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News Release  
For Immediate Release

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## **Sonoma Valley Fund Honors Valley Volunteers**

**September 27, 2015** – More than 250 guests are expected to come the Sonoma Ecology Center’s Garden Park on Sunday, October 4th from 3 to 5pm to celebrate Sonoma Valley’s most precious volunteers. The event, organized and sponsored by Sonoma Valley Fund, an affiliate of Community Foundation Sonoma County, is to honor volunteer service in the Valley.

This year’s audience will be treated to stories of contributions by a total of 23 Sonoma residents who have given their time, talent and resources to one or more of the Valley’s nonprofit organizations. These are the unsung heroes who show up and work everyday for thanks, but no pay. Who make running a nonprofit in our Valley possible.

Every Star Award recipient’s story is unique and powerful. “These volunteers represent the heart and soul of Sonoma Valley. They make the very existence of our nonprofit community possible and we owe them a great deal of thanks,” said Joshua Rymer, President of Sonoma Valley Fund’s Board.

This is the seventh year that Sonoma Valley Fund has helped our nonprofit organizations to honor the top volunteers in the Valley. All 23 Star Volunteer recipients will receive a star statue emblazoned with their name and the organization that they serve.

The complete list of this year’s Star Volunteer recipients includes:

- Seeds of Learning - Mark Etherington
- Sonoma Valley Teen Services – Jerica Tercero and David Wells

- Hanna Boys Center – Thai Hoang
- Sonoma Valley Community Health Center - Jesus Aguayo- Zuniga
- Pets Lifeline - Gayle O'Hara
- Sonoma Valley Hospital Foundation – Hilda Teran-Franklin
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley – Lisa Carlsson
- Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance – Voit McKarre and Stephanie Stubbs
- Vintage House - Marcie Waldron, Bill O'Neal, and Eric Peterson
- Sonoma Community Center - Corin Rasmussen
- Quarryhill Botanical Garden - Steve Corey
- Sonoma Valley Museum of Art - Stan Abercrombie and Paul Vieyera
- Sonoma League of Historic Preservation - Ginny Richardson
- Sweetwater Spectrum - Carolyn Klebanoff and Fred Cohen
- La Luz Center - Isaac Vargas
- Sonoma Valley Education Foundation - Meg Sokoloski
- Sonoma Ecology Center - Bill Meyers and Linda Pavlak
- Becoming Independent - Eric Gullotta
- Friends in Sonoma Helping (FISH) – Linda Alwitt

The event is free and is open to the public but an RSVP is requested. If you would like to attend the celebration, please send an email to: [info@sonomavalleyfund.org](mailto:info@sonomavalleyfund.org).

*An affiliate of Community Foundation Sonoma County, Sonoma Valley Fund was created and is managed by respected community leaders to help sustain and improve the Valley's unique socioeconomic, environmental, and cultural qualities for generations to come. Sonoma Valley Fund promotes and facilitates local philanthropy and legacy giving by serving as a bridge to the future, helping nonprofits build successful legacy and endowment programs, encouraging estate-planning professionals to discuss Sonoma Valley bequests with their clients, offering a set of prudent investment options for donors and non-profits, and providing trustworthy, responsible, and thoughtful stewardship of donor gifts. No other local organization unites all constituencies around the purpose of endowing the Sonoma Valley community as a whole. For more information visit [www.sonomavalleyfund.org](http://www.sonomavalleyfund.org).*

