



For Immediate Release

Foodbank of Santa Barbara County

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Rancho Vino Event Sponsored by CoastHills Community Foundation Supports Foodbank of Santa Barbara County's Children's Backpack Program

Santa Maria, CA – CoastHills Community Foundation is sponsoring for the second year in a row a unique and exciting event to help support the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County and the Foodbank Coalition of San Luis Obispo Children's Backpack Programs. Last year the event raised \$25,000 to support the programs. Attendees will be treated to an afternoon of fun, food, spirits and music at the picturesque Rancho Miranda estate in Orcutt.

The twilight event features a selection of the finest restaurateurs and wine makers throughout the Central Coast, all offering samples of their delectable food, wine, and spirits. Live entertainment will be provided by the Questa Jazz Quartet, which will prepare all in attendance for an incredible silent and live auction to conclude this special evening.

“We greatly appreciate the support and the hard work CoastHills has coordinated to put on this amazing event for the Backpack programs,” says Foodbank Executive Director Erik Talkin. “The Backpack Program is growing and the attention to the fact that nearly 45 percent of the people we serve are children who don't know where their next meal is coming from is very important to share with the community.” CoastHills employees, beyond coordinating the event, support the Foodbank by volunteering on a regular basis.

The Foodbank is a non-profit organization working to eliminate hunger by providing food, education and other resources to a network of hunger-relief charities and their communities. In partnership with an established children's program backpacks are discretely distributed to children before they leave for home on the weekends. Empty backpacks are returned on Monday and refilled by the Foodbank for the following weekend. Backpacks are filled with easy-to-open foods that do not require cooking and are a welcome source of nutrition; emphasis is placed on protein and fresh fruits and vegetables.

Who: CoastHills Community Foundation
Foodbank of Santa Barbara County
Foodbank Coalition of San Luis Obispo

What: Rancho Vino Event

Where: Rancho Miranda
2000 Cambridge Way
Orcutt, CA

When: Saturday, September 20th
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Visuals: Rancho Miranda Estate
Backpacks Full of Nutritious Food
Informational Tables Featuring Program & Foodbank Information
Community Leaders Supporting Worthy Cause
Questa Jazz Quartet
Live and Silent Auction

The Foodbank, celebrating 25 years of moving people from hunger to harvest, provides a vital link between the multi-faceted food industry and people in need of food. With warehouses in Santa Barbara and Santa Maria the Foodbank serves over 220 social service organizations and churches. More than 43% of those served are youths under the age of 18. In 2007, the Foodbank distributed more than 7.3 million pounds of food and nearly 2 million pounds of fresh produce to more than 100,000 people in need throughout Santa Barbara County. The Foodbank is committed to making fresh fruits and vegetables available to those in need as the best means of combating poverty-related health issues like diabetes and chronic overweight.

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