

Packard Foundation Names Linda Schuurmann Baker Program Officer for Local Grantmaking for Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties

February 24, 2010

Los Altos, Calif. -- The David and Lucile Packard Foundation announced today that Linda Schuurmann Baker has been appointed program officer for Local Grantmaking in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties. She was most recently a program officer in the Foundation's Children, Families and Communities program. Baker brings with her a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience gained from fifteen years with the Foundation.

"This is an exciting opportunity for me to help the Foundation directly serve the people of the Central Coast community. The region is rich with history and special significance for the Packard Foundation. Through the years we have been blessed with strong local partners and are proud to have supported the people and institutions that serve these counties," Baker said.

As a program officer within the Local Grantmaking program, Baker will oversee the Foundation's grantmaking in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties. Grants are made to local non-profits working in the Foundation's focus areas, including the arts, conservation and science, food and shelter, after-school programs, resources for parents and their newborns, and family planning and teen pregnancy prevention programs.

"As the Foundation's program officer for Monterey and Santa Cruz counties, I plan to listen, learn, and engage with the community on these important issues," Baker added. "It is imperative that our grantmaking serve as an effective tool to help non-profits, funders, and other organizations tackle the pressing issues within our grantmaking focus areas."

Baker most recently served as program officer in the Packard Foundation's Children, Families and Communities Program, where she was responsible for grantmaking in the children's health insurance program, and was pivotal in advancing the Foundation's work towards achieving health coverage for all California children. Prior to that, she was a research analyst in the Foundation's Center for the Future of Children and associate editor for *The Future of Children*.

Prior to joining the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Baker worked for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, New Jersey in the research and evaluation department. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Calvin College and a master's degree in public health from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

For more than 45 years the Packard Foundation's Local Grantmaking program has provided support locally for a variety of non-profit organizations in San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties. In spring 2009, the Foundation began funding in San Benito County in collaboration with the San Benito Community Foundation.

For additional information about the Packard Foundation's Local Grantmaking program or to read Linda Baker's biography, visit our website, www.packard.org.

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation is a private family foundation created in 1964 by David Packard (1912–1996), cofounder of the Hewlett-Packard Company, and Lucile Salter Packard (1914–1987). The Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations in the following program areas: Conservation and Science; Population and Reproductive Health; and Children, Families, and Communities. The Foundation makes national and international grants and also has a special focus on the Northern California Counties of San Benito, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey. Foundation grantmaking includes support for a wide variety of activities including direct services, research and policy development, and public information and education. The Foundation does not make grants intended to influence legislation or support candidates for political office. Foundation grant awards totaled approximately \$268 million in 2009. The Foundation expects grantmaking awards of up to \$236 million in 2010.

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