



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LOCAL STANFORD ALUMNI CONSULTING TEAM VOLUNTEERS HONORED AT AWARDS CEREMONY AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY

**Group has Assisted 15 Monterey County Nonprofits with Pro Bono Consulting in
Partnership with the Community Foundation's Management Assistance Program**

Monterey, CA. Four volunteers from the Stanford Alumni Consulting Team (SACT) who work in partnership with the Community Foundation for Monterey County were honored at a volunteer recognition awards ceremony which took place June 2nd at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business. Those honored were Jim Graber, who has completed twenty-five projects for SACT and Larry Hart, SEP' 89, Alex Lilley, MBA '75 and Denny Paul, who have each completed five projects. The group donates their time to assist nonprofits in Monterey County with pro bono business management consulting.

Since 1987 the Stanford Alumni Consulting Team has delivered pro bono management consulting services to hundreds of nonprofits through a network of alumni of Stanford's Graduate School of Business. One of the largest pro bono resource providers in the San Francisco Bay Area, these experienced business professionals contributed \$2.3 million worth of consulting services in fiscal year 2010.

The Community Foundation for Monterey County was approached by Stanford Alumni Jim Graber and Larry Hart in late 2004. They described their previous experience with SACT, working on projects with the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Laguna Seca, and asked if the Community Foundation might want to facilitate their working with other nonprofits in Monterey County. The Foundation saw a great fit with the goals of its Management Assistance Program (MAP). MAP supports excellence in nonprofit management and leadership through workshops and professional development, nonprofit management resources, technical assistance grants and consulting services.

The first nonprofit groups were assisted in 2005. Since then, about 10 Stanford alumni of the Graduate School of Business, and others, have assisted 15 organizations including: Action Council, Youth Hostels,

(More)

Stanford Alumni Consulting Team Volunteers Honored, *cont.*

CCCIL, Dare to Dream Fund, Girl Scouts of America, Homeless Coalition, Lyceum, MY Museum, Rancho Cielo, Save Our Shores, Sun Street, Meals on Wheels, Monterey Adult School, and the YWCA Monterey County.

The Community Foundation publicizes the opportunity in January each year, and completes a preliminary screening of potential applicants. Those who are a possible fit with the SACT program are passed on to the SACT team members, who meet with Foundation staff to narrow that group of projects down to a number that the SACT members can reasonably include in site visits. After site visits are conducted, between two to four projects are selected to be accomplished that year. Some of the criteria include: appropriate fit with the skills of the SACT members, the capacity of the organization to absorb and successfully implement the consulting provided, the impact the project could have on the community, and a desire not to provide pro bono services in areas that could be assisted by local consultants working in the nonprofit community.

“The business planning and analysis that the Monterey SACT has provided to local organizations has been invaluable,” states Kaki Rusmore, Program Officer for MAP at the Community Foundation. “The quality of their work, and the depth and breadth of their experience, provides a unique and highly valuable contribution to the nonprofits whom they serve and the community at large,” she continued. “[SACT] went beyond the call of duty...we are forever grateful for their outstanding support,” said a satisfied nonprofit.

For more information regarding SACT consulting and other Community Foundation services for nonprofits, please visit <http://www.cfmco.org/map> or call (831) 375-9712.

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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