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**Long Beach Rescue Mission Residents
Looking Forward to Quality of Life Improvements**

*Long Beach Community Foundation Will Make Outdoor Improvements at the
Homeless Shelter for Women and Children*

Long Beach, CA – The Long Beach Community Foundation (LBCF), in partnership with the Long Beach Rescue Mission, will renovate the outdoor living space at the Lydia House to provide a peaceful and relaxing area for residents. The event will take place on October 21, 2017 with more than 30 volunteers. Specific upgrades will include outdoor dining amenities, meditation and group gathering spaces, much needed shade, decomposed granite pathways, a water feature and low maintenance landscape improvements. This outdoor face-lift is a part of LBCF's 2017 National Philanthropy Day project, an annual project created to invest in our community.

The 50-bed Lydia House provides housing and services for women facing abuse, addiction, financial hardship and abandonment. It's a place where women and their children can receive food, clothing, shelter and spiritual guidance during turbulent times with the ultimate goal of helping them overcome the homeless cycle.

“Our residents achieve a renewed sense of hope for their lives while staying at the Lydia House,” said Long Beach Rescue Mission Executive Director Robert Probst. “The fact that the Long Beach Community Foundation is investing their 2017 National Philanthropy Day resources to improve the outdoor living space for these women speaks volumes about their worth and value in our society.”

National Philanthropy Day is a national initiative that honors charitable work across the country and is celebrated in a variety of ways. To honor this philanthropic event, LBCF annually chooses a local nonprofit organization to support with some type of renovation. LBCF's National Philanthropy Day allows the Community Foundation to "roll up its sleeves" and make a meaningful impact up close and personal with a Long Beach nonprofit. Other nonprofits who have been the past beneficiary of these efforts include Young Horizons, Boys and Girls Clubs of Long Beach and Precious Lamb Preschool.

"This is a great opportunity for philanthropists, LBCF stakeholders, nonprofits and community members to come together and invest a few hours to make a meaningful impact in Long Beach," said LBCF Board Chair Gary DeLong. "The one-day transformations at these locations are amazing."

LBCF is still looking for volunteers and in-kind contributions to support their efforts on October 21, 2017. Please visit www.longbeachcf.org/news-events for more specifics or to complete a volunteer waiver.

"We are dedicated to the Long Beach community and effecting positive change. That's our organizational mission," said LBCF President & CEO Marcelle Epley. "National Philanthropy Day is a wonderful opportunity to put this into practice."

LBCF is working with Rebuilding Together Long Beach (RTLb) to provide project management and contractor oversight for the work at the Lydia House. RTLb's mission is to develop partnerships within the community to rebuild owner-occupied homes and non-profit facilities for low-income residents, particularly the elderly or those with disabilities, at no cost to the recipient.

About Long Beach Community Foundation:

The Long Beach Community Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, public organization with more than \$32 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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