



FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE  
June 3, 2009

CONTACT: Michael Shepherd  
(760)340-9300  
[michael@theshepherdgroup.com](mailto:michael@theshepherdgroup.com)

**HARC Receives Research Grant from The Community Foundation  
to Help Underwrite 2010 *Community Health Monitor***

(PALM DESERT, CA) – Seeking deeper insight into the health needs of its local population, The Community Foundation Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties has awarded the Health Assessment Resource Center (HARC) a \$10,000 grant. Funding will be earmarked for HARC's 2010 *Community Health Monitor*, the sequel to its 2007 groundbreaking study on the region's collective health and wellness.

The triennial survey gathers data from more than 3,000 households throughout Eastern Riverside County. Respondents field questions related to their health status, behavioral risks, quality of life issues, access, and utilization of services. For the inaugural effort, a total of 172 questions comprised the adult survey and 136 were focused on children's health issues.

The HARC data delivers healthcare providers, cities, government agencies, and private interests a clearer snapshot of public health in eastern Riverside County. HARC data is used to facilitate decision-making on a range of issues, including program development, access to care, funding, utilization, and more. In addition to furnishing the data, the nonprofit research organization also conducts a series of multi-modal workshops with local organizations to show them how the information can enhance organizational learning, advocacy and effectiveness of community outreach.

- more -



## **HARC Receives Research Grant from The Community Foundation to Help Underwrite 2010 Regional Health Needs Assessment – Page 2**

Funding for The Community Foundation grant comes from the nonprofit's Community Impact Fund. It will cover work performed between now and April 30, 2010.

“Securing The Community Foundation’s financial support sends a strong signal to the broader nonprofit community about the importance and need for statistically reliable regional healthcare data,” said HARC Board President Glen Grayman, MD. “We are thrilled to have them on board.”

The Community Foundation grant follows a \$600,000, three-year commitment to HARC from the Desert Healthcare District. That funding is also earmarked for the upcoming *Community Health Monitor* initiative.

- end -

### **About HARC**

Formed in 2006 by a consortium of more than 30 public and private healthcare agencies, the Health Assessment Resource Center (HARC) conducts a confidential community health status assessment in eastern Riverside County every 3 years to identify major health and quality of life issues. The nonprofit 501 ©3 organization is funded in part by contributions from community partners, as well as entities who contract with the agency for customized public health research. More information can be obtained by calling HARC at (760) 601-3663, or visiting the organization’s website at [www.harcddata.org](http://www.harcddata.org).

### **About The Community Foundation Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties**

The Community Foundation is a nonprofit, public charity created by and for the people of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. The organization connects donors with the causes they care about. Established in 1941, The Community Foundation now has nearly \$54 million in assets and provides college scholarships and grants to nonprofit organizations across the two-county area.