



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SOLANO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S NONPROFIT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM MAKES ITS FIRST GRANT

FAIRFIELD, CA. – Students at Wardlaw Elementary in Vallejo will continue to receive the invaluable benefit of mentoring thanks to the support of Solano Community Foundation's Nonprofit Partnership Program.

The Youth4Youth Mentoring Program, a component of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the North Bay (BBBS), received a \$5,000 grant from SCF's Nonprofit Partnership Program (NPP) to help continue its peer mentoring services at Wardlaw Elementary (just named as a California Distinguished School for 2010). This program serves students who come from a variety of backgrounds, some of whom may include having academic challenges, struggling with peer relationships, being in the foster care system, or coming from single-parent and economically disadvantaged households.

"The Youth4Youth program in Solano not only benefits young children in need of mentoring services, it also provides teens with the opportunity to take on meaningful roles and make positive contributions in their community," said Cyndi Weingard, Director of Development for BBBS.

The program, implemented at Wardlaw in 2007, provides teen mentors from both Jesse Bethel High School and MIT Academy. These students make a one-year commitment to spend two hours a week with Wardlaw students. As a result, the younger students build self-confidence and are secure in knowing that they have a dependable friend and advocate.

The Nonprofit Partnership Program, established in 2009, issued this first grant of \$5,000 as part of its mission to provide a vehicle amid challenging times. The program acts as a convener of forums to

gather and disperse input from the community, improves capacity-building, and strengthens, develops and serves Solano County nonprofits.

“We are delighted to make this grant to help both older and younger students involved in the mentoring program,” stated Stephanie Wolf, President and CEO of the Foundation. “When we started NPP, we envisioned being able to support just this kind of program. The community articulated the need for tutoring and mentoring to improve educational performance and this grant fits the criteria perfectly.”

Nonprofits, along with businesses, government entities, corporations, and individual leaders, are welcome to become members of NPP by visiting www.solanocf.org or calling 707.399.3846. Membership of \$25 per calendar year includes specialized workshops, networking opportunities, and partnership programs.

The Solano Community Foundation was established in 1995, incorporated in 2000. It is a 501c(3) organization which provides the opportunity for donors to make a lasting contribution to causes in Solano County that are close to their hearts, and to build capacity in the nonprofit community. Stephanie Wolf, President and CEO of the Solano Community Foundation, can be reached at 707-399-3846.

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