



\$25,000 Grant to Support Valley Family Center's Learning Center

Santa Monica, CA (August 1, 2009)— The William H. Hannon Foundation has continued its longstanding support of the Valley Family Center in San Fernando with a \$25,000 grant to support the Center's Learning Center for 2009-2010. The Foundation has supported the Valley Family Center since its founding in 1987.

The Learning Center provides individual tutoring, small group learning, and computer lab instruction for about 50 children in grades one through ten with special learning needs. The curriculum was developed to meet the needs of the children and focuses on strengthening basic skills in reading, composition, math and science. All children who attend are from low-income households and most of the children are Latino.

"With a large youth population living below the poverty level in San Fernando and the Northeast San Fernando Valley, a statewide shortage of after-school programs, poor test scores, violence in homes and low parental educational levels, there is a great need for educational support services like Valley Family Center's Learning Center. It is critical to provide children and youth with supportive learning opportunities early in life so that they are able to excel academically and personally, and contribute to the future success of the community. The Foundation's support has helped to transform many thousands of lives in the San Fernando Valley," said Sr. Carmel Somers, RSC, Executive Director of Valley Family Center.

"My late uncle loved the time he spent at the San Fernando swap meet and before that when the property was a raceway. He was proud of being a part of San Fernando, and our support of the Valley Family Center carries on his legacy of support," said Kathleen Hannon Aikenhead, President of the William H. Hannon Foundation, Hannon's niece and a Board member of the Foundation since its founding in 1983.
