



**VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND
LIST OF GRANTEES**

The Community Response Fund is an unrestricted grantmaking fund that allows VCCF to award grants in a broad range of community priority areas. The Community Response Fund allows VCCF to respond to the changing needs of Ventura County and its nonprofit organizations.

The following is a list of the past grantees of the Community Response, by year and by funding priority. Participants of the Strategic Planning Institute are listed for 1998 through 2000.

2008 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Mental Health Initiative

1. \$5,050 to **Earnest Lawrence Trauma Center of LAISPS** for the Soldiers Project in Ventura County, providing outreach and counseling services to returned combat veterans in Ventura County.
2. \$8,000 to **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Ventura County** to continue support for the Court Education Program which provides education & training on mental illness to judicial personnel and legal professionals.
3. \$15,000 to **Turning Point Foundation** for the Latino Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist Certificate Workforce Program.
4. \$12,000 to **Ventura County Human Services Agency** for the In-Home Support Services Public Authority to enhance and expand its 3-day training program to include an additional full-day session on mental health and mental illness.
5. \$10,000 to **Westminster Free Clinic** for continued support of the Conecte Program which focuses on prevention and community empowerment to promote education and access to hard-to reach low-income families regarding mental illness and violence prevention

Organizations in Transition Funding

1. \$5,000 to **FOOD Share Inc.** to purchase and distribute food to food pantries serving low-income residents of Ventura County, in response to the urgent food bank crisis. This grant was used as a challenge to fund advisors to highlight the food bank crisis.
2. \$20,000 to **Ventura County Civic Alliance** to support the work of the Civic Alliance.

Conference Support Grants

1. \$1,000 to the **Planned Giving Council of Ventura County** to 2007 Planned Giving Education Day Conference for nonprofit organizations.
2. \$500 to **Moss Beach Homes, Inc.** to support the 2007 Ventura County Partnership for Safe Families & Communities Conference.
3. \$500 to the **Planned Giving Council of Ventura County** to support the “Navigating the Next Wave, Part III” workshop for nonprofit organizations.
4. \$500 to the **Association of Fundraising Professionals** to support the “The Board Game: Surefire Fundraising Strategies to Engage Your Board” AFP Symposium on Fundraising Conference for nonprofit organizations.

5. \$1,000 to **Community Access Partners of San Buenaventura (CAPS-TV)** to support the costs of making a documentary to expand the outreach to the community regarding the Moorpark Decathlon Team's efforts and success.
6. \$300 to the **Ventura County Homeless & Housing Coalition** to sponsor the June 18, 2008 meeting to examine the intersection between the foreclosure crisis and the 10 Year Strategy to End Homelessness.
7. \$500 to **Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation** to support the 7th annual Ventura County Housing Conference.

In addition to the above-noted direct grants, the Community Response Fund also:

- Provided \$10,000 to seed the Community Disaster Fund, to enable swift response to future disasters.
- \$50,000 to seed the new Homeless Transition Fund grants program, to work with the Ventura County Human Services Agency to assist homeless families and individuals in getting into housing. The program is anticipated to start up in 2009.
- Provided \$25,000 to the Special & Urgent Needs (SUN) Fund to allow that fund to continue to meet one-time emergency needs of local nonprofit organizations.
- Provided \$50,000 in matching funding for the ArtsLIVE in Ventura County Initiative to develop the capacity of local arts organizations in raising the visibility and additional capital for the arts in our community. ArtsLIVE anticipates beginning grantmaking in 2009.

2007 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Disaster Preparedness for Vulnerable Populations Funding

1. \$30,000 to **Ventura County Public Health** for the Office of Emergency Services, for the Vulnerable Populations Task Force, to purchase disaster-related supplies and distribute them to non-profit organizations serving vulnerable populations.
2. \$4,680 total to the following organizations to purchase disaster supplies and equipment: **Arc Ventura County, Area Housing Authority, Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clara Valley, Brain Injury Support Group of Ventura County, Chapel Lane Housing Inc., El Centrito de la Colonia, FOODShare Inc., Help of Ojai Inc., Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurses Association, Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project, The Salvation Army of Ventura, Senior Concerns of Conejo Valley, Turning Point Foundation, United Parents for Families in Crisis.** Grants were \$320 each, with the exception of Area Housing Authority, which was granted \$200.

Mental Health Initiative

6. \$15,000 to **Turning Point Foundation** to continue with the development of a Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist Certification Program at Ventura College.
7. \$7,920 to the **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Ventura County** to support the Court Education Program providing education and training to prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and court staff about the ways that mental illness can be a factor across the spectrum of civil, criminal, family and juvenile law cases.
8. \$10,000 to **Westminster Free Clinic** to support the Conecte Program, training para-professional adults and teenagers to disseminate information and resources to low-income families, and to outreach and train others in the Latino community on mental health issues and violence prevention.
9. \$17,080 to **United Parents for Families in Crisis** to train individuals in the community and in nonprofit organizations through a series of workshops that provide them with the practical and appropriate tools on outreach, support and services to families that have children with mental illness.

Start Up & Transitional Funding

1. \$2,450 to **California Lutheran University** to provide a workshop for new school counselors to help them design, plan and evaluate programs for at-risk students in Ventura County's middle and high schools.
2. \$2,550 to **El Concilio del Condado de Ventura** to support the organizations strategic planning process, including hiring a consultant to lead the process.

Conference Support Grants

8. \$500 to **Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation** to support the 5th annual Ventura County Housing Conference.
9. \$500 to the **Planned Giving Council of Ventura County** to support the March 2007 Speaker Series Session titled "Deferred Gifts for the Small Nonprofit: Opportunities and Challenges."
10. \$500 to the **Ventura County Homeless & Housing Coalition** to support the Community Workshop on the 10 Year Strategy to End Homelessness.
11. \$500 to the **Association of Fundraising Professionals** to support the annual AFP Symposium on Fundraising Conference to be held on July 26, 2007.
12. \$500 to **CAUSE** to support the Ventura County Healthcare Legislation Forum in July 2007, to provide neutral information and education to the community regarding pending healthcare legislation.
13. \$500 to **Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation** to support the 6th Annual Ventura County Housing Conference, titled "Boom or Bust: Housing the Changing Face of Ventura County."

2006 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Disaster Preparedness for Vulnerable Populations Funding

1. \$10,000 to the **American Red Cross of Ventura County** to provide disaster training and disaster kits to Ventura County's vulnerable populations.
2. \$10,000 to **Long Term Care Services of Ventura County, Inc.** for the Disaster Training & Preparedness Project for Long Term Care Facilities.
3. \$5,000 to **Collaborating Agencies Responding to Disasters (CARD)** to provide a two-day disaster preparedness training for Ventura County nonprofits serving vulnerable populations on September 7th & 8th, 2006.

Mental Health Initiative

1. \$23,680 to **Help of Ojai, Inc.** for the Student Bereavement Support Program, serving student at local elementary schools in Ojai.
2. **\$25,000 to Turning Point Foundation** to provide training for mental health paraprofessionals with a specialization in psychiatric rehabilitation.

Start-Up & Transitional Funding

1. \$2,500 to **Rio School District** to hire a grant writer to raise funds to expand the Migrant Saturday School program.
2. \$7,000 to **County of Ventura Behavioral Health Department** to furnish the East and West Conference/Activity Rooms at Casa de Esperanza.

Conference Support Grants

1. \$500 to the **Partnership for Safe Families & Communities** for the Partnership for Safe Families 2006 "Abuse Across the Lifespan" Conference.
2. \$1,000 to the **Ventura County Civic Alliance** (Ventura County Community Foundation) to sponsor The Sustaining Agriculture for Ventura County's Future conference.

3. \$1,000 to the **Ventura County Arts Council** to help sponsor the Art Stars Awards event on April 30, 2006.
4. \$500 to the **Planned Giving Council of Ventura County** to sponsor the March 15th "Lunch & Learn" workshop on Nonprofit Financial Responsibility.
5. \$1,000 to the **Planned Giving Council of Ventura County** to support the conference "Navigating the Next Wave", providing planned giving training to Ventura County nonprofits.
6. \$1,000 to **Southern California Grantmakers** to help sponsor the 2006 Southern California Grantmakers Annual Conference.
7. \$1,000 to the **Moorpark College Foundation** to support the Leadership Conference "Motivation Toward Social Responsibility", being organized by the Multicultural Club of Moorpark College.

2005 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Start-Up & Transitional Funding

1. \$12,000 to **United Way of Ventura County** to support the development of an options analysis for the Children's Health Initiative.
2. \$6,000 to **Interface Children Family Services** to support 2-1-1 Call Center operations.
3. \$6,000 to **United Way of Ventura County** to support marketing, outreach and publicity efforts for the 2-1-1 Call Center.
4. \$12,000 to the **Ventura County Civic Alliance** for program operations.
5. \$11,000 to the **Ventura County Arts Council** to finalize and implement the strategic plan, with an emphasis on development planning and cultivating new donors and funding streams.

Senior Nutrition Transitional Program Support

6. \$3,093 to the **City of Oxnard Senior Nutrition Program** to purchase a refrigerator and juice for the senior nutrition program.
7. \$3,000 to the **City of San Buenaventura** to purchase a salad bar & related supplies, a water filtration system and an icemaker for the senior nutrition program.
8. \$300 to the **City of Santa Paula** to purchase a microwave oven for the senior nutrition program.
9. \$1,000 to the **Fillmore Senior Center, Inc** to purchase a copy & fax machine for the senior nutrition program.
10. \$2,607 to the **Moorpark Active Adult Center** to purchase new chairs for the senior nutrition program.
11. \$1,000 to the **Ventura County Community Foundation Resource Center for Nonprofit Management** to create a training program for marketing programs to seniors and to provide full scholarships for senior nutrition providers in Ventura County to attend the workshop.

Conference Support

12. \$1,500 to the **Planned Giving Council of Ventura County** to support the 2006 Planned Giving Conference.

2004 GRANT RECIPIENTS

For the Endowment Building Program

1. \$10,000 to **City Impact** for the Endowment Building Program. This includes funding for consulting services and implementation of the campaign and \$2,500 to be used for a matching gift challenge for the endowment campaign.
2. \$10,000 to **Many Mansions** for the Endowment Building Program. This includes funding for consulting services and implementation of the campaign and \$2,500 to be used for a matching gift challenge for the endowment campaign.

3. \$10,000 to **Turning Point Foundation** for the Endowment Building Program. This includes funding for consulting services and implementation of the campaign and \$2,500 to be used for a matching gift challenge for the endowment campaign.
4. \$10,000 to **Ventura County Music Festival** for the Endowment Building Program. This includes funding for consulting services and implementation of the campaign and \$2,500 to be used for a matching gift challenge for the endowment campaign.

For Training to Improve Endowment Building Capacity

1. \$500 to the **Boys & Girls Club of Conejo and Las Virgines** for attendance at training programs related to enhance the agency's endowment building efforts.
2. \$500 to **Smart Start Child Development Center** for attendance at training programs related to increasing the organization's capacity to plan and undertake an endowment building program.
3. \$500 to **Ventura County Arts Council** for attendance at training programs related to increasing the organization's capacity to plan and undertake an endowment building program.

2003 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The 2003 program focused on both capacity building and service delivery for nonprofit organizations.

1. \$9,370 to the **Coalition to End Family Violence** for the Harvest for a Better Life Program, a program providing culturally appropriate outreach and education regarding sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, and crisis intervention and service program referrals to agricultural workers and their families countywide.
2. \$8,130 to **Samaritan Center of Simi Valley** for the PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) winter-overnight shelter program for homeless persons in the city of Simi Valley. The PADS program uses local churches and other venues for over-night shelters during the cold winter months. Clients are given information on other services for the homeless during their stay at the shelter.
3. \$10,000 to **Tri-Counties Labor Foundation** for the Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program (BMWTP). This program provides young adult (18-25 years of age) trainees from disadvantaged areas with educational and occupational skills training, such as basic reading & math skills, general construction skills, lead abatement certification, OSHA safety courses, tool training courses, etc. After completion of training, the BMWTP provides job placement and retention services.
4. \$7,500 to **Turning Point Foundation** for the Oxnard Supported Education Project, providing adult basic education, and literacy and GED tutoring to mentally ill adults from Oxnard and Port Hueneme. Turning Point Foundation serves individuals that are homeless, mentally ill and recovering from substance abuse. The program prepares clients to gain employment and become self-sufficient.
5. \$10,000 to **Project Understanding** to support the creation of the Ventura Homeless Service Center. The Center will provide day services (showers, counselors, etc), emergency shelter (up to 30 days), and transitional housing (up to two years) for homeless people in the City of Ventura. The funds will help continue the work of the Project Manager to work with the City to finalize site identification and design plans, manage the Capital Campaign, and ensure proper financing is in place for construction and/or rehabilitation.
6. \$10,000 to **FOODShare** to provide support for a Grantwriter and Major Gifts Officer for the Feed our Future Capital/Endowment Campaign. The larger facility will enable the agency to increase their food distribution by 25%, and serve an extra 20,000 people annually through their programs which distribute food to those in need throughout the County.
7. \$5,000 to **Ventura County Homeless & Housing Coalition** to purchase the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), a database system that will allow homeless service agencies to track their services to clients, share information, coordinate resources and identify gaps

in services. The database will be available for use by all homeless service agencies in Ventura County and will assist them in gathering data that is critical for services without compromising individual privacy.

2002 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The 2002 grants program focused on both capacity building and service delivery grants for nonprofits.

1. \$10,000 to the **American Red Cross** for the Agricultural Worker Health Safety Program. This program will provide health instruction, nutrition information, first aid and CPR training to 250 agricultural workers in Ventura County. Twenty-five of the trainees will be chosen to receive instructor training and will become bilingual instructors and disaster responders, who can assist this population during emergencies.
2. \$5,850 to **Blanchard Community Library- Literary Services** for their Family Literacy Project and the Homework Center. This project addresses the literacy needs of adults and children who are limited or non-English speakers, as well as those of who are native English speakers through computer-based language and literacy programs, small class instruction and one-to-one tutoring for ESL students. The Homework Center provides guidance to students completing homework assignments, including a junior reading mentor, reading skills exams, and a productive study environment.
3. \$10,000 to **Caregivers** for the “Building Bridges” Intergenerational Program. This program trains high school student volunteers to provide in-home assistance for homebound, frail seniors. These students (under adult supervision) will develop relationships with the seniors and will also perform various tasks (such as reading, writing, yardwork, cleaning, etc.).
4. \$10,206 to **C.R.E.W.** for the Trail Construction & Fire Prevention Youth Employment Program. This program provides paid part-time employment to underprivileged and at-risk youth ages 14-21. The youth perform environmental work such as maintaining and improved access to public lands by constructing, restoring and maintaining backcountry trails and campgrounds and performing fire prevention support services.
5. \$10,000 of to **Interface- Big Brothers Big Sisters** for their School Based Mentoring Program providing positive role models to at-risk elementary school students by providing one-to-one mentoring by successful high school-aged youth. Youth-to-youth mentoring will reduce the age gap in typical mentor relationships and provide the younger students with a role model who is “more similar” to themselves, and one who will be more likely to have faced similar social, economic and cultural barriers.
6. \$10,000 to **Project Understanding** to assist in the creation of the Ventura Homeless Service Center. The planned new center will provide day services (showers, laundry facilities, access to counselors, etc), emergency shelter and transitional housing for homeless people in the City of Ventura. The funds will be used to hire a Project Manager, who’s duties will include: identifying the building site, fundraising, public and government relations, and working with the various service provision agencies to negotiate a memorandum of understanding.
7. \$10,000 to **RAIN Communities, Inc.** to hire a Fund Development Manager who will raise additional funds to help support the County of Ventura’s RAIN Project, a program which provides transitional housing and services to Ventura County’s homeless families. RAIN Communities Inc. will work to raise additional funds for the RAIN Project in order to pay for landscaping, furnishings and other improvements to complete the new RAIN Project facilities. These funds will also be used to convene a wide variety of stakeholders to begin examining plans to transition the RAIN Project from the County’s operations to a free-standing non-profit organization.
8. \$10,000 to **Samaritan Center of Simi Valley** for their provision of services to the homeless and to host other agencies who would like to do outreach and perform services for their Samaritan Center’s clients. The Samaritan Center provides the basic necessities for good health to homeless

populations (meals, showers, hygiene products, clothing, etc.), runs a winter shelter program, and provides a location for other agencies wanting to provide services to the homeless (dental and optometrist services, for example).

9. \$10, 250 to **Tri-Counties Labor Foundation** for the Brownfields Minority Worker Training Program (BMWTP). This program provides young adult trainees from disadvantaged areas with educational and occupational skills training, such as basic reading & math skills, general construction skills, lead abatement certification, OSHA safety courses, tool training courses, etc. After completion of training, the BMWTP provides job placement and retention services.
10. \$10,000 to **Turning Point Foundation** for their Community Investment Project. This project will develop the necessary non-governmental resources needed to create a stable financial base to allow the agency to expand its recovery-based services to persons disabled by mental illness in Ventura County. Turning Point Foundation will use these funds to hire a full-time Fund Development Director charged with implementing a capital campaign to raise \$150,000 additional funds per year over the next two years, which will be used to increase the service capacity of the organization.
11. \$19, 694 to the **Ventura County Medical Resource Foundation** in order to hire a half-time bilingual/bicultural coordinator to oversee VCMRF's outreach efforts. VCMRF current manages five projects that engage in bilingual/bicultural outreach to the Spanish-speaking community. The creation of a permanent staff position to support these efforts will greatly enhance VCMRF's ability to provide outreach services and programs to the Hispanic community.

2001 GRANT RECIPIENTS

The 2001 grants program focused on both capacity building and service delivery grants for nonprofits.

1. \$6,803 to **Big Brothers Big Sisters of Interface** for Amigas Unidas, a program designed to break the cycle of early pregnancy, school drop-out, poverty and academic failure for junior high school girls. The program includes a formal curriculum, group mentoring, guest speakers and field trips.
2. \$2,500 to the **Blanchard/ Santa Paula Library** for the Parenting Program Expansion Project, offering weekly parenting classes that aim to break the cycle of low-literacy, promote positive role-modeling and instructs parents how to teach and spend quality time with their children.
3. \$10,000 to **CAREGIVERS: Volunteers Assisting the Elderly** for the "Building Bridges" Intergenerational Program. High school students will be recruited, trained and supervised to provide in-home assistance for homebound seniors.
4. \$8,452 to **CAUSE_(Coastal Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy)** for the Neighborhood Wellbeing Intern Program. Interns (primarily low-wage workers) will attend 30 hours of training on health coverage, health promotion, service referrals and effective communication. Each intern then has the goal of educating 20 families in their community on the availability of health coverage and how to access health care.
5. \$10,000 to **The C.R.E.W. (Concerned Resource & Environmental Workers)** for the Trail Construction & Fire Prevention Youth Employment Program, which provides job training and employment in wilderness areas to at-risk youth.
6. \$2,500 to the **Conejo Free Clinic** for the purchase of pediatric medial supplies (audiometer, blood pressure cuff, gowns, etc.) to offer two Pediatric Clinics per month on an ongoing basis.
7. \$10,000 to **FOOD Share** for matching funds to conduct a capital campaign feasibility study to establish an appropriate expansion plan and to identify future donors. The expansion will address the growing need in Ventura County for expanded hunger services as identified in their strategic plan.
8. \$10,000 to **Juanamaria PTA** for the Healthy School Pilot Project at Juanamaria Elementary School, a program combining classroom nutrition education, the integration of classroom gardens as hands-on education and a farm-to-school salad bar lunch program.

9. \$10,000 to **Kids Arts** of the Westside Cultural Center for the X-Treme After-school Program at De Anza Middle School, a prevention program that facilitates classes for students in visual arts, theatre arts and movement.
10. \$8,000 to **Long Term Care Services of V.C.** for the Ombudsman Volunteer Recruitment Training and Management Expansion, to better equip the organization to recruit, train and retain state certified volunteer Ombudsman to handle the needs and provide advocacy for elderly living in long term care facilities.
11. \$15,000 to **Lutheran Social Services** to provide shelter during winter months, hot meals year-round, job counseling and case management services to homeless and working poor individuals and families.

1998 – 2000: THE STRATEGIC PLANNING INSTITUTE

From the Community Response (formerly Community Needs Response) Fund's inception in 1998 through 2000, the program consisted of the Strategic Planning Institute. Each participating organization received a grant coupled with intensive training and assistance provided by VCCF. This unique funding program resulted in carefully crafted strategic plans around such goals as: increasing the effectiveness of the board in guiding organizational growth; improving budgeting and financial management; developing new revenue-generating and marketing strategies; and assessing progress in meeting community needs. Participating agencies included:

2000: Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clara Valley, LEARN (Life Enhancement & Addiction Recovery Network), Long Term Care Services, Project Understanding, Samaritan Center of Simi Valley, Ventura County Leadership Academy, Ventura Jewish Family Services

1999: Alzheimer's Association, ARC Ventura County, Boys & Girls Club of Moorpark, Cabrillo Music Theatre, FOOD Share, Many Mansions, Ojai Valley Library, Palmer Drug Abuse Program, Turning Point Foundation, Parents United

1998: City Impact, Easter Seals- Tri Counties, El Centrito De La Colonia, Gull Wings Children's Museum, New West Symphony, Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation, Ventura County Discovery Center