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MEDIA ALERT

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For Immediate Release

HOME START ANNOUNCES MAJOR FUNDING FROM UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA

San Diego, CA – Home Start is pleased to announce a major donation of \$5,000 has been granted by the Union Bank of California Foundation for Financial Literacy. Home Start has been dedicated for over 37 years to providing family strengthening services and financial literacy education. Clients served are lower-income families with children who are at-risk of abuse or neglect or who have experience and maltreatment.

“Home Start considers the Union Bank of California Foundation a vital community partner in providing financial literacy education. We are so grateful for their recent support and look forward to our continued partnership,” said Home Start Chief Executive Officer, Laura A. Mustari, LCSW.

As a result of our current economic crises, this grant is more critical than ever. Parents need proper education so that they can successfully navigate a complex financial marketplace. This is an essential strategy to foster family self-sufficiency and prevent chronic homelessness within economically challenged communities.



From Left to Right: Home Start Board Member and UBOC Vice President/Branch Manager Lynette Hurd, Home Start CEO Laura Mustari, UBOC Vice President/Community Development Officer Kathy Patoff, UBOC Vice President/Community Development Officer Ken Stimeling

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 or call (619) 692-0727 ext. 144.

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