



MEDIA RELEASE

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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S LEAD INSTITUTE STRENGTHENS EMERGING NONPROFIT LEADERS 2010/2011 LEAD Participants Announced

Monterey, CA. The Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC), in partnership with California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Continuing Education Program, is proud to announce the selection of 21 nonprofit managers from Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties for the LEAD Institute (Leadership Education and Development). These emerging leaders have demonstrated strong management skills and leadership potential as well as service rooted in diverse communities. They begin a year of leadership training in September, 2010 in Salinas.

Now in its second year, LEAD is a professional development Institute designed to develop nonprofit leaders who represent our region's cultural diversity and are prepared to meet the challenges of the future. The individuals selected for the 2010/2011 LEAD class currently work for nonprofits in a range of fields – including education, the arts, social services, the environment and more.

The LEAD participants for 2010/2011 are: Jocelyn Brady, Coalition of Homeless Service Providers; Blanca Carillo, Friends Outside; Mary Lou Coffelt, Emmaus House; Aimee Cuda, The Carmel Foundation; Greg Dinsmore, Hope Services; Jessica Frye, Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music; Nabil Ghachem, Cultural Council of Santa Cruz County; Mireya Gomez-Contreras, Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County Inc.; Judith Gonzalez, Interim, Inc.; Robbie Gonzalez-Dow, CA WIC Association/CA Breastfeeding Coalition; Laura Harris, Special Kids Crusade; Eddie Hathcock, SunStreet Centers; Ginaia Kelly, Save Our Shores; Uriel Mendoza, Community Connection; Kate Mitchell Mehle, United Way Monterey County; Katie Murphy, Central Coast HIV/Aids Services; Ileana Ortega, Monterey Bay Aquarium; Jonathan Pilch, Watsonville Wetlands Watch; Aurelio Salazar, Jr., Community Foundation for Monterey County; Carol Schimke, Break Away College Access Project; and Cristina Sotelo, Soledad Unified School District.

(More)

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S LEAD INSTITUTE, cont.

Participants will attend monthly in-depth seminars exploring a range of leadership and management issues set personal professional objectives, carry out a project in their workplace, and receive support and encouragement from a coach. "LEAD addresses an increasing need for leaders who are prepared to transform the local nonprofit sector and our communities. LEAD's unique combination of features, along with the strong peer network that these leaders develop, makes the program especially effective. There's nothing else like it in Northern California," says Kaki Rusmore, LEAD coordinator. Participants who successfully complete LEAD will be certificated by the Community Foundation for Monterey County and the California State University Monterey Bay (CSUMB) Extended Education Program.

"Participants in LEAD have flourished and the nonprofits they work for have benefited from the training and coaching they have received. The community will benefit as they assume greater leadership responsibilities in the future. The Foundation is proud to support these emerging leaders," adds Julie Drezner, Vice President of Community Engagement at the Community Foundation for Monterey County.

"The program is extremely well organized and the caliber of the presenters has been outstanding. Our cohort, a rich blend of talented people representing a broad cross-section of nonprofit agencies, has become very cohesive. (LEAD is) an extraordinary opportunity for personal and professional growth," stated 2009/2010 LEAD participant Stella Lauerman.

LEAD is made possible through grants from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation as well as the Community Leadership Project. The Community Leadership Project (CLP) is a joint effort funded by The David and Lucile Packard, James Irvine, and William and Flora Hewlett foundations to strengthen grassroots organizations that serve low-income people and communities of color. CLP was underwritten with \$10 million from the three foundations and targets small and mid-sized organizations in three geographic areas: the Greater San Francisco Bay Area, Central Coast and San Joaquin Valley. In addition, The Harden Foundation is providing the venue sponsorship for LEAD.

For more information regarding LEAD, please visit www.cfmco.org/lead or call 831.375.9712. Those interested in applying for the 2011-2012 LEAD Institute should email lead@cfmco.org. The Management Assistance Program (MAP) of the Community Foundation for Monterey County offers workshops, grants, referrals, online resources, and a nonprofit management library to support excellence in nonprofit management.

The mission of the Community Foundation for Monterey County is to improve the quality of life in Monterey County by raising, managing, and distributing charitable funds to qualified organizations and by creating positive connections between donors and their interests.

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