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SILICON VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION EXTENDS INTERIM GRANTS PROGRAM

**Community Research Informs Development
Of New Initiatives and Grantmaking Guidelines**

Mountain View, CA – Silicon Valley Community Foundation will extend its interim community grants program through early 2008, providing community organizations additional opportunities to apply for funding while the new organization serving San Mateo and Santa Clara counties develops a new, regional grantmaking strategy.

The community foundation was created Jan. 1 by the merger of Community Foundation Silicon Valley and Peninsula Community Foundation. While developing a new grantmaking structure, the new community foundation has continued reviewing and providing grants – about \$5 million through October – in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. With requests and targeted grants in the pipeline, the community foundation expects to grant nearly \$8 million by the end of 2007.

At the same time, the community foundation has been developing a new grantmaking structure through the Community Input Project, which brings together extensive research, comprehensive reports and a series of nine strategic conversations with community leaders, practitioners, advocates and other funders to examine the areas of greatest need across San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. An online survey in early 2008 will provide the community foundation with additional input and advice.

“The response to our Community Input Project has been overwhelming – particularly the extent and quality of the participation and the insights we have heard,” said Emmett D. Carson, Ph.D., CEO and president of the community foundation. “To fully honor our responsibility to evaluate the depth and breadth of ideas that have been discussed, we need to take more time to consider and develop our new, unified guidelines.”

“With the extension of the Community Input Project, we asked the board of directors to add another round of grants using our parents’ guidelines,” said Eleanor Clement Glass, chief of donor engagement and giving.

“This will provide community organizations with an additional opportunity to apply for funding before our new grantmaking opportunities are implemented and the interim grants program is discontinued.”

Organizations may apply for grants until 5 p.m. Feb. 15, 2008.

These grants are organized according to the geographic area of the communities served:

- Organizations delivering services in the region from Daly City through Mountain View may apply under guidelines used by Peninsula Community Foundation, beginning with a Letter of Inquiry. Community foundation staff will review letters of inquiry and either invite a full proposal or decline the request.
- Organizations located in and serving the region from Redwood City to Gilroy may apply under guidelines used by Community Foundation Silicon Valley. Community Investment proposals do not require a letter of inquiry.

The community foundation’s field-of-interest funds – including Teachers Fund, the Neighborhood Grants programs, FAITHS and several arts funds – will not be open for application at this time.

Both sets of guidelines and a series of information developed through the Community Input Project are available at www.siliconvalleycf.org.

About Silicon Valley Community Foundation

The merger of Community Foundation Silicon Valley and Peninsula Community Foundation took effect on January 1, 2007, creating Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a catalyst and leader for innovative solutions to the region’s most challenging problems. Serving all of San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, the new community foundation is among the largest community foundations in the nation, with more than \$1.9 billion in assets under management and 1,500 philanthropic funds. In a region known for innovation in business and technology as well as philanthropy, the new community foundation will address local needs and support Silicon Valley’s charitable giving to causes locally, nationally and around the globe. The integration marks the first merger of equals involving two of the country’s leading community foundations and sets new precedent in the philanthropic sector. Find out more at www.siliconvalleycf.org.