

*Celebrating a quarter century of "Change, Not Charity"™
Celebrando un cuarto de siglo de invertir en el cambio social, no en caridad*

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**A Member of The Funding Exchange
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*Your generosity lives on when you remember
the Fund for Santa Barbara in your will.
Su generosidad vivirá por siempre cuando usted
recuerde el Fund for Santa Barbara en su testamento.*

"All I was doing was trying to get home from work."

— Rosa Parks (1913 – 2005)

Fall 2009

Dear Friend,

Sometimes it's just that clear. You know what you need to do and you do it.

Last fall, as stock markets stumbled, home prices plummeted and millions of people across the country began to lose their jobs, we at the FUND FOR SANTA BARBARA asked what we should do in this emerging crisis. The answer was clear. We should do what we've always done – **provide the critical support needed by our community's grassroots organizations working for social, economic, environmental and political change.** When everything else is uncertain, a progressive community foundation needs to remain strong, be an advocate, and provide leadership.

For many grassroots organizations, the FUND FOR SANTA BARBARA is the only source of funding and support. Pulling back was not an option. We made the commitment to provide grants and technical assistance at 2008 levels.

We knew it wouldn't be easy. So we trimmed our budget, called on our community of supporters, and got to work.

The end of 2009 is in sight, and so far, so good. Despite the economic situation, we are poised to make good on our commitment. But we need your help.

Already in 2009, the FUND's Grant-Making Program has distributed over \$200,000 in grants (**see the enclosed grants list**) and the FUND's Technical Assistance Program has provided free consulting, support and training to more than 200 projects.

(continued...)

In these difficult times, our Technical Assistance Program is in greater demand than ever before. As organizations struggle to make budget, to move policy, and to organize, they look to the FUND FOR SANTA BARBARA for support. Examples include:

- Facilitation of planning retreats and meetings for **Pacific Pride Foundation**, the **Alliance for Sustainable and Equitable Transportation (ASERT)**, **Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE)**, the **Coalition for Sustainable Transportation (COAST)**, **Coastal Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)**, the **Rental Housing Roundtable** and the **Coalition Against Racism in Education (CARE)**
- Board member training for **PUEBLO** and **Just Communities**
- Fundraising support for the **Environmental Defense Center** and **Santa Barbara County Action Network (SB CAN)**
- Moderation of community forums for the **Strategic Alliance for Marriage Equality (SAME)** and **Families ACT!**

We know that creating the community we want – one that is just, safe, healthy and fair - requires the hard work of thousands of people in hundreds of organizations. Social change requires a long-term commitment. That is why the FUND FOR SANTA BARBARA has remained committed to Santa Barbara County's progressive community organizers and organizations for nearly 30 years.

As we provide resources to meet today's challenges, we are training the leaders of tomorrow through our **Youth Making Change** program. As I write this, youth from throughout the county are learning the art and science of grant-making and providing resources to their peers. These young grant-makers are supporting projects of, by and for youth and developing leadership skills in the process.

And as we look to the future, we continue look to you to make our work possible.

We need to raise \$100,000 by December 31st. Please take a moment to consider a tax-deductible gift to support the FUND's grant-making and technical assistance work.

Thank you on behalf of the more than 200 grassroots projects that have used the FUND FOR SANTA BARBARA as a resource this year.

With much gratitude,



Geoff Green
Executive Director