



Contact:
Ross Goldberg
(818) 597-8453

Ventura County Community Foundation's
Destino: The Hispanic Legacy Fund
Accepting Grant Proposals for 2006

(CAMARILLO, CA – December 12, 2005) — The Ventura County Community Foundation (VCCF) is accepting grant proposals for programs in the County's Latino Community which focus on "family strengthening" as well as those which address the growing obesity epidemic. The grants are offered through Destino: The Hispanic Legacy Fund of VCCF.

Entering its tenth year, Destino is an endowed grantmaking fund which addresses the economic, educational, physical, emotional, social, artistic and personal growth of Latinos in Ventura County. A total of \$100,000 is available for this year's grantmaking focus, and grants in any amount up to a maximum of \$25,000 will be considered.

As defined by Destino, "family strengthening" could include family counseling and support services for single-parent and two-parent families, mental health services, anger management, parenting skills, care for special needs family members, and caregivers. Applicants in the "addressing obesity" area should focus on obesity-reduction as a way to reduce the incidence and prevalence of obesity-related diseases (such as diabetes and heart disease). Strategies for this may include nutrition education, exercise promotion and family-oriented health programs. Grant funds are to be used for programs serving the Latino population.

(More)

VCCF/Destino Grant Proposals

Page 2

Deadline for proposals for 2006 grants is January 13, 2006. Those interested in submitting a proposal are invited to attend an informational meeting on December 15 from 10:00 to 11:30 am. The meeting will be held in the Community Room at VCCF at 1317 Del Norte Road, Suite 150, in Camarillo. Reservations for the meeting can be made by contacting Gina Gomez at (805) 988-0196, ext. 126, or at ggomez@vccf.org. For more information and to view the Request for Proposals, please visit VCCF's Web site at <http://www.vccf.org/fundingcycles.html>.

Destino: The Hispanic Legacy Fund was established in 1996 by local residents in partnership with the Ventura County Community Foundation and is dedicated to meeting the needs and creating philanthropic and leadership opportunities for Latinos in Ventura County. Since its founding, Destino has given 73 grants totaling nearly \$460,000, impacting more 35 community organizations and 17,000 Latino youth and adults in Ventura County.

Created in 1987 the Ventura County Community Foundation is a family of charitable funds whose combined assets now exceed \$85 million. Grants made in 2005 are projected at over \$4 million, including over \$600,000 in scholarships to Ventura County students. The Foundation's mission is to promote and enable philanthropy and to build long-term capital to benefit Ventura County. For more information, visit www.vccf.org.

#