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**Ventura County Community Foundation to Hold Seminars for  
Organizations Serving Alcohol and Drug Addicts**

(VENTURA, CA – November 29, 2004) — The Ventura County Community Foundation announced today the establishment of the Sidney Lyons Endowment Fund, which will provide for an annual series of leadership seminars for organizations that serve addicts and those struggling with addiction to alcohol and drugs.

The fund was established through an estate gift from local resident Sidney Lyons who passed away in 2004. “Sidney battled with addiction issues for a large part of his life and felt strongly that this was an area on which his philanthropy should focus,” said VCCF President Hugh Ralston. “We are pleased to translate his commitment to helping others into a long-lasting program that will make a difference here in the county.”

The Sidney Lyons Leadership Series, to be launched in spring 2005, will be held under the direction of the Foundation’s Resource Center for Nonprofit Management as part of its dedication to training the leaders of Ventura County’s nonprofit community. Attendees who are themselves recovering alcoholics and/or drug addicts will be given preference.

The Ventura County Community Foundation is a family of charitable funds created in 1987 by citizens who cared deeply about strengthening the community, preserving and expanding its cultural resources, and helping those in need. The Foundation works to enrich and enhance the quality of life in Ventura County and to provide leadership to residents and nonprofit organizations in building an enduring source of funds and strengthening community participation to meet the changing needs and challenges of the community. For more information, visit [www.vccf.org](http://www.vccf.org).

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