

December 21, 2004

200 LOW-INCOME WHITTIER-AREA FAMILIES RECEIVE HOLIDAY BASKETS AND TOYS

WHEN: Wednesday, December 22, 2004, 9:00 a.m. – noon. County Supervisor Gloria Molina is expected to arrive at 11 a.m.

EVENT: The Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (CDC) will hold its 9th Annual Holiday Basket and Toy Giveaway for 200 income-qualified Whittier-area families. County Supervisor Molina and a festive Santa Claus will greet families, hand out gifts, and be photographed with children at the CDC's Community Resource Center (CRC).

The event is being co-sponsored with Los Angeles County Supervisors Molina (1st District) and Don Knabe (4th District), both of whom contributed financially to the event and whose constituencies utilize the CRC; the County CDC, which serves as the community development and affordable housing agency for the County; the City of Santa Fe Springs; the California Highway Patrol; the County Fire Department, County Probation Department, and the County Department of Children and Family Services; and various community groups. Supervisor Molina said, "I am pleased to be a partner in this effort along with Supervisor Knabe to continue this very special community tradition. Thanks to the kindness of many dedicated individuals, this has become an annual gathering that we all look forward to every year."

The co-sponsors are providing holiday baskets (with turkeys and other food), toys, and holiday cheer. In addition, monetary and in-kind contributions are being provided by a number of local businesses and private donors. Toys were donated by the County Fire Department, California Highway Patrol, and the U.S. Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" program in Pico Rivera.

Owned and operated by the CDC, the CRC opened in 1998 as part of Supervisors Molina and Knabe's initiative to increase local access to County services. It was developed as a one-stop community center for meetings and events like this holiday event. The center offers a number of valuable resources and programs, such as youth and family services, educational workshops, employment services, a computer learning center, and health care services.

WHERE: County Community Resource Center, 10750 Laurel Avenue, Whittier, CA