



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Impact100 Sonoma Awards \$100,000 Grant to Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley

Sonoma, CA—June 11, 2010—Impact100 Sonoma awarded its first \$100,000 grant at its June 10 inaugural annual meeting to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley (BGCSV). Over 100 founding members, sponsors, presenters from the five grant finalist organizations, and representatives of the press attended the meeting and celebratory reception at the Sonoma Golf Club.

With the \$100,000 grant, BGCSV Executive Director Dave Pier explained to the meeting participants that the organization will now be able to dedicate a Teen Programs Director and two Program Assistants to serve more than 250 Sonoma teens with consistent educational support, resulting in an increase in the rates of high school graduation and successful college matriculation. This program will be accomplished in partnership with Sonoma Valley Education Foundation/Teacher Support Network, the Sonoma Valley Film Society and Sonoma Valley Unified School District. The resulting College Bound after school program will include individual case management, daily tutoring, subject-specific weekly tutorials, college campus exposure, and workshops that include introduction to college forums, understanding high school class requisites for applying to a 4-year college, writer's workshops, college applications, scholarship applications, and providing SAT/ACT preparation courses.

Since 110 women joined as Founding Members during Impact100 Sonoma's first year, with each woman donating \$1,000 to go directly toward grant funding, the organization had a total of \$110,000 to distribute to Sonoma Valley nonprofit organizations. As a result, Impact100 Sonoma Co-Presidents Annette Lomont and Christine Dohrmann presented a \$2,500 grant for operational funds to each of the four runner-up organizations: The Sonoma Valley Museum of Art; The Sonoma Ecology Center; Social Advocates for Youth; and the WillMar Center for Bereaved Children.

Over the past six months, Impact100 Sonoma Grants Chair Patti England worked with her five Focus Area Committee Chairs, Kathleen Carter; Constance Grizzell; Cherie Hughes; Rose Murphy; and Diana Sanson, to narrow down the 23 initial letters of inquiry and 13 grant proposals to 5 finalists. Financial Review Committee members GERALYNE Mahoney, Susan Skinner, and Karen Roche, insured that the five grant finalists were all financially sound organizations.

Impact100 Sonoma is a philanthropic organization started in August 2009 that brings together at least 100 women in a common purpose: to award an impact grant of \$100,000 every year to a Sonoma Valley nonprofit organization that would otherwise not have access to this level of funding. The organization's mission is to increase the number of women involved in local philanthropy, raise awareness of the unmet needs of nonprofits in Sonoma Valley, encourage members to become more involved with local charities, and make an impact on the long term sustainability of Sonoma Valley's nonprofit community. The organization currently has 127 members, each of whom has donated \$1,000 and gets one vote in determining the Sonoma Valley nonprofit that should receive the annual \$100,000 Impact Grant.

Impact100 Sonoma is currently inviting additional women to join the organization. Information about Impact100 Sonoma may be found at www.impact100sonoma.org or by calling 707-256-0119.

Description for attached Photo:

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Pictured left to right:

Constance Grizzell, Impact100 Sonoma Education Focus Area Committee Chair

Christine Dohrmann, Impact100 Sonoma Co-President

Dave Pier, Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley Executive Director

Patti England, Impact100 Sonoma Grants Chair

Annette Lomont, Impact100 Sonoma Co-President

Photo Courtesy 'Zanne Photography

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