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## **SILICON VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ADDS FOUR MEMBERS TO LEADERSHIP TEAM**

### **New Foundation Opens Doors with Additional Leadership Appointments**

PALO ALTO, CA –Silicon Valley Community Foundation, created through the merger of two of the Bay Area’s largest community foundations officially opens its doors this week and adds four members to the leadership team that will lead the new \$1.5 billion foundation. Each of the appointed members previously served at one of the two parent foundations, either Community Foundation Silicon Valley or Peninsula Community Foundation. The appointees join Vera Bennett, chief financial officer, and Mari Ellen Reynolds, chief of staff, as part of the growing leadership team under the direction of Emmett D. Carson, Ph.D., CEO and president.

- Candice Balmaceda, vice president, finance/controller, former director of finance at CFSV.
- Ellen Clear, vice president, grantmaking, former vice president of community programs at PCF.
- Sandi Hutchings, chief administrative officer, former controller at PCF.
- Ash McNeely, vice president, donor engagement, former vice president of philanthropic services at PCF.

“Each of these individuals have played and will continue to play a critical role in creating a new community foundation,” Carson said. “Their experience, relationships and knowledge will enable Silicon Valley Community Foundation to be a leader in providing the best solutions to the most challenging problems facing San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.”

Additional appointments will be made during the first quarter of 2007. For more information, please visit [www.siliconvalleycf.org](http://www.siliconvalleycf.org).

#### **Candice Balmaceda, Vice President Finance/Controller**

As vice president finance/controller, Balmaceda oversees the finances of the foundation including the accounting and budget functions, financial reporting, general ledger, internal controls, audit and tax returns.

Previously she served as the director of finance for Community Foundation Silicon Valley; Balmaceda has more than five years of experience in the community foundation world. She started her career at Price Waterhouse—Manila as a CIS Specialist where she performed systems audit and assisted in developing accounting systems for clients. Balmaceda was an accounting major and holds a bachelor’s of science in commerce from De La Salle University in the Philippines. She lives in Fremont with her husband Francis, daughter Sophia and son Nicholas.

**Ellen Clear, Vice President, Grantmaking**

As vice president of grantmaking, Clear is responsible for the direction and management of competitive and unrestricted grantmaking throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

Clear joined Peninsula Community Foundation in 1995 and led community endowment grantmaking to local nonprofit organizations. Prior to this, Clear had worked with nonprofit agencies in San Francisco, Cambridge and Massachusetts. She also served as a financial analyst in Washington, D.C. for an investment bank and as a newspaper reporter in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Clear holds a master's degree in public policy from Harvard and a bachelor's degree in political economy from U.C. Berkeley. She is a fourth generation Bay Area native and the proud mother of fifth generation Bay Area natives, Henry and Sophia.

**Sandi Hutchings, Chief Administrative Officer**

As chief administrative officer, Hutchings is responsible for managing the strategy, direction and management of human resources, IT and facilities.

Formerly Peninsula Community Foundation's controller, Hutchings has more than a decade of experience in the community foundation world. She was also previously the controller and compliance officer for the San Francisco Foundation.

Hutchings is a native Californian and spent 20 years of her finance career in the commercial construction industry. She feels that she has found a true calling in nonprofit work and looks forward to many exciting years serving with Silicon Valley Community Foundation.

**Ash McNeely, Vice President, Donor Engagement**

As vice president of donor engagement, McNeely is responsible for ensuring all community foundation donors have access to the information they need to fulfill their charitable giving interests.

McNeely led the strategy and execution of business development, communications and donor services at Peninsula Community Foundation from 2000 to 2006. In this role, McNeely and her team facilitated advised fund grantmaking of over \$400 million for 750 fundholders and major donors, raised more than \$775 million and created award-winning communications. Previously, she worked for 10 years in development and marketing roles in Bay Area arts organizations, including TheatreWorks, California Shakespeare Festival and Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens. She has also held external relations positions at San Francisco State University and U.C. Berkeley.

McNeely received a master's in business administration in nonprofit management from Golden Gate University and graduated Phi Beta Kappa and *summa cum laude* from Vassar College. She serves on the boards of the Bernard A. Newcomb Foundation, Frank Levinson Family Foundation and is an advisor to Horizons Foundation, Entrepreneurs Foundation and TheatreWorks. When not at the office, McNeely can be found at home in Burlingame helping her two teenagers with their homework, hiking the region's open spaces or reading a really good novel.

**About Silicon Valley Community Foundation**

The boards of directors for Community Foundation Silicon Valley and Peninsula Community Foundation voted unanimously in separate meetings on July 12, 2006, approving a merger to form Silicon Valley Community Foundation. The new foundation is among the largest community foundations in the nation, with more than \$1.5 billion in assets under management and 1,400 philanthropic funds.

Established in 1954, Community Foundation Silicon Valley was headquartered in San Jose and managed more than 650 charitable funds with total assets of \$919 million. Peninsula Community Foundation was established in San Mateo in 1964 and managed assets of \$612 million, including more than 750 charitable funds and a \$125 million community endowment.

In a region known for innovation in business and technology as well as philanthropy, the new community foundation will address local needs and support Silicon Valley’s charitable giving to causes locally, nationally and around the globe. The integration marks the first merger of equals involving two of the country’s leading community foundations and sets new precedent in the philanthropic sector. The new Silicon Valley Community Foundation will maintain a local presence with offices and community meeting spaces — available to nonprofits at no charge — in San Mateo and San Jose, as well as a new regional headquarters opening in Mountain View in the summer of 2007.

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