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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Fred MacFarlane – (213) 369-8425

Vernon CommUNITY Fund awards six grants totaling \$244,500 to ‘Vernon Area’ nonprofit organizations

Vernon, CA – Members of the Vernon City Council have authorized Vernon CommUNITY Fund grants totaling \$244,500 to six ‘Vernon Area’ nonprofit organizations serving ‘Vernon Area’ women, youth and families.

The grant awards were approved by a majority vote of the seven-member Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee on November 12. Vernon CommUNITY Fund Docket #1 grant awards were approved for the following nonprofit organizations:

East Los Angeles Women’s Center - \$54,000 for general program support
Southeast Rio Vista YMCA - \$35,000 for fund development efforts
Plaza Community Services - \$35,000 for job search assistance programs
Rio Hondo-Vernon Rotary Club - \$12,500 for books and student scholarships
California Children’s Academy - \$60,000 for operating support for childcare programs
Boy Scouts of America - \$48,000 for urban scouts program in Southeast L.A. County

The Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee meets quarterly to consider grant applications submitted online to the Vernon CommUNITY Fund. Grant Committee members will consider Docket #2 grant applications at their next meeting on Wednesday, February 18, 2015. Subsequent Grant Committee quarterly meetings are also scheduled for May, August and November 2015.

The ‘Vernon Area’ – as defined by the City of Vernon ordinance establishing the Vernon CommUNITY Fund– includes the cities of Vernon, Maywood, Bell, Huntington Park, Commerce, the area within the City of Los Angeles known as Boyle Heights, and the unincorporated area known as East Los Angeles. Vernon CommUNITY Fund grants are restricted to 501c3 nonprofit organizations or government entities serving residents in the ‘Vernon Area’.

For more information, go to: **vernoncommunityfund.org**

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Vernon was founded in 1905 to create jobs in California. Vernon's 1,800 businesses create more than 105,000 jobs in the Los Angeles area – including 55,000 jobs within the city's 5.2-mile boundary. The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation designated Vernon as California's 'Most Business Friendly City.' Vernon generates more than \$330 million in state income and sales taxes, \$1.1 billion in taxable spending. Vernon's businesses provide more than 4.4 billion in salaries and wages annually for workers in Los Angeles County. For more information, go to www.cityofvernon.org.