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RANCHO SANTA FE FOUNDATION

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STIMULUS GRANTS ENCOURAGE COLLABORATIVE GIVING

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has”. This very familiar quote from Margaret Mead has had relevance for generations, but never more than today, as people come together more and more often to work together in finding solutions to many of the world’s problems. Most certainly technology and research have played a significant part in advancing this movement, but the only thing that matters is that people have moved beyond just giving and are seeking ways to work together to solve social issues.

The Rancho Santa Fe Foundation is embracing this idea with three new collaborations this year.

On April 28, 2007, the Rotary Club of Rancho Santa Fe and the Golden Triangle Sunrise Rotary Club came out in force for “Rotarians At Work” Day and provided the work force to complete the refurbishment of Alumni House #4 at San Pasqual Academy. The Foundation had made a grant of nearly \$33,000 to purchase everything that was needed to furnish the house for four graduating seniors who would take up residence on campus for an 18 month transitional period before moving out on their own. In a single day, the house was painted, cabinets were built, a new bathroom was completely installed and new landscaping placed. And what a view they will have from their new home!

On July 1st, the Foundation and Community HousingWorks began a three year collaboration on a Learning Center at their Los Robles community in Vista. Nearly 15 donors collaborated with the Foundations \$16,000 commitment to this project. Los Robles now has a full-time coordinator of the Learning Center who will provide after-school assistance and enrichment programs to elementary and secondary level students, life skill and English language assistance for adults living in the community and much, much

more. It is the Foundation's hope and that of our charitable partners that the families who participate in the Learning Center programs will further their own educational goals and move more quickly into an independent live of their own.

We are currently embarking on the third of our stimulus grant programs with The Monarch School in downtown San Diego. Monarch is dedicated to providing homeless and at-risk children with an accredited education while caring for their basic needs. Today, more than 100 kids between the ages of 7 and 18 are enrolled at Monarch School - many enjoying an environment where they can feel safe for the first time in their lives. **“All I've ever wanted is to be like a normal kid”, says Shelby, 14. “Here at Monarch, I am”.** The Rancho Santa Fe Foundation has committed \$5000 for three years to basic program enhancement. We are seeking philanthropic partners who are also compelled to assist kids who take “the worst the world has to offer, transform it into something powerful and they rise. They rise, they rise, and they rise.”

For more information on any of these programs, please contact Christy Wilson, Executive Director at 858-756-6557 or christy@rsffoundation.org