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Contact Us

**Community Foundation
for San Benito County**
719 San Benito Street, Suite G
Hollister, CA 95023

Gary Byrne
Executive Director

(831) 630-1924
Fax (831) 630-1934
www.cffsbc.org

All inquiries are held in
strict confidence.



Newsletter designed by
Sharlene Van Rooy
(831) 636-5313



**Steve
Perricone**

Steve is relatively new to the community, bringing a wealth of business experience to the board. In recent years, he has been focusing on youth sports, especially coaching soccer.



**Bob
Tiffany**

Bob is a household name in our community, running a very successful family business. He is involved with numerous organizations and is very active with Rotary.



**Arnie
Fontes**

Arnie was born and raised in this community, and involved with countless organizations. A life-long passion has been the Boy Scouts, helping them for over 30 years.

Community Foundation

for San Benito County



Fall 2003

New Tax Laws for 2003

President Bush signed a tax cut package this year, including three major changes that may effect charitable giving. Contact your Financial Adviser for specifics, and be prepared when April 15th comes around again.

• Lower Overall Tax Rates

The top income tax rate for 2003 has been reduced from 38.6% to 35%. Most taxpayers will find their tax rates reduced by about 2%.

• Dividend Income Reductions

Effective starting in 2003, most taxpayers will find their dividends taxed at a maximum rate of 15% rather than a regular ordinary income tax rate of up to 35%.

• Capital Gains Reductions

For sales of stock and certain other capital gain property, after May 5, 2003, the top long-term capital gains tax rate is reduced from 20% to 15%. 🗨️

Suite Numbers Are Important

The Community Foundation is located in the Loma Prieta Building on San Benito Street along with nearly a dozen other businesses. Currently we are located on the second floor, but we will be relocating to a larger suite soon. Although we are moving, our address will remain the same; surprisingly, even Suite G.

Also surprising is another fact; the simple omission of a suite number from an address will automatically bounce the letter directly back to the sender. Postal carriers are very friendly and know all the tenants, but if a suite number is missing, a letter is rejected at the Post Office, never making it into the carrier's bag.

So, remember we are moving to a new office on the first floor (access via Swope Alley), and also remember to include Suite G in all your correspondence. 🗨️

*Philanthropia (Greek)
meaning love for mankind*

Founding Benefactors are Making a Difference

A special thank you goes out to our Founding Benefactors; without their help and support, the Community Foundation could not function as a professional organization benefiting our community. To date, 42 individuals, families, and businesses have joined the Community Foundation family and have supported the creation of a philanthropic entity dedicated to the benefit of San Benito County and its people, forever.

It's Not Too Late to Join

To help sustain our organization during the first five years, we need to establish 100 Founding Benefactors. At that time, we anticipate our endowment will become large enough to make the organization self-sustaining. We hope to celebrate the end of this year at fifty percent of our goal. Join our philanthropic family, and become a Founding Benefactor with a gift of \$2,500. We are only a phone call away and all inquiries are held in strict confidence.

For a complete list of our current Founding Benefactors, please visit our web site. 🗨️

www.cffsbc.org

Mission

The Community Foundation for San Benito County is dedicated to building a stronger community and enhancing the quality of life in San Benito County through support of philanthropic activities.

New Funds

Galaxy All Star Cheer-leading Fund

Friends of the Baler Fund

Bennett/Klein Fund

Bev and Bob Stratton Endowment Fund

Hope for a Cure Memorial Education Scholarship Fund

Leadership San Benito County

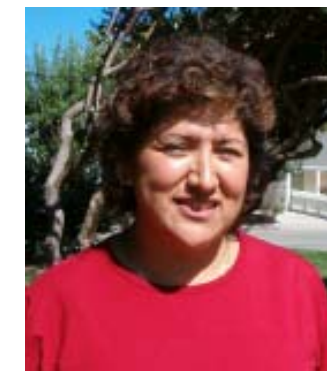
Veterans Coalition of San Benito County Fund

Adult Literacy Fund

Grants Fund

If you would like to set up an individual, family, or organizational fund, please contact the Foundation office at (831) 630-1924. 🗨️

Adult Literacy Growing One Person at a Time



Maria Rocete, an energetic forty-two year old mother arrives promptly at the San Juan City Library on Monday afternoon at 12:45 pm to meet her tutor, Linda O'Heron to spend an hour and a half studying English. Maria comes directly to the library after completing her morning shift as a breakfast cook at the Carnitas Michoacan restaurant in Gilroy.

The Rocete family which includes three children, moved to San Juan Bautista eight years ago to be close to Mr. Rocete's job as a Supervisor at Natural Selection Foods.

At the urging of her husband, Maria decided that she wanted to pursue a goal she has had for many years, to "learn more English." She and Mr. Rocete feel this will be good for her family be-

cause she will be better equipped to help her children with their school work, and she will also be able to expand her job opportunities.

Maria's tutor, Linda O'Heron, an accomplished musician and piano teacher, decided she wanted to become a tutor because she loves to read and thought she would like to share the wonders of reading with someone else.

Linda and Maria began meeting once a week for an hour at the San Juan Library in June. Linda says, "Maria likes to read about real people and just finished reading the story of Helen Keller, which she loved!" When asked about her experience with tutoring so far, Linda says, "I am learning so much! I really want to learn

how to speak Spanish and this will give me the opportunity and the motivation I need to do that."

The Adult Literacy Program of San Benito County provides one on one tutoring to all English speaking adults who wish to develop their reading, writing, and speaking skills, whether it be to improve their opportunities on the job, read to their children, or gain U.S. Citizenship. The weekly lesson is based on the goals of the student.

Please contact Barbara Scott in the Adult Literacy office located in San Juan Bautista at (831) 623-2061 if you are interested in participating in the program as a tutor or a student. 🗨️

A Good Policy for Giving

A life insurance policy that is no longer needed is the perfect vehicle to make a charitable gift. Life insurance agents should be able to provide details and appropriate forms to name the Community Foundation of San Benito County as both the owner and beneficiary of such a policy.

If the policy has a cash value, you may take a charitable deduction approximately equal to the cash value at the time of the gift. In addition, if annual premiums are still to be made and you continue to pay them, those premiums will become tax deductible each year.

Helping Our Local Non-Profits

Hope for a Cure

A very successful fashion show in October called "An Evening of Hope" raised \$6,557 for the *Hope for a Cure Memorial Education Scholarship Fund*. This is an endowment fund that was established to assist children in their education who have lost a parent or grandparent to cancer. We honor the memory of Juli-An Rowe and Karen Flaherty who inspired this fund, and organizers hope the community will use this fund to honor their loved ones who have lost their battle with cancer. For more information please call Jeannine DiVincenzo at (831) 635-0722.

Sponsor a Learner

Did you know that the illiteracy rate in San Benito County is 28%! That's the bad news. The good news is that the San Benito County Adult Literacy Program is working towards the goal of bringing that number down to 8% by 2010. They have embarked upon a bold program partnering with learners, tutors, local businesses, community-based organizations, individuals and families, inviting them to participate in a new program called "Sponsor a Learner". Anyone can sponsor a learner for a full year for as little as \$100, \$150 or \$250. To find out more about this opportunity call Barbara Scott at (831) 623-2061. ↗

Playground for Homeless Provides Space for Parents as Well

After more than one year of effort from the local community, Community Services Development Corporation (CSDC) dedicated a newly constructed playground for the local homeless shelter. More than one hundred people attended the August 20, 2003 dedication. "The \$45,000 project was made possible by the generous support of City and County government, businesses, individuals, service clubs, and the Community Foundation for San Benito County," said Jose Alvarez, President of the CSDC Board of Directors.

The homeless shelter playground project entailed the replacement of outdated and unsafe equipment with new swings, climbing apparatus, riders, a modular play system, patio areas, picnic



Susan Paura (left) and Jeannine DiVincenzo present a check for \$6,557 to Gary Byrne, the beginning of a new fund called "Hope for a Cure Memorial Education Scholarship Fund".

tables, fencing, and landscaping in a 7,500 square-foot area at the homeless shelter located on Southside Road. The playground was also designed to have space for parents to socialize with their children and other families from the shelter. A highlight of the playground is a two-story cottage style playhouse that was constructed by the local service organization, National Association of Women in Construction, Pinnacle Chapter.

The Homeless Shelter was started in 1991 when CSDC and San Benito County acquired and placed twelve mobile homes at a trailer park on Southside Road to function as a homeless shelter. Community Services and Workforce Development supplies the program services to the more than 25 families who are served annually at the Shelter. CSDC maintains the mobile home park. The goal of this program is to help parents to develop the skills to maintain employment and to save money to secure permanent housing.

CSDC was formed as a non-profit public benefit organization in 1984. Working collaboratively with governmental and other nonprofit organizations, CSDC provides low-income families access to services that promote self-sufficiency.

Meeting the Need of Affordable Housing

More recently, the agency's mission has focused on meeting the need of affordable housing. In partnership with the City of Hollister and San Benito County, CSDC has placed 36 rental units on the market solely for low-income families. In addition, CSDC, San Benito County, and local developers collaborated to construct 56 single-family homes for low and moderate-income families in the Riverview Estates subdivision. CSDC has plans to construct another 22 apartments for low-income families once the City lifts the building moratorium. ↗

Grantees

- Young Life Capernaum
Youth with Disabilities
- Friends of SBC Free Library
Education
- SB Health Foundation
Health
- SBC Historical Society
Community Enhancement
- SB Oriana Chorale
Arts & Culture
- Fishes & Loaves Food Bank
Human Services
- SBC Office of Education
Community Enhancement
- Pet Friends
Community Enhancement
- Galaxy All Star Cheerleading
Youth
- Community Pantry
Community Enhancement
- Safe Kids Coalition (SBC)
Youth
- Tremors Soccer Club Project
Youth/Community Enhancement
- Children's Care Coalition
Community Enhancement
- Holte's Holiday Dinner
Community Enhancement
- CSDC
Youth/Community Enhancement
- DARE Program (HPD)
Community Enhancement
- Hollister Rainbow Theater
Arts & Culture
- 4H Family & Consumer
Science
Arts & Culture
- Marguerite Maze Middle
School
Youth
- Hollister Youth Alliance
Youth
- Adult Literacy Program of
SBC
Education
- Emmaus House
Community Enhancement
- American Red Cross
Youth
- Hazel Hawkins Hospitals
Foundation
Community Enhancement
- Nan Pipestem Wildlife
Rehabilitation Center
Community Enhancement
- San Benito Union High
School
Scholarship
- Jovenes de Antaño
Elder

The Grants Fund Benefits Local Organizations

The Community Foundation has established a Grants Fund; this is an open fund that may be added to by any individual in the community. Twice a year a committee, made up of active leaders in the community, invites local non-profits and organizations to apply for a grant. The committee reviews the applications and makes recommendations for funding of many worthwhile projects in the community. During the past two years, the Foundation has granted over \$68,000 to 39 non-profits and organizations in San Benito County.

As we come to the end of the year, the Foundation can help you direct your charitable gifts to non-profits in our community such as those listed at the left. Many times our donors wish to remain anonymous, and we always respect this wish. However, we would like to extend a special thank you to each and every one of our donors that makes this Grants Fund possible. ↗

A Day to Remember Our Community Volunteers

The Community Foundation for San Benito County hosted their Third Annual National Philanthropy Day event on Friday, November 14, 2003 with a luncheon at San Juan Oaks Golf Club. Nationally celebrated throughout the United States, this event is designed to recognize and honor the outstanding efforts of individual members from local service organizations. Bernie Furman, President of the Community Foundation for San Benito County opened the event with a welcome to all the participants. This year there were forty-five nominees representing thirty-nine local organizations. The 200 plus participants at the luncheon represented forty-six non-profit organizations from our community.

After a warm presentation to all the Honorees, Gary Byrne, Executive Director of the Community Foundation for San Benito County provided the closing remarks. ↗



National Philanthropy Day recipients gathered for a quick photo after a wonderful celebration of their volunteerism, truly the heart of San Benito County.

For Good
For Ever

How to Apply for a Grant

The current grant application deadline is May 31, 2004. An application may be obtained on line or by visiting our office.

An organization may submit only one application per funding cycle. However, if an organization is part of a collaborative request, a second application may be filed as part of a second collaborative or for separate agency funding.

Notification and awards will be made on or about June 15, 2004. The next application deadline will be October 31, 2004.

Help Us Update Our Mailing List

The Foundation is pleased to provide information to the community concerning our activities. We want to keep you informed of all the good things that are happening. However, if you are not interested in receiving this newsletter in the future, please let us know. We will regretfully remove you from our database.