FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 24, 2007

CONTACT:
Chris Peacock
Vice President Marketing & Communications
Phone: 650.450.5524
Email: cpeacock@siliconvalleycf.org

SILICON VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OPENS
NEW CENTER FOR PHILANTHROPY ON THE PENINSULA

New headquarters will serve as a nexus for addressing local needs
and a resource for community organizations

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. — The new Silicon Valley Community Foundation has officially opened its centrally located headquarters, a new center for philanthropy that will help bring people together to share ideas, build consensus and harness their time, talents and resources to address challenges facing San Mateo and Santa Clara counties.

The new office will help the community foundation better serve the community and donors, provide a place where community groups can have cost-effective, state-of-the-art conference facilities, and consolidate office space for more than 100 staff from three locations. A community open house on from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 11 will offer opportunities to tour the new office and visit with staff about the new community foundation’s commitment to the region.

“The opening of Silicon Valley Community Foundation’s new headquarters offers exciting new opportunities to share ideas and connect with the people who contribute to our community and benefit from the work of the community foundation,” said Emmett D. Carson, Ph.D., CEO and president. “We see the new space as a community resource, where everyone is welcome to learn and do more for Silicon Valley, our nation and our world, taking full advantage of its bounty and diversity.”

Located at 2440 West El Camino Real in Mountain View, just minutes from downtown Palo Alto and about 15 miles from both San Mateo and San Jose, the headquarters represents the latest step in the community foundation’s effort to carry the broadest possible social impact in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. The community foundation, which has $1.9 billion in assets under management and 1,400 philanthropic funds, took effect Jan. 1 through the historic merger of Peninsula Community Foundation and Community Foundation Silicon Valley.

By creating a space for public interaction, the community foundation strengthens the core of its mission to inspire civic participation, improve quality of life and address the area’s most challenging problems. Grant makers and donors will use the space to participate in workshops, learn about developments in philanthropy, sharpen their skills and strategies for effective giving, and connect with others. Unifying staff and services under one roof will also enable the community foundation to work...
more effectively with its network of donors, financial and philanthropic advisors and other organizations serving the community.

“Silicon Valley Community Foundation is committed to serving the needs of residents from Daly City to Gilroy by inspiring and working for lasting change in our community,” said Greg Avis, chair of the Board of Directors. “Our new headquarters is more than just office space. We’re committed to making it a hub where people and ideas come together to make Silicon Valley a better place.”

The new building features numerous amenities in its meeting spaces, which will be available for community foundation events and community meetings and conferences. Technological conveniences include high-resolution projectors, wireless networks, system-controlled screens and DVD/CD players.

The building also houses the Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund, Center for Venture Philanthropy, Philanthropy Incubator, the Real Estate Trust at Silicon Valley Community Foundation and the Kirsch Foundation, distinguishing it as a comprehensive center for philanthropy. In addition to meeting space in the new headquarters, the community foundation will continue to provide conference and meeting facilities in San Mateo (the Imagination Room) and San José (the Kirsch Conference Center) free of charge to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations from San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, local public agencies and branches of national organizations.

The new location was made available through a partnership between the Real Estate Trust and the Sobrato family, one of the area’s leading, locally focused philanthropists.

“A robust physical presence truly expands the community foundation’s ability to listen to and address the needs of Silicon Valley, said Patricia Bresee, vice chair of the board. “In addition, bringing more than 100 staff together in this location is a milestone in the evolution of our organization and marks a convergence of expertise that can only result in an even stronger foundation.”

About Silicon Valley Community Foundation
The merger of Community Foundation Silicon Valley and Peninsula Community Foundation took effect on January 1, 2007, creating Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a catalyst and leader for innovative solutions to the region’s most challenging problems. Serving all of San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, the new community foundation is among the largest community foundations in the nation, with more than $1.9 billion in assets under management and 1,400 philanthropic funds. 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. Find out more at www.siliconvalleycf.org.

# # #