

For Immediate Release

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RSF Women's Fund Awards \$230,000

On Monday, June 4 the RSF Women's Fund, gathered at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, to award six North County not for profits grants totaling \$230,000. Emotions ran high as each recipient spoke about the impact that our grant awards will have on their mission. There wasn't a dry eye in the room.

Mrs. Donna Ferrier, Grant Committee Chair presented the following awards:

- Fostering Opportunities Dollars for Scholars--\$45,000
Katie O'Whalen Ellsbree
Susan Clarke
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Diego—\$45,000—*Operation Bigs*
Paul Palmer, President and CEO
Doug Kurtz, Development Director
- Neurosciences Research Institute—\$40,000
Dr. Einar Gall, Director of Research
Dr. Elisabeth Walcott, Research Fellow in Experimental Neurobiology
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation—\$40,000
Linda Riley, Executive Director
Dr. Pam Itkin-Ansari, Research Partner
- Burn Institute—\$35,000—*Child Burn Survivor Support program*
Jim Floros, Executive Director
Diane Sutherland—Chief Operating Officer
- Kids Included Together—\$25,160—*Sustaining Inclusion*
Jan Giacinti, Executive Director

The Grants Committee began in November 2006 reviewing over 40 North County not for profit organizations, focusing in the areas of Education & Research and Social Services. After an in depth process which included site visits to 8 organizations, the entire membership voted in May to select the final six for the 2007 awards.

The Rancho Santa Fe Women's Fund began in November 2004 as a way for women to join together in meaningful and engaging ways to give back to the greater community. The power of many women giving together has a significant impact on community-wide needs with *focused, collective grantmaking*. In the three years since its inception, the Women's Fund has granted \$495,000 to 18 very worthy North County agencies.

The mission of the Rancho Santa Fe Women's Fund is to educate, inspire and increase the number of women committed to philanthropy in order to strengthen the community and impact lives through informed, focused, collective giving.

For more information on the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation, please contact Debbie Anderson at 858-756-6557.