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LONG BEACH
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

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First Ever LBCF Funders Collaborative to Establish New Youth Program
\$75,000 Grant Will Fund the Healthy Engaged Youth Program

Long Beach, CA – The Long Beach Community Foundation (LBCF) and nine local philanthropic partners recently pooled their charitable resources to establish the LBCF Funders Collaborative. During the collaboration’s inaugural endeavor, more than 25 grant applications competed for a one-time \$75,000 grant award. This new Health Engaged Youth! (HEY!) program rose to the top to win the grant which will serve deserving Long Beach youth through the YMCA of Greater Long Beach.

“The YMCA has a tradition of efficient, impactful programs in Long Beach that address the holistic needs of youth, which is a perfect match for this grant,” said Gary DeLong, LBCF Board Chair. “Additionally, they have the experience and sustainability resources to successfully achieve the collaboratives’ goal of funding Youth Empowerment; Health, Education and Opportunity, and Community Improvement.”

The YMCA of Greater Long Beach’s HEY! Program targets 30 to 40 at-risk youth in Downtown and North Long Beach through a variety of experiences including youth and government leadership programs, internships, club memberships, and attending camps focused on team building in order to build future leaders for the community. The program will be used to teach physical, social, emotional, cultural and workforce skills to empower youth.

"The grant applicant pool was phenomenal and many qualified organizations submitted proposals. Our selection committee deliberated intensely about whether the best recipient for this type of fund was an established nonprofit with a demonstrated track record or a smaller nonprofit who could make tremendous strides with an influx of funding at this level," said LBCF President & CEO Marcelle Epley. "Philosophically, the grant was established to fund either type. The YMCA's program leverages their existing resources; best addresses the inter-related areas of health, education and opportunity; creates a new service model; and will be sustainable."

The following partners made financial contribution to support the LBCF Funders

Collaborative: The California Endowment, The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, The Rudolph J. and Daphne A. Munzer Foundation, The Adams Legacy Foundation, The Johnson Family Fund, Dameron Family Foundation, Robert Brush Foundation Fund, The Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation, The Barbara Bixby Blackwell Foundation Fund, and The Long Beach Community Foundation.

"Obviously, we are thrilled to receive a \$75,000 grant award," said YMCA Executive Director Alfredo Velasco. "But more importantly, we are honored to be the *first* recipient of the LBCF Funder's Collaboration grant. Being selected is a testament to the community's confidence in our abilities to strengthen the community through youth development."

About Long Beach Community Foundation:

The Long Beach Community Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, public organization with more than \$31 million in assets and 145 charitable funds. It was established in 1996 to make strategic grants to nonprofits, and assist individual donors with their philanthropic goals today and through planned giving. Fees charged to manage funds at the Foundation are invested directly back into the community in the form of discretionary grants. LBCF's mission is to initiate positive change for

Long Beach through charitable giving, stewardship, and strategic grant making with a vision of being the preeminent steward of endowments serving the needs of Long Beach in perpetuity.

LBCF operations are led by President & CEO Marcelle Epley and oversight is provided by Board Chair Gary DeLong, Vice Chair Robert Stemler, and Board members Blake Christian, Michele Dobson, Bob Foster, Tony Gales, Mark Guillen, Randal Hernandez, Donita Joseph, Annette Kashiwabara, Steve Keesal, Frank Newell, Judy Ross and Judy Vander Lans.

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