

5005 Texas Street, Suite 203 – San Diego, CA 92108  
(619) 692-0727 FAX (619) 692-0785

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MEDIA ALERT

**For further information, Contact**  
**Erich Foeckler 619-692-0727 ext.144**  
[efoeckler@home-start.org](mailto:efoeckler@home-start.org)

**For Immediate Release**

### **Home Start Announces Major Funding from Qualcomm Incorporated**

**San Diego, CA** – Home Start is pleased to announce a major grant of \$20,000 has been awarded by Qualcomm Incorporated for Home Start's Therapeutic Counseling for Children and Families program. Home Start is a local child abuse prevention agency with over 38 years of service to San Diego County.

"Qualcomm has been a major supporter of Home Start for more than 13 years and we are very grateful for their ongoing support, and partnership" said Home Start Chief Executive Officer, Laura A. Mustari, LCSW, "funding from Qualcomm provides therapeutic counseling to children, adolescents and their families to heal from the trauma caused by child abuse, neglect and violence".

The Therapeutic Counseling for Children and Families (TCCF) program provides therapeutic counseling to children and adolescents who have been witnesses and victims of abuse, neglect and violence. The TCCF program specifically uses the evidence-based best practices of Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy (TF-CBT) and Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT). TF-CBT provides skills and interventions that allow children, and their families to heal from traumatic events. PCIT teaches parents positive parenting skills that both enhance the relationship between parent and child and increase compliance behaviors. The TCCF program provides the only home-based trauma treatment services for low-income families throughout San Diego County.

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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.

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](http://www.home-start.org).

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