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MEDIA ALERT

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**For Immediate Release**

## **Home Start Announces Major Funding from Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation**

**San Diego, CA** – Home Start is pleased to announce a major donation of \$10,000 has been granted by the Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation for Bilingual Parenting Education Classes. Home Start has been dedicated for over 37 years to providing family strengthening services and child abuse prevention education. Clients served are lower-income families with children who are at-risk of abuse or neglect or who have experienced maltreatment.

“This major commitment by the Ellen Browning Scripps Foundation, will allow us to meet the growing demand for parenting education throughout San Diego County for culturally diverse and limited resource families with children who need it the most,” said Home Start Chief Executive Officer, Laura A. Mustari, LCSW, “Especially in these challenging economic times, we are extremely grateful for their support”.

Parenting education is a highly effective prevention/intervention strategy to increase the competency and self-assurance of caregivers with dependent children and to strengthen family functioning; currently the services available for our community are inadequate. This funding will allow Home Start to expand the number of people served, improve parent-child relationships and reduce the negative psychological impact of abuse or neglect.

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Founded in 1972, Home Start, Inc. is a 501 (C) (3) non-profit agency that provides services to children from low income families who require immediate, comprehensive solutions to ensure their safety and healthy development. Our mission is dedicated to child abuse prevention and family strengthening services. Today, Home Start reaches at-risk children right where it counts -- in the home, and then extends the helping hand to schools and the community. Some of our programs include: **Family Support Services** - Parents are taught accurate expectations of their children, how to interact with them and use positive, appropriate discipline. As a result, families are less isolated, more nurturing and cohesive. Parents are strengthened and are better able to protect their children in the future. **Therapeutic Counseling Services** are provided in the home or at our counseling centers. Services are provided on a sliding-fee scale or through the Victim Compensation Fund. **Family Self-Sufficiency Services** provide a "hand-up" rather than a handout by stabilizing families in crisis. Families are helped to move from welfare-to-work, many for the first time in their lives.



For more information about Home Start and our programs please visit us online at [www.home-start.org](http://www.home-start.org) or call (619) 692-0727 ext. 144.

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