

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RANCHO SANTA FE FOUNDATION

NOVEMBER 9, 2007

Contact: Christy Wilson
858-756-6557
858-756-6561 fax
christy@rsffoundation.org

FOUR FUNDS AT RSF FOUNDATION BENEFIT FIRE VICTIMS

Three weeks after the fire storm that swept through our county, San Diego has hit its stride in literally rising out of the ashes and meeting the needs of those who lost or suffered damage to their homes and their lives. We have witnessed an evacuation of a magnitude that some say has not been seen since the Civil War. We have seen first responders battle a fire that could have taken everything in its path, and yet because of their training, heroism and, yes, the luck of winds changing and cooling weather, that path was forestalled. And Rancho Santa Fe was amongst the fortunate communities where it could have been so much worse.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Foundation I would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation for the men and women, especially in our own fire protection district but also from other districts in the county and across the western United States, who arrived and put themselves in harm's way to fight these fires. This appreciation also extends to the sheriff's department, medical personnel, and in particular to our own RSF Patrol who provided a secure and efficient evacuation plan.

And now as the re-building process begins, the Foundation has taken a leadership role in accepting the charitable donations that will give the fire survivors the ability to continue their lives. Four funds have been set up so that donors can select the areas for which they would like to provide assistance. ***The Good Samaritan Fund*** is a non-faith based fund that will provide immediate assistance to fire victims who reside within the RSF Fire Protection District. ***The Disaster Relief Fund*** will provide assistance to victims who reside anywhere in San Diego County. A work group of the ***Fire Recovery Coordinating Committee*** has begun the work of identifying families or areas that have the greatest and most urgent un-met needs in San Diego. ***The First Responders Fund*** has been established to provide assistance to the first responders who sustained loss or damage to their homes as they were protecting our community. Please join us in assisting them to recover from the fires as well. And finally, ***The Re-Building Lives Fund for San Pasqual Academy*** will provide funds for the needs of the alumni and "grandparents" who reside on the campus and who lost their homes.

No matter where your interests are in helping the survivors, these funds will reach those most in need – all donations are tax deductible and 100% of the funds will go to the survivors.

In order to make our work collaborative and efficient, the Foundation convened the ***Fire Recovery Coordinating Committee*** as soon as the fires had passed through our community. I would like to acknowledge those community leaders who have given their time nearly every morning for the last three weeks to make certain that local families have received assistance. Those leaders include, Karlana Rannals RSF Fire District, Pete Smith RSF Association, Jack Baca Village Church, Lori Brockett RSF Community Center, Lindy Delaney RSF School, Robin Chappelow Kids Korps USA, John Valencia NeighborHelp, Greg Hillgren RSF Foundation, Ian Port RSF Review, Steve Gregor RSF Rotary, Ray Ramage Horizon Christian Fellowship, Julie Norby Solana Santa Fe School and Stu Rickerson Member-at-large.

For more information, please refer to the Foundation website at www.rsffoundation.org or any of the websites for the organizations listed above.

The RANCHO SANTA FE FOUNDATION promotes philanthropy by

- Assisting donors to build assets for their chosen charitable purposes;
- Enhancing the awareness of ways to give purposefully;
- Exploring and evaluating local and regional charitable needs;
- Building endowments for charitable organizations.