

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 4, 2007

CONTACT: Marta Bortner (916) 327-4050

CALIFORNIAVOLUNTEERS AWARDS \$1 MILLION IN GRANTS TO STRENTHGEN CALIFORNIA'S PREPAREDNESS FOR DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES

Sacramento – California Volunteers awarded 15 grants totaling \$1 million to organizations across the state to support the development and sharing of innovative practices to enhance the use of volunteers in disaster preparedness and response, officials announced today.

"These grants will assist local communities and non-profit organizations to better prepare Californians for the next disaster that strikes our state," said Karen Baker, executive director of CaliforniaVolunteers. "It isn't a matter of if, but rather when Californians will be impacted by another large scale emergency."

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state agency charged with ensuring the coordination of volunteer activities related to disaster response and recovery, including necessary training, equipment, and transportation provisions.

The \$1 million awarded by CaliforniaVolunteers was provided through a competitive grant from the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. Since 2004, the Office of Homeland Security has provided over \$5.2 million to CaliforniaVolunteers to improve citizen preparedness in California.

"CaliforniaVolunteers is a key component of our state's homeland security and disaster preparedness efforts," said Office of Homeland Security Director Matthew Bettenhausen. "Our office has administered more than \$1 billion in grants to better prepare California's public safety professionals to prevent, prepare for and respond to any disaster, man-made or natural. A well-prepared citizenry and trained volunteers are vital to ensuring our first responders can perform their duties and we are proud to be partnered with CaliforniaVolunteers in this effort."

The grant funds were awarded through a competitive selection process. The following organizations received grants announced today:

County of San Diego	\$100,000
City of Richmond Fire Department, Office of Emergency Services	\$100,000
Contra Costa County Animal Services	\$100,000
Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc.	\$100,000
San Gabriel Pomona Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross	\$90,343
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department	\$80,000
Volunteer Centers of California	\$78,740
San Francisco Fire Department	\$75,095
Community Services Planning Council	\$55,422
American Red Cross, Greater Long Beach Chapter	\$50,000
Yurok Tribe	\$49,778
Retired and Senior Volunteer Program	\$36,944
City of Laguna Woods	\$34,781
City of San Rafael	\$23,023
City of Clovis Fire Department	\$17,382

CaliforniaVolunteers

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state agency that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering. CaliforniaVolunteers administers California Citizen Corps, the state AmeriCorps and the Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning programs. Through the innovative Web site, CaliforniaVolunteers.org, individuals and families can search for volunteer opportunities throughout the state that match their interests. For more information visit: www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Maria Shriver Honorary Chair

Karen Baker Executive Director

1110 K Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel (916) 323-7646 Fax (916) 323-3227

www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org