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FOUR CHEERS

Going extra mile

Fighting poverty

Nobody wants others to live in perpetual poverty. But neither do most people want endless welfare.

Fortunately, this isn't an "either/or" choice.

The Jessie Ball duPont Fund has awarded \$385,000 to a group called Family Foundations, to help fund a "1,000 in 1,000" pilot program, a news release says.

The goal is to "move 300 low-income families (1,000 people) out of poverty in 1,000 days" by teaching them how to be successful.

Among other things, families will develop financial plans and complete a life skills training course.

More than 90,000 Jacksonville residents are in poverty, the release says.

The city is being asked to contribute \$100,000.

It should do so. That's a small amount — \$1 for every \$4 given by the duPont group — and the dividends might be substantial.

And if the pilot program works, do it on a larger level.

Thanks to the duPont group for

continuing to make Jacksonville an even better place to live.