

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE WOMEN'S LEGACY FUND AT VCCF AWARDS \$70,000 TO NONPROFITS
THAT HELP IMPOVERISHED, ABUSED WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

CAMARILLO, Calif. (Sept. 9, 2009) – Nonprofits that provide free health care to uninsured women, aid victims of domestic abuse and shelter homeless mothers and their children will receive a total of \$70,000 at the Women's Legacy Fund Luncheon at Saticoy Country Club on Sept. 17.

Ventura County CEO Marty Robinson will keynote the event at which grants will be awarded to 11 local organizations. The county's first female CEO, Robinson will address the impact of state cutbacks on programs that assist the needy and suggest how county government and nonprofits can work together to fill the gap.

"At this time, when the public sector is so challenged, we are pleased to be able to support nonprofits that give hope to disadvantaged women and their children," said Roz McGrath, a founder of the fund.

Established at the Ventura County Community Foundation in 1995, the Women's Legacy Fund has awarded from its endowment a total of \$650,000 to local organizations with proven strategies to help women and girls improve their chances of leading fulfilling lives, according to McGrath,

The luncheon will be held at Saticoy Country Club and is themed "The Power of the Purse." There will be a silent auction of new and gently used purses. All proceeds will go toward the Women's Legacy Fund.

To attend, RSVP to lsmith@vccf.org or phone (805) 988-0196, ext, 115. The event runs from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the country club, 4450 N. Clubhouse Drive, Somis.

The cost is \$60 per person or \$400 for a table of eight.

The following are the 2009 Women's Legacy Fund Grants:

\$10,000 to **Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Ventura County** for the *Jamas! Never Again! Program*, to expand the *Violence is Not for Me or My Family Program* in Fillmore-Piru;

\$5,000 to the **County of Ventura, Area Agency on Aging** to provide eviction prevention, adult diapers and food for vulnerable elderly women in Ventura County;

\$8,000 to the **Free Clinic of Simi Valley** for the *Dental Hygiene for Vulnerable Women and Their Children Program*;

\$5,000 to **Interface Children Family Services** to continue the *Teen Dating Violence Prevention: Youth Empowerment Program*, to provide courses to educate female youth in the juvenile justice system to break the cycle of domestic violence;

\$8,000 to **Many Mansions** for *Stoll House*, providing affordable housing with on-site support services for previously homeless single-parent families;

\$2,500 to **Many Motors** for the *Domestic Violence Outreach & Vehicle Placement Program*, to provide reliable transportation for women escaping domestic violence;

\$8,500 to **Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project** to expand the *Replacing Violence with Respect: Domestic Violence and the Mixtec Community Project*;

\$5,000 to **Rain Communities Inc.** to continue the *Moving Forward Program*, providing crisis counseling to residents at the RAIN Project Transitional Living Center;

\$5,000 to **Rescue Mission Alliance** for the *Lighthouse Women & Children's Mission*, to provide emergency shelter and supportive services for homeless single women and women with children;

\$5,000 to **United Way of Ventura County** for the *Fostering Success Fund* of the *United Women's Leadership Council*. The fund will provide emergency support to emancipating and emancipated female foster youth;

\$8,000 to **Westminster Free Clinic** for the *WFC Economic Response Project*, providing additional direct health care services, mental health counseling and violence prevention programs for low-income uninsured residents of East Ventura County.

VCCF is a family of charitable funds with combined assets of \$90 million. Its mission is to promote and enable philanthropy to improve our community for good for ever, which it does through grantmaking, scholarships and leadership training programs through the Center for Nonprofit Leadership. VCCF has been certified in compliance with national standards by the Council on Foundations, the highest form of peer review in the United States. For more information, visit vccf.org or contact VCCF at (805) 988-0196.

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