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United Way Silicon Valley Selects Project Cornerstone as Partner Agency

Project Cornerstone is pleased to announce that we have been selected as a United Way Silicon Valley partner agency.



In July, United Way implemented its Community Impact investment model, a more targeted, strategic approach to awarding grants for community programs and services run by agencies.

The organization now concentrates on three priority areas: building adult living skills, developing children and youth, and supporting basic needs. With its new focus in place, United Way will invest the money it raises through public funding and private donations, including its annual workplace campaign, in programs and services that can achieve lasting, measurable change through three-year grants. To learn more, please visit www.uwsv.org.

Funds from United Way will be used to strengthen and expand our School Partnerships programs in the Franklin-McKinley, Alum Rock, and Luther Burbank school districts and extend our services to reach at-risk youth in alternative schools.

We are grateful to the United Way Silicon Valley for its support.

Support Project Cornerstone in the Metro Silicon Valley Marathon® 5K Run/Walk

Join the Project Cornerstone team in the Metro Silicon Valley Marathon® 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, November 4, 2007! This year's 5K course contains new and unique elements, and the finish line is located at the post-race celebration area where you can enjoy live entertainment, family activities, massages, food,



Building Asset #9: Service to Others

Youth are more likely to grow up healthy when they serve others in the community. As young people start to reach out and help others, their world grows, and so does their confidence. Teenagers who volunteer to help others indicated that their experiences helped them learn to respect others, understand people who are different from them, learn new skills, and feel like they make a difference in the world.

You don't need to do a large project or make a long-term commitment to make a difference. Service to others can be as simple as cooking a meal or baking a treat for a neighbor, babysitting or taking a child to the playground, or taking care of simple household tasks and errands for an elderly person. For more information about the many ways that young people can make a difference, see [The Kid's Guide to Service Projects: Over 500 Ideas for Young People Who Want to Make a Difference](#) by Barbara Lewis and Pamela Espeland.

Quick Links

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[Recommended Books](#)

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Join Our Mailing List!

and more.

Sign up yourself, your partner, and your kids to build assets in this fun, healthy event! We'll start with a team cheer and end at the finish line with a group photo. This is a great opportunity for everyone to enjoy fresh air and companionship while showing support for Project Cornerstone. (We'll receive a donation for every participant who chooses us as their affiliated charity.)

Registration is simple. Just visit www.svmarathon.com, and follow the links to register. When asked to choose your charity affiliation, select **Project Cornerstone**. When you get to the start line, look for the Project Cornerstone banner so you can start off with the team!

Last year, Project Cornerstone's team of adults and youth won the Spirit Award for demonstrating the most spirited, creative commitment to generating awareness for our cause. Let's see if we can do it again!



The Project Cornerstone team, represented by adults and youth from throughout Santa Clara Valley, wins the 2006 Spirit Award at the Silicon Valley Marathon 5K Run/Walk. Youth and adults are invited to join this year's team!

Felecia Mulvany Named Project Cornerstone "Volunteer of the Year"

Other Honorees Include Cornerstone Chinese Cultural Project and Vietnamese Parents Project

Despite a chilly, gray morning, the crowd of more than 300 adult volunteers and families from schools throughout Santa Clara

County were warm with smiles and goodwill at Project Cornerstone's annual Volunteer Appreciation event held last May at the Kelley Park Amphitheater. This event honored the 1,100 adult volunteers who generously donate their time to deliver Project Cornerstone's School Partnerships programs in their children's schools.

In addition to recognizing the volunteers in the well-established *ABC* and *Los Dichos* programs, Project Cornerstone welcomed and honored two new adult volunteer programs with the **Trailblazer Award**, which is presented to volunteers who develop innovative programs to meet the unique needs of their school community. This year's winners extended the model of the Spanish-language *Los Dichos* program to develop and deliver book selections, lesson plans, and classroom activities illustrating family support, cultural pride, and other positive values based in Chinese and Vietnamese cultural traditions. Winners are the **Cornerstone Chinese Cultural Project at Williams Elementary** in San José's Almaden Valley neighborhood, and the **Vietnamese Parents Project at Vinci Park Elementary** in the Berryessa Union School District.

Willow Glen resident **Felecia Mulvany** was recognized as the 2007 Project Cornerstone Volunteer of the Year--an award that recognizes a single individual's exceptional efforts to promote the development of healthy, responsible young people. Mulvany has been the lead parent for *ABC* at Willow Glen Elementary for three years. In that role, she helps recruit and train adult volunteers, organizes the calendar for those parents to be in the classrooms with teachers, and assists with evaluation of the program at her school site. Her efforts were instrumental in helping Willow Glen Elementary win the 2006 Caring School Climate award.

Project Cornerstone extends our heartfelt thanks to all the adult volunteers whose hard work helps improve the success of students throughout the county.



Willow Glen Elementary adult volunteer Felecia Mulvany is the 2007 Project Cornerstone Volunteer of the Year. Pictured left to right: Dayle D'Anna, Willow Glen Elementary School Principal; Felecia Mulvany; Mary Patterson, Project Cornerstone Executive Director; Pam von Wiegand, YMCA of Santa Clara Valley Executive Vice President.

School Partnerships Update

The School Partnerships team achieved the following results during the 2006-07 academic year:

- **Delivered programs in 130 K-12 schools** throughout Santa Clara County
- **Trained nearly 1100 adult volunteers** to deliver the *ABC* and *Los Dichos* programs in the classroom, **reaching more than 37,800 children**, with additional intensive training in building developmental assets for 1,345 adults
- **Facilitated *Expect Respect* workshops for 3,882 students** who committed to year-long efforts to make their schools more caring and safe environments
- **Trained nearly 3000 teachers**, including student teachers and Masters candidates in the Education department at San José State University, in forging stronger connections with their students and creating a caring and supportive school climate.

We look forward to reaching even more students, faculty, staff, and administrators throughout the county in the 2007-08 academic year!