



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **VCCF LEADERSHIP SESSIONS AIMED AT EXECUTIVES MANAGING CHANGE**

**CAMARILLO, Calif.** (April 27, 2011) – The sixth annual Sidney Lyons Leadership Series – tailored to professionals navigating change in the nonprofit and private sectors – will begin May 5 and run through Aug. 4, at the Center for Nonprofit Leadership of the Ventura County Community Foundation.

Slated for the mornings of May 5, June 2, July 7 and Aug. 4, the sessions are presented as interconnected learning modules during which participants will explore transformational change, management and leadership excellence, resource development and professional growth.

“At a time when so many nonprofit leaders are planning their retirements, the sector must make an investment in emerging leaders and prepare them for the responsibilities ahead,” said Dena Jenson, vice president and director of the Center for Nonprofit Leadership.

The series has been made possible through the posthumous generosity of Sidney Lyons, a familiar figure each Christmas season in Ventura. Dressed as Santa Claus, Lyons handed out \$20 bills on Main Street. A successful accountant who battled substance abuse most of his life, he died in 2003 and left a bequest to the Community Foundation to further nonprofit leadership. As part of his bequest, slots in the series are reserved for leaders serving organizations that address addiction recovery.

Participants must commit to attending all four sessions. Registration includes a one hour teleclass between each module and a copy of the book “Now, Discover Your Strengths” by Marcus Buckingham and Donald Clifton. Teams from the same organization are highly encouraged.

To view the curriculum for each session, go to [vccf.org](http://vccf.org), click on Center for Nonprofit Leadership and download the training brochure.

The fee is \$125 per person, \$50 for each additional person from the same organization. Partial scholarships are available.

To register online, go to [vccf.org](http://vccf.org), click Center for Nonprofit Leadership and select Workshops/Registration.

For more information about the classes or to register by phone, contact Susan Seale, program coordinator, at (805) 988-0196, Ext. 110.

VCCF is a family of charitable funds with combined assets of \$106 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](http://vccf.org) or contact VCCF at (805) 988-0196.

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