they contacted Danny Cottrell the Brewton, Alabama Pharmacist whose story had first inspired them. “Danny supported the website and gave us names of other business owners who have completed a Stimulus Package in their community,” says Noble. The site went live last week, and already 15 companies from Alabama to Washington who have put a total of \$90,250 into the economy - \$2.00 at a time. “This is an undertaking of individual business owners, committing what they can in their communities to help stimulate the economy,” says Noble. “What we have in common is a desire to act, and the belief that people helping people can make a difference.”

For more information see: <http://www.PeoplesStimulus.org>

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