

Ferguson Wellman Capital Management

Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation

Ferguson Wellman is living large. With only 39 employees, this privately-held wealth management company has leveraged its position in the community with a brilliant strategic marketing move – every employee is encouraged to get involved in civic affairs and give back.

“We have people with big hearts. When you look at our exposure in various causes, we appear to be a much bigger firm,” says Mark Krajl, one of the firm’s principals. “This is how we have the ability to have such a broad impact on the community.”

Broad impact is an understatement. An informal tally of just the firm’s senior management shows leadership involvement in more than 60 organizations ranging from education, health and human services, the arts, public policy and children’s advocacy issues.

“A corporate culture of giving back has been built up at Ferguson Wellman,” says Krajl. “For me, that was an important reason to come to the firm 20 years ago. It’s not just the partners or the investment professionals that believe in this philosophy – but the grass roots employees as well.”

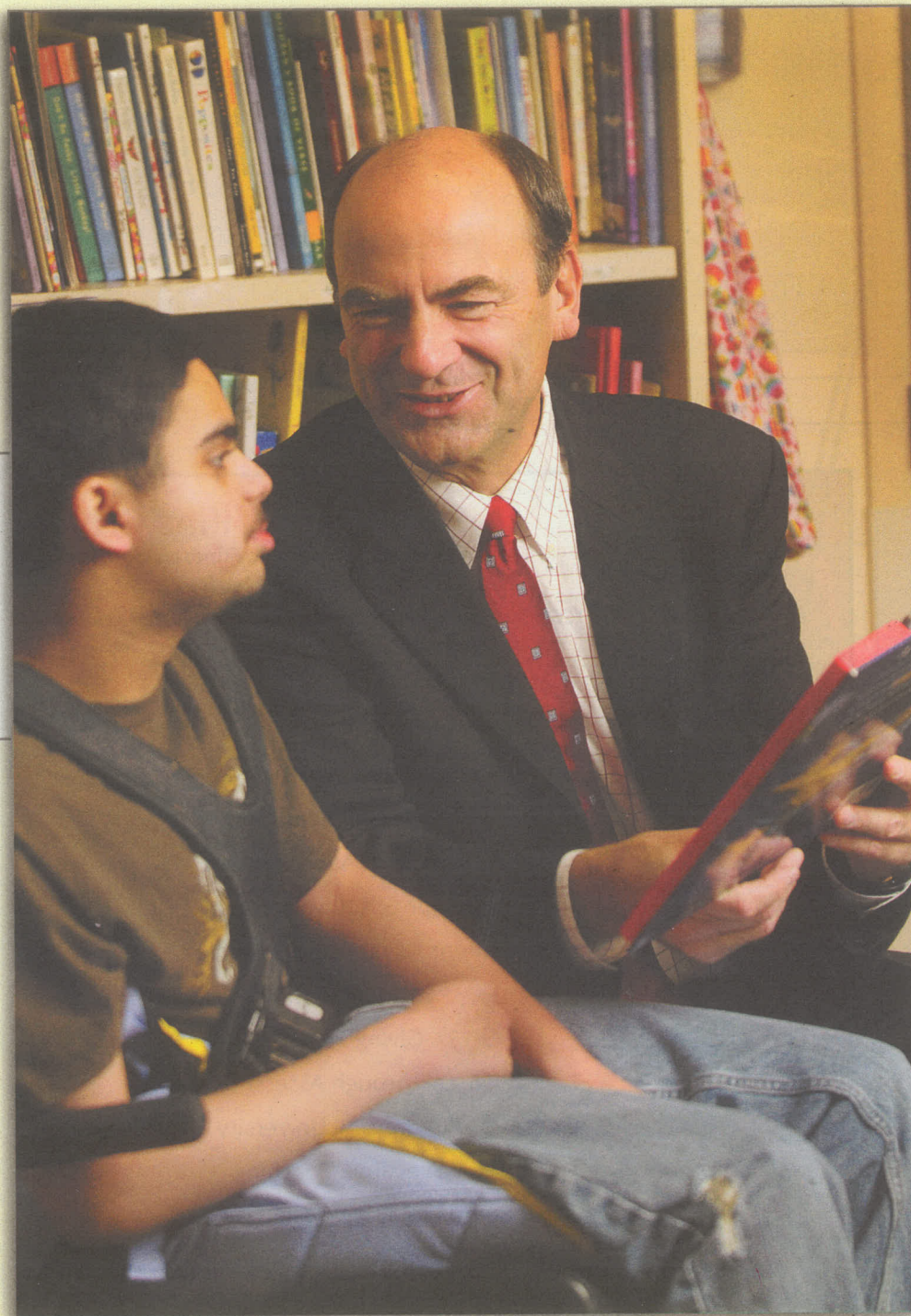
“A corporate culture of giving back has been built up at Ferguson Wellman”

– Mark Krajl

Jim Rudd, Ferguson Wellman’s CEO, is a role model among his peers for involvement that extends beyond the state’s borders. Rudd serves as chair of the board for the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco in Portland, and is Honorary Consul to Romania for Oregon. But it’s his above-and-beyond involvement that shows the philanthropic leadership he provides to the firm – co-chair of the Campaign for OSU, and leadership positions for Students for the Advancement of Global Entrepreneurship, Portland Art Museum, Oregon Symphony Association, Medical Teams International, SOLV, OHSU Knight Cancer Institute and others.

Krajl began serving in his kids’ activities – on the board of the Mt. Hood YMCA – but now his philanthropic leadership includes the Providence Child Center Foundation, March of Dimes, Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, and as past chair of the OSU Foundation, Oregon Symphony Foundation and American Red Cross Endowment Fund.

“Our firm also manages a lot of foundation and endowment money,” says Krajl. “Because we spend so much time on both sides of the table, we can bring expertise as money managers and volunteers to our boards – in a capacity serving clients, or in our volunteer involvement.”



Mark Krajl reading to Calvin.

PHOTO: VERN UYETAKE