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MEDIA ALERT

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For Immediate Release

Blue Ribbon Gala A Tremendous Success

San Diego, CA –Home Start would like to sincerely thank the entire San Diego community for making the **2011 Blue Ribbon Gala** such a tremendous success!

With the help of 300 San Diego community members in attendance on April 29, 2011, Home Start celebrated 39 years of service and netted more than \$110,000 for their programs. These much needed funds help Home Start to focus on preventing child abuse through education services for the community, promoting prevention and early intervention services, as well as giving families the support they need to make a difference in their everyday lives.

“Home Start is very appreciative of the support the San Diego community has provided given the current state of the economy. These funds will provide vital assistance to San Diego County’s most vulnerable children and families” said Chief Executive Officer, Laura A. Mustari, “We would especially like to thank our wonderful committee and presenting sponsors - **Dr. Sanjay Jha & Mrs. Fiona Mackin Jha, Motorola Mobility, Dr. Seuss Foundation, San Diego County Credit Union, San Diego Business Journal, Hughes Marino, US bank, Union Bank, Viejas, Alliance Healthcare Foundation, Barney & Barney, Cox Communications, Cubic, Procopio, ProFlowers, and the San Diego Union Tribune.**”



Blue Ribbon Gala Presenting Sponsors Dr. Sanjay Jha and Mrs. Fiona Mackin-Jha (on right) enjoying the evening with friends.

Last year Home Start provided services to over 30,000 San Diegans. A majority of these clients are family members and children who have experienced abuse, neglect, and severe poverty. Most require professional and confidential counseling to heal from the trauma of maltreatment. Support of the “Blue Ribbon Gala” allows Home Start to reach out to parents and children who are struggling to cope with abuse, poverty, illness, and other crises and connect them to the resources needed to create a stable, secure and healthy home life for all family members.

Home Start was founded in 1972 as one of sixteen national Head Start demonstration projects. Since then, Home Start, Inc. has become a 501 (C) (3) non-profit agency that provides services to children living in poverty who require immediate, comprehensive solutions to ensure their safety and healthy development. Our mission is dedicated to child abuse prevention and family strengthening services.

Some of our programs include: Child Abuse Treatment Services - Children’s Optimal Health and Development Services - Parent Child Interaction Therapy - Bilingual Parenting Education - Family Self-Sufficiency - Tax Services and Financial Literacy - Children’s Health Insurance Enrollment - Community Services for Families - Individual and Family Counseling - Victims of Crime Counseling Services – Maternity Shelter Program – Financial Opportunity Center.

For more information about Home Start and our programs or to schedule an interview, please call (619) 692-0727 ext. 144 or visit us online at www.home-start.org.

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